

Community Resilience Committee

Meeting Minutes

St. George Town Office

5:00 pm April 27, 2023

In attendance: Meg Rasmussen, Van Thompson, John Maltais, Susy Ellis, Anne Cox, Dan Verrillo (via Zoom), and Richard Bates (recording).

Additions to Agenda

- option to attend “Communities Leading on Climate” conference on May 11
- another grant opportunity with DMR’s Coastal Community Grant program

Minutes

The minutes from the February 15, 2023 meeting were approved.

Check-In on status of projects

- Van described the status of the Sebago Technics project; the approximately one week of surveying may start as early as this week; Governor Mills has been invited to visit this data-gathering effort, and see how this data will allow the community to visualize possible remediation options.
- Anne outlined plans for the next issue of the Re•sil•ience newsletter, hoping to have it available by the Town Meeting.
- Meg listed all the people from St. George who have agreed to be interviewed for the Working Waterfront Vulnerability Study; these interviews will be helpful in understanding the community’s socioeconomic vulnerability to the dual challenges of sea level rise and recent changes to fishing regulation.
- Richard explained that the electrician advised that, for safety, the EV charging units be mounted away from the outside wall of the library; so in the next month Alan Letourneau will build a wooden framework to secure them.

Discuss approach to greenhouse gas inventory

Meg has been working with the towns of Camden, Rockport, Rockland, South Thomaston and St. George, to all start inventorying their greenhouse gases, using [ICLEI's ClearPath emissions management software](#); she explained that St. George could avoid the annual \$1,500 ICLEI membership fee by entering its data using MCOG's license. As Susy does not have time until the Fall, John agreed to work on this.

How to increasing community engagement?

Taking a cue from a recent National Academy of Sciences paper , [summarized here](#), on what types of intervention motivates people to change their behavior, the committee agreed to hold a “Solar Fare” in August to show the community the environmental value and savings possible from solar panels. The project is similar to one organized by the Conservation Commission (CC) several years ago and would have two parts:

1. solar panel vendors at the Town Office
2. homeowners around town showing their solar systems

Dan will check with the CC at their May 11 meeting about any conflicts with their upcoming programs.

Ideas for suitable projects for Island Institute \$10k grants

The consensus was that the Town was already adequately addressing the scope of work covered by the II ShoreUp grants, and also the DMR's Coastal Community grants, although these funding sources may be useful in the future to help with enlargement, replacement and repair of culverts.

Communities Leading on Climate

For anyone on the committee interested, there is funding to attend this conference May 11 at the University of Maine in Orono.

Date for Next Meeting

5:00 pm May 16