

## **Town of Marlborough Conservation Advisory Committee**

December 6, 2022 Meeting Report

Held at Marlboro Free Library, Marlboro, NY 6:45 PM

The CAC met for its second meeting of the year 2022. The main purpose of the meeting was to continue organizational efforts to pursue Marlborough becoming a Climate Smart Community (CSC).

A new participant to the CAC, Matthew Sabia, introduced himself to the Committee and we appreciate and recognize that his skillset will be valuable to the success of our mission. We welcome him.

We discussed defined roles for CAC members vis a vis the ten elements of the Climate Smart Community program and we look forward to doing the work for the citizens of Marlborough. The CSC has specific recognized levels of achievement. Our preliminary review of the requirements for bronze and then silver status already points to many successful actions completed or in motion for finalization that will win those classifications for the Town. We also believe that there are many money saving and money producing benefits the Town can realize as a result of our research for successful CSC actions. I will remind the Board of some of the benefits of becoming a Climate Smart Community:

- *Better scores on grant applications for some state funding programs, like [DEC's CSC Grants](#)*
- *State-level recognition for each community's leadership*
- *A robust framework to organize local climate action and highlight priorities*
- *Streamlined access to resources, training, tools and expert guidance*
- *Networking and sharing best practices with peers*

We have confidence that we have sufficient manpower to begin the process. But before we can proceed at all, we need a resolution adopted by the Town Board to be named as a Climate Smart Community.

Once named, we will be allowed to interact with neighboring townships as well as all of the governmental agencies in Ulster County and New York State that coordinate with the CSC programs. With the Board's resolution we will begin in earnest to develop and deliver a long term plan for Marlborough to become a bronze-certified community.

I've included a draft resolution based on the model provided by the CSC program for your use.

Respectfully submitted, Mici Simonofsky, CAC Chair pro tem

<https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/climate-smart>; <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>