

## MEETING MINUTES FOR NORTH TONAWANDA CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

**Date:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024

### **Attendees, In person @ City Hall:**

Members: Austin Tylec, Emily Root, Deb Gondek, Tim Pieper, Jim Berry, Mike Tuzzo, Elliot Lear (MUP student at UB), Kai (Intern at City Hall), Josh McClain (University at Buffalo Regional Institute)

Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm

### **AGENDA TOPICS:**

1) **Approval of September Minutes.**

Austin motion to accept; Jim 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

2) **Additional Grant Funding Available**

Through NYSEDA, we have received 3 grants that have totaled \$25k. New grant available that could be up to \$105k if the project is located in a disadvantaged community. Recommended air conditioning in Carnegie. Let Austin know if you have any other ideas by October 30<sup>th</sup>.

3) **Source Water Protection Initiative**

The Source Water Protection Plan was accepted by the state so it is now final. Emily will request a copy of the final plan to post on our website and to share out in our social media. Meeting tomorrow with the stakeholder committee to discuss priority projects identified in the plan that a state-hired consultant can support over the course of 6-12 months. Emily will share the results out with the Task Force. The list of priority projects is due November 1.

4) **Programs for NT Residents**

- Tree program deadline for purchasing a tree from the City is extended to Friday, 65 trees sold so far.
- Home improvement program research- same list as last meeting. Elliot will draft social posts and will send them to Emily. We can also put the list on our website, Austin can send out in newsletter, and can explore other venues for sharing out.
- Kai is working on renter survey to see what the community needs are which can include questions related to community development. Also looking at public transportation systems with NFTA.

5) **Feedback from Task Force Members who attended the following events:**

- 9/19 DOT Planning Study for Twin Cities Memorial Highway/Division Street
  - Overall positive feedback. \$600k grant for planning that will lead to ~\$30 million renovations. Currently focused on gathering people's experiences with this roadway. There will be an online survey for community members to provide feedback. Targeting end of summer 2025 for the study to be completed.
- 9/23 Sustainability Expo @ Lancaster Fall Fest
  - 4 vendors and 120 attendees.
- 10/4 Climate Action Symposium @ UB
  - EPA funded Climate Pollution Reduction Grant led by UBRI. UBRI led an interactive exercise to get input on what community members would prioritize in terms of actions to help reduce greenhouse gasses, and provide more information on things like an updated GHG inventory. Discussed potentially doing this for the CSC Task Force or other groups in our community. In addition to the game also meeting with people relevant to transportation, housing/commercial buildings, ag/open space, industry, waste management, power generation. Josh will send out links. Let him know if you are interested in attending.

6) **Other Business**

Next meeting- take a look at CSC actions for both silver and bronze certification.

Community Solar update- about 200 people registered but most people are still waiting to be assigned to solar projects.

Meeting adjourned at 6. Motion by Austin, second by Tim.

**Next Meeting:** November 13, 5pm @ City Hall.