

**Town of Mendon Climate Smart Communities Task Force**  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 3rd 2026

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

OTHERS: Dave McInnis

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 24th, 2026, 7:00 PM

- **Call to Order - 7:06 PM**
- **Approval of Past Minutes – February 3rd, 2026**
  - Minutes were approved with one correction.
- **Task Force Openings Update**
  - Town Resident
    - Received 5-6 letters of interest.
    - All candidates are excellent but there is currently room to appoint only one person.
    - Members expressed concern that limiting participation could lead to disengagement from highly qualified applicants. The group discussed expanding the task force from 9 members to 11 or more to accommodate broader involvement. Must consider whether there are diminishing returns for a larger decision-making body.
    - Tim, Peter, and Jeff will interview the candidates and make recommendations at the next meeting
  - Town Employee
    - Corey Gates was noted as not appearing interested; the committee will need to identify an alternate candidate. Kevin Junge was mentioned as another potential option.
  - HF-L Student Representative
    - An announcement was shared at the high school, and Peter also contacted Andy Corey to gauge student interest. To date, no students have expressed interest.
- **CSC Task Force Action Plan**
  - Review

- Members reviewed both the two-page summary and the full action plan. Overall, there was general support for the plan.
    - There was some discussion of small improvements - for example, members felt that footnoting the comprehensive plan would be helpful.
  - Mission and guiding principles
    - Members reviewed and discussed the mission and guiding principles.
    - The team was supportive of the presented mission and guiding principles, but wanted to take some time to review individually before officially adopting.
    - Agreed to meet on 3/24 to revisit these items.
  - Decision Pathway for Mission and Focus
    - Members discussed whether to prioritize achieving Bronze certification or to focus on actions offering the greatest immediate value to the community.
    - Rebecca shared research on the benefits of Bronze certification, including increased competitiveness for funding by demonstrating organization, commitment, and capacity. The group reached consensus to prioritize pursuing Bronze certification, which would better position the team to achieve the larger, more impactful actions.
    - The team will determine at a future meeting whether to formally adopt the action plan, mission statement, and guiding principles. Once consensus is reached, the proposed structure, organization, and focus will be presented to the Town Board for approval, consistent with Resolution 25-268 (9/8/2025).  
*“WHEREAS, the first responsibility of the Task Force will be to propose a structure, a process, and a set of initial priorities, to be approved by the Town Board, for realizing the goals of the Climate Smart Communities Pledge.”*
    - The task force will meet again on 3/24 to discuss what should be presented to the board for consideration and approval.
- **Certification Action Checklist Discussion**
  - This item was tabled until the next meeting (either 3/24 or 4/7).
- **Upcoming Event Discussion – Honeoye Falls Environmental Fair (April 25th)**
  - The ECB / CSC Task Force will have a table at the HF Environmental Fair. Information on the EPODS could be shared. More planning for the ECB / Task Force table will occur during the next two meetings
- **Meeting Adjournment - 8:34 PM**

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 7th, 2026, 7:00 PM