

CAC Agenda / Working Doc / 11.9 2022

In attendance:

- CAC: Jen, Lori, Frances, Mike, Steve
- Liaison: Jacob
- Invited Guests? David Teisler
- Meeting opened 7:06
- [Vote on Oct minutes](#) motion to approve, second
 - (Frances please submit Sept and Oct (once approved) as pdfs to Deputy Clerk , deputyclerk@redhook.org)
 - Frances will send these by email tonight as PDFs so all CAC members can review

Events/ Webinars/Training Opps

Materials Management

Compost - Lori

- Final HSS email, confirmed compost will continue at Recycling Center
- Success with modest program
- 90% of compost taken over 3 weeks (6 Recycling Center days)
- Jen: Should we try to get everyone who's enthusiastic about it to tell a friend?
- Lori: We need to time things right, maybe more outreach in the spring.
- CAC budget money: for more green buckets?
- Steve suggests signage at drop-off point; Recycling Center is welcoming to those who know their way around it.
- Review survey results

We had a 23% response rate (13 responses, 5 from CAC). Nearly all respondents participated in the program, mostly (63%) switching from throwing food scraps in the trash, with a few switching from home or other compost collection. The 2 who did not participate in the program both compost at home.

Most bring all food scraps they generate to the Recycling Center, most visit at least once per week, and Saturdays are the most popular day. About a third visit the Recycling Center just for food scrap drop off. All plan to continue their drop-off habits through the winter. We lost one composter to stinky buckets in the car.

Survey respondents suggest adding a pickup spot in Tivoli, accepting dead flowers and green trimmings, staying open until noon (this is already the case), offering and advertising the green bucket giveaway to new composters, and adding a rinse system at the drop-off site to bring our lost composter back.

Lots of thank yous and one great quote: "Keep up the good work! I never knew how much trash my food scraps were generating before I started composting. I'm delighted that the program is continuing during the winter months. I also like contributing my food scraps so that it benefits all of us in the form of compost that people can use."

- Jacob suggested sharing with other communities, summarize and let other Town Boards know

- Jen says we have general room for improvement with this - summarize program (how much collected) and Robert can share with town supervisors
- Lori said Amelia is talking to other towns (Poughkeepsie) about both Red Hook and Rhinebeck programs, and how program differences suit different community needs
 - Rhinebeck outreach outstanding, and sharing different models show different options (and shows demand in different ways)
- Think about sharing in terms of funding

Repair Cafe Nov 5 and Art Box Ribbon Cutting at RHCC

- Review how it went
 - Much larger turnout than April's. This was second event since COVID.
 - Students from Bard helpful with desk at the front to keep a log.
 - The items people brought to be repaired aligned well with coach skills
 - People always ask about knife sharpening - Jay said maybe next time
 - Pre-pandemic, about ½ people were finding out about Repair Cafe through Facebook. This time, biggest sources were email and "web." 25% found out via road signs - well placed! And friends, word-of-mouth.
 - Clothes Closet was open, Art Box ribbon cutting
 - Having multiple things concurrently can draw people in
- Discuss next event / collaboration with Bard students ?
 - Roughly every 3 months, so looking at January
 - Coordinate with Bard day of service MLK Day
 - Can RHCC highlight more about what they do during Repair Cafe day? Introduce some of their programs?
 - Could toddler room be open next time and advertised?

E-waste - are we able to collect anything year round?

- What is the new regulation coming here?

Robert wanted a shed or covered area for refrigerant-containing equipment? Remaining \$ this budget year?

Planning Board

- Public hearing on solar array - conspicuous site from trails at Clermont, so a site review, forestation to conceal the array
- Bard's master plan update approved?
 - No update
- The trail to Montgomery Place has two phases, pending funding. A pedestrian bridge would be second phase and would be near the existing bridge along Annandale Road

Land & Water

- Water / SKWC - is Leah connected to them? Email katykill2@gmail.com (Karen)
- NRI: Clinton pulled out. Villages?
 - NRI maps run right through, wouldn't exclude the village anyway, it would be incorporated into town
 - Assistance program seems to be to encourage collaboration between towns
 - Mike says NRI grants usually available at the beginning of the year

Climate Smart Community/ Energy

- Cornell Climate Smart Steward project/ CEC award: likely award! [electric mower grant](#) implement it for Summer 2023. (unofficial)

- Refrigerant drive w/ Energy Cte
- Agrivoltaics
 - Denis going to a meeting about that?
- CSC - EDC collaboration on climate-related topics?
 - What CSC actions should we recommend to EDC?
 - [See Pledge Element 8](#)
 - Jacob suggested Buy Local/Buy Green might make sense ([see here](#))
- Lori brought up Solarize, with Heat Pumps in mind...did we have preferred vendors with companies who gave customers a deal? + community outreach with how much solar we could do
 - Providing information to homeowners on heat pump tax incentives. Help people with the finding out process?
 - There might be a lot of the vetting information done, but may not know, or there are other obstacles (being generally overwhelmed)
 - Look back at Climate Action Plan, retrofitting buildings part
 - Lori and Frances will work more on this
 - Jen brought up program seeking volunteers to do peoples' tax returns. Can we have a program to call and ask for someone to help you find out if you qualify for programs/get the first few steps done?
 - How do you get the word out to people? No newspaper, lack of tuning in to town board meetings, Facebook declining.
 - Steve pointed out: The message people agree on is saving money is good.

Transportation

- Public transportation: what are the pieces needed?
- Lori: has there been conversation with Town sharing the costs with Bard for Bard shuttle?
- What places do people need to go?
- Steve: draw on existing infrastructure (what's here?) and funding to serve senior population?
- Jen: in Northeast, we don't do a good job of serving seniors.
- Lori: Are people calling town hall saying they can't get around? Jen says yes, people call when they have obstacles, like weather, or availability of aides. If we had a number to call, Jen thinks people would use it.

Website/ Communications

Update about oil-based paint - add link (<https://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites/>)

- Minutes up on website.

Budget: \$700

- More compost buckets?
- Jen suggests small signs for Hardscrabble Scrapper yards for publicity
 - Jacob: worth publicizing a bit ahead of winter? In the cold/snow, more people might be interested.
 - QR code or website sharpied onto banner?
 - Jen will add FB post about compost extension through the winter. School district also has Virtual Backpack.

motion to close Lori second Mike. Meeting close 8:20pm