

***Sustainable Southampton Green Advisory Committee  
Town of Southampton  
Co-chairs: Glorian Berk, Dieter von Lehsten***

*Minutes Feb 6, 2024 3:45 PM – 5:20 PM*

*Next Meeting: Mar 5 3:45*

*Town Hall Lower Level conf room*

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<i>Member</i>	<b>Joe Lamport</b>	<a href="mailto:josephlamport@yahoo.com">josephlamport@yahoo.com</a>	
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<i>Guest</i>	<b>Aram Terchurian</b>	<a href="mailto:aram@firstcoastal.com">aram@firstcoastal.com</a>	
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<i>Town Board</i>	<b>Michael Iasilli</b>	<a href="mailto:miasilli@southamptontownny.gov">miasilli@southamptontownny.gov</a>	
<i>Town Board</i>	<b>Tommy John Schiavoni</b>	<a href="mailto:tjschiavoni@southamptontownny.gov">tjschiavoni@southamptontownny.gov</a>	
<i>Town Planner</i>	<b>Seth Race</b>	<a href="mailto:srace@southamptontownny.gov">srace@southamptontownny.gov</a>	
<i>Liaison</i>	Tom Houghton	<a href="mailto:thoughton@southamptontownny.gov">thoughton@southamptontownny.gov</a>	
	<b>Names in bold were present</b>		

Item	Committee Person Responsible	Date	Status
General Request	Glorian	11/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If members have their topic on the agenda and cannot attend the meeting, it would be appreciated if a written update could be sent to Glorian, to be read to the committee in advance of that meeting</li> </ul>
6 - Climate Action Plan update	Tip	2/6  1/9  11/7  9/5  6/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed how Town staff could write a proposal to Clean Energy Communities program, requesting grant money be used for additional consulting services associated with the CAP</li> <li>Lynn reported that Sarah Oral of Cameron engineering told her Southampton Town was the only municipality on Long Island to successfully complete a heat pump community campaign under Clean Energy Communities program</li> <li>Urgent request for members to show up 1pm Dec 12,</li> <li>Talking points will be distributed for consideration.</li> <li>Main objections were from Councilwoman McNamara who felt there wasn't enough outreach executed in advance of the vote. Also she said there are no requirements in the plan.</li> <li>MI: move sustainability from Municipal Works to Planning, perhaps ways to engage with Civic as a way to engage,</li> <li>Tip agreed to contact Janice for an update</li> <li>Postpone to next meeting. Dieter sent feedback to Janice</li> <li>Sign-up for Sustainability Distribution List here: <a href="https://www.southamptontownny.gov/list.aspx">https://www.southamptontownny.gov/list.aspx</a></li> <li>Lynn suggested CAP recommendations be prioritized based on grant funding achievable under the Clean Energy Communities program</li> <li>Tip met/provided comments &amp; concerns to consultant/Rambol &amp; Janice</li> <li>GHG inventory was referenced but not provided in draft, would be supplied with final report</li> <li>Too many prioritized or subjective stmts</li> <li>Draft report by summer to include GHG inventory</li> <li>Link to meeting <a href="https://www.southamptontownny.gov/1810/Climate-Action-Plan">https://www.southamptontownny.gov/1810/Climate-Action-Plan</a></li> <li>after checking w/Janice, Tip to share draft and solicit feedback from committee</li> <li>committee to consider recommendation to Janice: let's get together with Rambol to discuss concerns, etc.</li> </ul>
Electrify new buildings	Tip	11/7  7/18  6/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiting for NYS Legislation to be passed .. Lena says in the NYS budget</li> <li>Electric only new NYS code expected – Tip recommended wait</li> <li>J Barrows invited to DOE sponsored ambient energy forum, what can be done to take pressure off GRID infrastructure which is not robust enough to take increased load from electrification</li> <li>from Lena: Because we will run out of time I just want you all to know that the EH Energy &amp; Sustainability Committee unanimously passed the All-Electric Buildings Act recommendation yesterday AND , also unanimously, passed a recommendation to amend our Ban Gas Leaf Blowers which will eliminate them altogether 1/1/2025 which is also the date that all new construction will be electric — assuming that the Town Board follows our recommendation.</li> <li>Incentives to electrify existing buildings</li> <li>Lynn suggested Clean Energy Communities program grant money be valued for potential program development to developing marketing plan to promote installation of multifamily buildings with heat pumps</li> <li>Tip delivered presentation to committee.</li> <li>Councilman Bouvier indicated lack of support.</li> <li>Suggested that committee make recommendation to educate Board Members at an upcoming worksession</li> <li>Action: Tip to compare NYS Law to what proposing locally</li> </ul>
1 - Electrify Existing buildings	Tip	2/6  11/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See attachment / presentation by Tip Brolin. Would be handy to have a case study outlining what it would cost to retrofit existing house. NEED for Town to hire staff, need funding for outreach.</li> <li>Jesse offered to work on outreach w/Adrienne .. new sub-committee.</li> <li>Gary will investigate Clean Energy Communities grants that might be appropriate to fund the outreach effort.</li> <li>Tip asking for vote to mandate electrification when house changes ownership. Ithaca is leading.</li> <li>Gary/Glorian asking for a tiering maybe by square footage</li> <li>TJ: does this exist anywhere else? Transfer over to IA comes with funding. Concern over the financial impact to low-cost housing.</li> <li>MI: would town need to carve out resources to handle</li> <li>Glorian: may need a referendum.</li> <li>Evan: charettes to bring the information to communities.</li> <li>MI: test the waters by conducting outreach across town with smaller organizations (CACs, civics)</li> </ul> <p><b>Info from the chat:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lena: The Boston Globe just published the step by step process one resident went through to get to net zero. You see the costs and the payback clearly. Mass, of course, not NY but you learn a lot: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88495054127?pwd=bDluNkNFNnBOaU96bHpRa1pFVmd4Zz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88495054127?pwd=bDluNkNFNnBOaU96bHpRa1pFVmd4Zz09</a></li> <li>Jenna sez: Plenty of Earth Day events. Even if this committee made a one-pager of info, other groups could share</li> <li>Darr: One thing we did quite a few years ago was to host The Great Greening of Southampton where people could learn what's going on and offer suggestions. I think we did it close to Earth Day. I'd suggest we do this on an annual basis. And maybe do it both east and west of the canal. Get volunteers and other groups to help offer this</li> <li>Kimberly: Great ideas Evan on shifting from fuel to electric. Might I submit an idea? One barrier is that many people I have spoken to are hesitant to switch to electric over gas because they don't think they can cook as well - but if we could make the communication/seminar fun by bringing in a well known chef who has been very successful with induction, it may overcome one of the key barriers. I have seen a few chefs on the cooking channels and in magazines showcase their skills.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tip, John, and Victoria to report at Dec meeting</li> </ul>
2 - CCA	Lynn	2/6 12/5 11/7 9/5 6/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduling outreach to CACs, Civics, churches; 2/9 village. Met with Sag Harbor environmental committee, identified point based grants associated with CCA under Clean Energy Communities program</li> <li>No change, RFP still active, plan to revisit after new board is seated.</li> <li>Power Supply RFP is still active. Joule will contact T Board when an RFP response meets thresholds established in the MOU, whereby all board members agreed to authorize Supervisor to signa contract.</li> <li>Power Supply RFP is still active. Joule will contact T Board when an RFP response meets thresholds established in the MOU, whereby all board members agreed to authorize Supervisor to signa contract.</li> <li>Power Supply RFP responses delayed to week of Sep 5</li> <li>Bridgehampton library presentation sept 18th</li> <li>Power Supply RFP responses due June 25</li> <li>Link to recorded education: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MeeWhGRAnCA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MeeWhGRAnCA</a></li> </ul>
2 - CDG Community Solar	Lynn	12/5 11/7 6/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiting for DEC approval of the project</li> <li>Met with deputy supervisor, to Educated Town staff concerning Clean Energy Communities program action grants and point based grants associated with CDG community solar. Estimating value to South Hampton approximately \$105,000.</li> <li>Successful outreach efforts, typically 100% signup rate at face-to-face presentations</li> <li>Approximately 100 residents signed up of which &gt; 60% self-identified as LMI</li> <li>Action: enter names into the subscription portal as soon as Joule and Kearsarge provide it</li> <li>Action: the first 25 subscribers will be submitted to NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities program</li> </ul>
Skip The Stuff / Plastic Reduction	Susanne Jansson	12/5 9/5 7/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expect to have multiple local Bills that have been passed by other municipalities to share with committee.</li> <li>Need a briefing package to solicit town board sponsor</li> <li>DoorDash and UberEats, etc.. have to part of the Bill</li> </ul> <p>Stuff: NYC &amp; N Westchester passed law in march unless you ask for condiments, paper plates &amp; utensils (40% of liter in ocean from this Stuff) Actively working on 3 tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One</li> <li>Two</li> <li>Dialogue for likeminded community members</li> </ol> <p>Please contact Susanne if interested in volunteering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans to initiate the 'Skip the stuff' campaign</li> <li>Reached out to legislators to understand what can be re-used from their programs. 100M plastic bowls, utensils &amp; cups. 19B utensils used by restaurants. Ask about their outreach.</li> <li>Need to get info on impacts to human health</li> </ul> <p>Resources: <a href="https://climatechangeresources.org/learn-more/health/health-pollution/plastics/">https://climatechangeresources.org/learn-more/health/health-pollution/plastics/</a></p>
3 - Community Communication	Kimberly Evan	2/6 12/5 11/7 9/5 6/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forum in the summer at public library on topic of interest to seasonal residents. Carbon concierge.</li> <li>Asked the town for data: # houses, age, sq footage? What is our residential carbon footprint.</li> <li>Offered to conduct a pilot project: crunch numbers manually for anyone</li> <li>Create a tri-fold that can be handed out</li> <li>Under the Sustainability Resolution the committee is responsible to provide an annual report, lets get organized</li> <li>This subcommittee will regroup and report at the December meeting.</li> <li>By statute this committee required to deliver annual report to TB – agreed to discuss plan at Dec mtg</li> <li>No funding for IT or public education</li> <li>Lena indicated that E Hampton planning a monthly event at LTV</li> <li>Dieter, Glorian, and Tip to review and then to members</li> <li>Not enough participation in TH meetings</li> <li>Community doesn't know what we do</li> <li>Desire for new blood</li> <li>Kicked around and discarded the idea of a survey until we can come up with a good reason</li> <li>Need meeting minutes organized well with commitments documented. Commitment list, dates, who responsible</li> <li>Debra Keller drives email blasts off 3 distribution lists</li> <li>Difficult for New members to be productive .. need onboarding process</li> <li>Public communications .. need to inventory important things we are doing. Consider communicating the 10 things that are critical</li> <li>Actions: Take a look at website, Tip to share previous method of communicating minutes &amp; how to get things done, Tip will ask for link so we can see Climate Action Plan survey results, Kimberly/Evan to aggregate content re: what do we have to work with</li> </ul>
BESS moratorium	Lynn	12/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evan asked: "What are the next steps"? did Janice hire consultant, what is their scope of work? Seth agreed to follow-up</li> <li>Lynn pointed out that as far as she is aware - there is no funding for outreach in the 2024 budget</li> </ul>

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		7/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lynn invited committee members to participate on a sub-committee with the aim of drafting a letter of recommendation to the TB on this topic.</li> <li>will organize a Zoom call and agenda to discuss whether the committee should Tip, David, Dieter</li> </ul>
Coastal Resilience	Helen	7/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JB said - - FIMP/Fire Island To Montauk and its "border" project - will be visiting homeowners that border northern estuary of the bay, raise homes at risk of flood</li> </ul>
Charging Station Infrastructure	Laurie	12/5 11/7 7/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Just pushed through a resolution to support the Make Ready Program – incentives to Residential and Commercial</li> <li>When identified that Clean Energy Communities program could yield grant funding for charging station infrastructure</li> <li>Tom has all grants in place. Laurie advocating for a charging station at the Bridgehampton workforce housing project (Laurie)</li> <li>Lena happy to be source of information</li> </ul> <p>Add'l Resources: <a href="https://www.danspapers.com/2023/07/rove-relaunch-tesla-free-ride-hamptons/">https://www.danspapers.com/2023/07/rove-relaunch-tesla-free-ride-hamptons/</a>  <a href="https://climatechangeresources.org/learn-more/transportation/charging-stations/">https://climatechangeresources.org/learn-more/transportation/charging-stations/</a></p>
4 - Community Composting	Joe	2/6 12/5 11/7 7/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wants to reengage with Town to move ahead a pilot program. Riverhead has a pilot in operation including schools &amp; senior centers. Setup subcommittee – Evan, Adrienne, Mark, and Maryann.</li> <li>Eliminate food going to compost as a sub-committee (Darr is going to form this) from the chat: Long before we put much time and money into composting which is very important and a #70 solution in Project Drwadownd, we should address the ending of food scraps before they become scraps - a #1 solution in DD. Education!!! and creating some legation on super markets giving away food. We should study options that reFED might direct us toward.</li> <li>Riverhead moving ahead nicely, getting schools involved, E Hampton has a pilot program</li> <li>Jan 19 Mark Haubner regional meeting planned.</li> <li>Joe put another call into Tom Houghton to inquire status of pilot program – no response</li> <li>Everything was going well concerning planning the pilot. However, the summer efforts to put something together with town hit a wall. Town/Tom Houghton not responding. Meanwhile, adjacent municipal efforts proceeding, e.g. Riverhead had successful pilot, as did East Hampton.</li> <li>Discussion followed with multiple committee members in agreement that Sustainability initiatives are not getting the support of Town Liaison and staff. Kimberly pointed out by statute the town is required to engage with us. Tip recommended the committee request to be on the agenda of a TB work session to escalate. We agreed the next steps would be to discuss approach at Dec meeting.</li> <li>Dieter asking what role can committee play?</li> <li>E Hampton executing pilot</li> <li>Ask Tom Houghton to present town's plans at next meeting</li> </ul>
Membership / Bylaws	Dieter	11/7 9/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Bylaws unanimously approved</li> <li>New members can send EV to co-chair asking to be a new member, submitted to town board</li> <li>Dieter sending to members asking for comments. please reply all by October 1. Discussion and vote at October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting</li> </ul>
Alternatives to salt on Town roads in winter	Dieter	2/6 12/5 11/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Susanne and Joe met with Hwy Dept – open to ideas to reduce salt on roads. D Schiavoni to produce samples to Hwy Dept for testing. Dave Schiavoni's estimate is to cut in half the amount of salt needed. Pretreating questions.</li> <li>Amount of salt distributed is minor as compared to what the NY State and county puts down. There are barriers: type of equipment needed, i.e. capital</li> <li>Joe put in a call to the Southampton Highway Department and spoke with Marc Braeger, who is the deputy superintendent of the department, and he was very open and willing to talk. He had some familiarity with the use of beet juice products as an alternative to road salt but said that as far as he was aware, it was primarily used in much colder regions, such as upstate NY, and not likely to be effective in a more temperate zone such as the East End. He nonetheless said he would be willing to take a meeting with East End Organics to hear their side of the story. With the holidays upon us, he suggested we schedule something for early January. In the meantime, I will follow up with Dave Schiavone and see how he responds to the issue of his product's suitability in our local climate.</li> <li>LI Organics contacted, interested in working with us to evaluate whether their product of interest. Joe will follow up with Highway Dept directly and Hwy Dept Town Board liaison when that person is identified in 2024</li> <li>New sub-committee formed / members: Joe, Mary Anne and Lena</li> <li>Lynn referenced and subsequently reached out to Dave Schiavoni/Sag Harbor who she claims has patent and business distributing beet juice for purposes of sustainably pretreating road surfaces for severe winter weather.</li> <li><a href="https://www.facebook.com/eastendorganicemelt">https://www.facebook.com/eastendorganicemelt</a></li> <li><a href="https://www.facebook.com/eastendorganicemelt/videos/911179742233481">https://www.facebook.com/eastendorganicemelt/videos/911179742233481</a></li> </ul>
Municipal Works plan	Tom	9/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For 2023/2024 focusing on electrification: central garage, solar on town hall roof., Flanders/North Sea replacing with air source heat pump (5 projects). Studies to reduce carbon footprint Old Noyack schoolhouse, town barn</li> <li>Try to get back on board with repurposing some materials (try to reuse)</li> <li>Trying to increase recycling rate</li> <li>Private carters – do they separate recyclables? Too much Municipal Solid Waste in waste stream.</li> <li>Recently installed EV charging station at Good Ground Park. Tom's goal is to install Level 2 chargers in Town. Next locations: 3 stations at town hall, Flanders 2 stations</li> <li>Privately: 10 charging stations going in at King Kullen/Hampton Bays</li> <li>Rick: need to replace EV charging stations at Ponquogue Beach</li> </ul>
5 - Grants	Victoria Gary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victoria and Lynn agreed to work together to define a program to retrofit residential properties with heat pump, technology and compete for grant money under the Clean Energy Communities program</li> </ul>

Item	Committee Person Responsible	Date	Status
		2/6	
Next Meeting		1/9	•
		12/5	• Preferably in person however can participate via Zoom
		7/18	• Should we go back to 2 meetings/month?
		6/6	• Universal agreement to meet over summer • Talked about setting attendance policy, i.e. must show up for 60% meeting to retain committee membership • Action: investigate using Zoom to avoid summer traffic. Multiple members (Tip, Lynn) have Zoom licenses
HISTORY			
Guest Speaker / Kevin McAllister		9/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masters in Dune Management along the shoreline. On coastal shoreline sources of sand depending upon prevailing wind drives sand onto beach where it dries (offshore/onshore cycle). Winter storms cyclical and beaches will narrow. Army core does not manage sand across the inlets efficiently. Longshore current drives sand east to west.</li> <li>• Explained why the shoals develop inside and outside the in-let.</li> <li>• Detailed the impact of seawalls</li> <li>• Times article (headline misleading) sand replenishment is a short time measure, very expensive, e.g. \$7M for 2 miles in Quogue.</li> <li>• Dredging: where to go for sand .. need beach compatible sand. Logistics: difficult to schedule, lots of competition for dredging equipment up and down the Atlantic Coast.</li> <li>• Recommending be cognizant of this issue. We have not had a major storm in years.</li> <li>• Example: Fire Island to Montauk (sand replenishment) Army Corp of Engineers. Will be cost sharing arrangement vis-a-vis taxing districts.</li> <li>• Recommending: need to understand and plan for future</li> </ul>
Clean Concrete		11/7	• Discussed and agreed out of scope