

CAC Report to the Town Board
January 8, 2024

At our December meeting we discussed at length creating an event around Earth Day. We will continue that discussion at our next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 11.

We are gratified that our Facebook page continues to have increased viewership. We will be working with the Deputy Town Clerk to interface our Facebook page with the Town website similarly to the Town Recreation Committee, rather than creating an individual website for the CAC.

Jannelle Kozsarek and I completed the 4 scheduled meetings with the Cohort and I will be seeking their assistance in the next months to complete the Greenhouse Gas Inventory. Featured at the most recent Cohort Zoom, the completion of a fleet inventory of Town owned vehicles to create a benchmark document would gain us 200 points or more depending on the number of vehicles involved. It also seems like a relatively easy spreadsheet to prepare. It would include the type of vehicle and fuel type, fuel consumption figures, and similar data. I spoke with the Highway Department secretary who has informed me that she has a list of all of the Highway Department vehicles which she would be willing to share if given authorization to do so. I am asking that you give us access to her records and allow her to be available to us to complete the inventory. Likewise, we need access to the Police Department statistics, and the Building Inspector and Water departments as well. If you would authorize that and direct us to the proper individuals to contact we will work on this as a priority.

There have been announcements of several additional grant opportunities for municipalities for the year 2024. We will be reviewing which of those would be the most effective to pursue for the Town's needs, but it is good to know that we, as a CAC, have access to many resources to help us qualify for some grant money. Specifically, if we could be included in commenting on the plans for the Highway building renovations, our contractors might be able to adapt the plans to coincide with grant moneys that would improve efficiency while paying for the specific improvement. I believe the RFP has already been released for those renovations but we would still have time to make suggestions before the building improvements are made.

We prepared initial comments and questions in regard to the Ridgeline Protection law via phone calls and individual inquiries among some CAC members. These were summarized and presented at tonight's Public Hearing. As I explained, our comments are not complete as we did not have the opportunity as a committee to review the changes in the law due to the timing of the announcement of the Public Hearing, as well as the holidays, which did not give us time to schedule a special meeting.

We're looking forward to a successful 2024 and working both for and with this Town Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Mici Simonofsky for the CAC