

## **Town of Mendon Climate Smart Communities Task Force**

### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026

PRESENT: Peter Carosa - Task Force Coordinator  
Margaret Bailey  
Mike Burke  
Jeff Clark  
Tim Engström  
Rebecca Kreuzer  
Kim Roberts

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Danny Bassett, Joe Alati, Dave McInnis

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026, 7:00 PM

#### **1. Call to Order: 7:04 PM**

#### **2. Welcome & Introductions**

- Round the room introductions for visitors

#### **3. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Peter Carosa, and seconded by Rebecca Kreuzer to approve the meeting minutes from 1/6/2026.

Peter Carosa: aye, Margaret Bailey: aye; Mike Burke: aye, Jeff Clark: aye; Tim Engström: aye; Rebecca Kreuzer: aye; Kim Roberts: aye

#### **4. Task Force Openings**

- Town Resident
  - One position on the Task Force still needs to be filled by a Town Resident
  - An announcement was posted on the Town website and in the Sentinel seeking Letters of Interest (LOIs) and resumes from a Town Resident. Deadline for LOIs is 2/13.
  - The Town Board will ultimately make the appointment. Candidates should be interviewed by the Supervisor, a TB member of the Task Force, and the Task Force chair.
- Town Employee
  - One task force slot remains open for a Town employee.
  - Rebecca Spoke with Corey Gates who expressed interest in joining.
  - Peter will formally reach out to Joe A. about what needs to be done to appoint a Town employee

- Rebecca will follow up with Corey to assess his level of interest.
- High School Student
  - We are still looking for a high school student to fill the non-voting, ex officio position.
  - Peter C. exchanged emails with Andy Corey about whether he knows of any students that might potentially be interested, but he didn't know of anyone off the top of his head.
  - Peter will work with Kim to write a school announcement seeking a freshmen, sophomore, or junior student member.

## 5. Certification Action Checklist Discussion

- At the January meeting, members were tasked with reviewing the certification action checklist to identify what actions we have already completed that we can get credit for.
- Margaret reviewed PE5: Use climate-smart materials management.
- Refrigerant Management Program:
  - Does the town already have a refrigerant procurement plan? Perhaps some small modifications to it are possible to meet the criteria?
- Kim R. believes PE5 would give “the most bang for our buck”.
- General discussion about whether our primary objective is to achieve the certification, or to address climate vulnerabilities within Mendon.
  - If the primary goal is to secure the Bronze certification, we should focus on selecting the three priority items that are required for the Bronze certification and make progress on them.
  - If the primary goal is to address Mendon's greatest vulnerabilities, Tim E. suggested that we should be focus on PE7: Enhance community resilience to climate change.
  - Peter C, emphasized that by identifying the items that Mendon has already completed, we allow ourselves to get more familiar with the program. Addressing the priority items or items that feel most important to Mendon will come with time.
  - Rebecca K. reminded members that there is resolution language that directs the task force to identify the items that Mendon has already completed and can take credit for as our first actions.
- Establishing Our Goal for Next Submission Period (May)
  - The group talked about what we wanted to target for the May submission period. No decisions were made however.
- Conserve natural areas (PE7)
  - This could be an item we may be able to receive credit for given all our park lands within Mendon Ponds Park.
  - Mendon Greens - there were some plots / easements that were turned over to the Mendon Foundation that might apply..
  - Comprehensive plan: Our comprehensive plan is largely tied to preserving open spaces.

- EPODS
  - We can assess whether the EPODs might be tied to any checklist items
- Planning for Biking and Walking / Infrastructure for Biking and Walking (PE6.10 / PE6.11)
  - The Mendon sidewalk expansion project could qualify here..
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (PE3.24)
  - Mendon has a purchasing policy - perhaps there's some language that can be easily added through resolution.
  - Green Purchasing Communities provides language and guidance to Towns for New York State's NEW Green Purchasing Communities program makes it easy for local governments to buy products and services that have a lower environmental impact.  
<https://ogs.ny.gov/green-purchasing-communities>
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (PE6)
  - Mendon Public Library has charging stations that have been out of order for > 1 year.
  - Need to find a new service provider
- Comprehensive Plan walk-through
  - Mike B. suggested that we go line by line through the comprehensive plan identify which Priority CSC Task Force Actions we are most aligned with as a Town - or where in the comprehensive plan we might want to propose some updates to bring us more in line with climate initiatives.
- Climate Adaptation Plan (PE7)
  - Tim E. emphasized again that climate change vulnerabilities are what matter most here - and that creating a Climate Adaptation Plan would address these vulnerabilities
  - Rebecca noted that this task is a major undertaking that would likely require a committee of its own to achieve. This is also why there is funding available for this task as it will require consultants and subject matter experts to prepare.
  - Peter C. concurred and stated his vision is that this task force drives vision and direction, but that much of the work would be done by additional committees or working groups that actively work toward meeting requirements for a given action.
- New Trucks
  - Joe A. mentioned that the Town is purchasing new trucks that may meet fuel efficiency standards.
- Action Plan
  - David McInnis pointed out that it might be helpful for the Task Force to put together an Action Plan to help us get more organized.
  - Rebecca K. really liked that idea and volunteered to take the first crack at a plan.
  - The Action Plan should include a mission statement so that we are clear on our mission and objectives.

- **Next Steps**

- Members broke into groups of two or three. Each group was assigned three PE sections and asked to categorize each checklist item into one of three categories: (1) potentially completed by the Town; (2) completion status unclear; or (3) not completed by the Town.
- Groups and assignments are as follows:
  - Kim R. and Margaret B: PE3, PE5, and PE11
  - Tim E, Rebecca K., and Mike B.: PE4, PE7, and PE9
  - Peter C. and Jeff C.: PE6, PE8, and PE10.
- Peter will set up a google sheets document in the CSC google drive with a tab for each group to fill out.
- Teams will meet as they are able to categorize the checklist items in their sections.
- Rebecca K will create a draft Action Plan for the group to consider before the next meeting.
- No resolutions were identified for the TB.

## **6. Honeoye Falls Environmental Fair**

- End of April
- ECB will attend - we should consider having the Task Force have a presence at the fair.

- **Meeting Adjournment: 8:45 PM**