

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

Town Of Stonington

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

March 21, 2019 - 7:00 pm

Location: Community Service Room Department of Human Services

166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, Ct 06379

Present: Jeff Callahan, Dana Hewson, MaryEllen Mateleska, Rick Newton, Dennis Unites,

Town Employee: Scot Deledda, PE – Town Engineer

Absent: Susan Hibbard, Lyndsey Pyrke-Fairchild, Max Wojtas

Guests: Stonington High School students, Members of the Public, and Representative from Mystic Seaport

Call to order at 7:00pm

- January meeting minutes unanimously approved
- Review of Conway School second presentation which provided resiliency options for residential, recreation & open space and business areas. Climate Change Task Force requests a copy of the preliminary report for review and will provide email feedback.
- At Planning and Zoning meeting, it was stated that staffing for the Flood and Erosion Control Board is an issue to be addressed by the Board of Selectmen. There has been no follow up from the letter sent to the Board of Selectmen. Additional research is needed on how this board is utilized by other towns; Jeff Callahan will follow up with BOS.
- Discussion on potential to integrate electric school buses to support Stonington school district. Information will be shared with the Board of Education.
- Review of Public Outreach resources
 - Pre-proposal was submitted to NFWF in regard to the Resilient Communities request for funding. If a full proposal is requested, this would provide funds for accomplish small scale community based resiliency projects
 - Review of climate change related outreach developed by Portland, Oregon. MaryEllen will contact city to inquire on possibility of sharing these resources for posting on website.
- Funds to support general coastal adaptation improvements have been included in the proposed Capital Improvements budget. Attendance and support from Task Force members and the community is needed to voice support of these funds as well as the need to complete projects to protect the Town from the effects of sea level rise, flooding, and stronger/ more frequent storms.

- Discussion on items in the news.
 - Branford, CT has established \$1 million fund to support climate resiliency projects. Discussion on how this impacts bond ratings and how this advantage could be translated into stronger support for funds to be included into town's budget.
- Next meeting is Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM

Mary Ellen Mateleska