

# CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

## Town Of Stonington

### AGENDA

Regular Virtual Meeting via Zoom

May 20, 2021 – 7:00 pm

**Meeting connection information is at bottom of this agenda**

1. Call to order 7:00 PM
2. Approval of draft special meeting minutes: March 18, 2021
3. Correspondence:
  - a. Dana Hewson – resignation
  - b. Letter from First Selectman's office regarding return to physical meetings
4. Climate Emergency Declaration – update
  - a. Ecowatch – May 1, 2021 – Hawaii Becomes First State To Declare A Climate Emergency - <https://bit.ly/3tnGtLt>
  - b. SCCOG region-wide declaration being considered
5. Priorities list requested by Board of Selectmen
6. FOIA – Training
  - a. two people or more specifically getting together to discuss task force issues constitute meeting (unless same political party then considered a caucus)
  - b. members of the task force going to a different commission's meeting as a member of the public is permitted
  - c. emails are public records once you hit reply and may be a meeting (never hit reply to all)
7. UCONN Climate Change training modules <https://bit.ly/3vnpAIM>
8. UCONN Stonington presentation (report forwarded separately): <https://bit.ly/3bm2iF2>
9. Letter to Board of Finance supporting creation of Climate Resiliency Fund and a Environmental / Climate / Flood Plain Manager position – no response. First Selectman will revisit. Side issue: fees from investment advisors prohibitive for small pools of funds.
10. From PZC Meeting Agenda:  
**PZ2105RA** Town of Stonington (PZC)-Regulation Amendment to modify the Zoning Regulation to provide additional opportunities for small solar energy systems as an accessory use. Public Hearing Scheduled for 5/18/21 Application & Text:  
<https://www.stonington-ct.gov/planning-zoning-commission/files/2105ra-application-text>
11. Budget (final numbers are due to Board of Finance reductions):
  - a. Climate resilience line item: \$10,000 (original request was \$500,000; first selectman cut to \$50,000);

- b. Climate change task force: \$2,000 for seminars, programs and professional services;
- c. Electric vehicle charging stations: \$1 (original request was \$50,000; first selectman cut to \$2,000)
- d. Open space acquisition fund: \$1 (original request was \$50,000 from first selectman; first selectmen cut to \$25,000)

#### 12. Public awareness / outreach / conferences

- a. Pending legislation proposed by governor from GC3 Near Term Recommendations Report (public hearings were held on March 8, 2021):
  - i. SB 884 - AN ACT REDUCING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED CARBON EMISSIONS. <http://bit.ly/2MYbwPa>
  - ii. HB 6441 - AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION. <http://bit.ly/3tWXHAY>
  - iii. SB 882 - AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND HOME ENERGY AFFORDABILITY. <http://bit.ly/3rYpUpn>
  - iv. Summary of all climate related bills: <https://bit.ly/2R2Y3r3>
- b. Eversource Partners With Major Utilities To Increase Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Across The Country – April 12, 2021 - <https://bit.ly/32H72Aw>
- c. Energy News Network – April 22, 2021 – Connecticut Considers Stretch Code That Lets Cities Push Builders On Efficiency - <https://bit.ly/2PTzRHe>
- d. ecoRI – May 3, 2021 – Nuisance Flooding More Than A Hassle For Touristy Watch Hill - <https://bit.ly/3tfVm2w>
- e. SwissRE Institute – April 22, 2021 – The Economics Of Climate Change - <https://bit.ly/3nnxwRa>
- f. EPA Climate Change Indicators - <https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators>

#### 13. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion

#### 14. Adjournment

Stonington residents and others with an interest are invited to attend the monthly meetings and participate in the discussions

*“The climate crisis will be orders of magnitude worse than the pandemic if we do not take the action that we can still take to avert the tragedy that we see coming towards us” -Tom Rivett-Carnac (Ted Radio Hour / Climate Mindset / May 22, 2020)*

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Town of Stonington Climate Change Task Force

CCTF Special Meeting

Thursday, May 20 7:00 – 8:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88511885897?pwd=VjN1L0ZKNkYvU3JQMnkrRFVqOS.t6QT09>

Meeting ID: 885 1188 5897

Passcode: 599093

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88511885897#,,,,\*599093# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,88511885897#,,,,\*599093# US (New York)

Dial by your location

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+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 885 1188 5897

Passcode: 599093

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcQkjuHoja>