

Shawangunk EMC Minutes November 12, 2019

Present: John Valk, Kris Pedersen, Dave Haldeman, Dave Tompkins, Steve Landsman, Patty Parmalee (scribe)

Solar power farm applications discussed: prison, Plains Road, Garrison, and DeVries

The Parker project may encroach on protections specified in the Shawangunk Kill scenic designation. Action: check the plan and map, and make a visit

Refuge/Galeville Park, ideas on how to get more public awareness:

Send Julie's trail map to Fish and Wildlife to append to their map

Put the map on town website

Print out a stack for people to take, to place in Town Hall

Get New Paltz Times and Wallkill Valley Times to do an article, including printing the map. Dave H will talk to Julie about contacting them

Eagle Scouts, or Silver and Gold Girl Scouts, or BOCES might want to design a birdwatching educational display for Galeville Park

Student involvement and ecological awareness, possible contacts:

Community service club

Honor Society

Middle School science club

"Living the Green Life" course in Evening Academy (meets Tuesdays 3:30)

Steve will ask if any students would like to join us for a conversation

Or, best, we should go to them

Dave H reports on County climate action plan:

Organic waste composting will be mandatory for large production sites, in 3 years (if it passes)

Now you have to request stirrers, straws, and utensils

The County is buying 3 electric buses, presumably for UCAT and/or Kingston

Rich Hoyt described our unique conservation easement law to the County. No other town has our monitoring system

Action: Dave will request Amanda Lavallo to meet with us and the Climate Smart Committee

Town projects:

Steve is urging Magnanini Winery to put in electric car chargers; a win/win if they pay first year electric bill but get more visitors due to official listing

LED streetlights: last year 20% of Central Hudson lights in Eastern part of town were LED; order has now been placed for Western part of town

Trees for Tribs: the trees and roses we planted behind the bank are thriving.

However the river behind the Sunoco station has no protection.

Action: Let's do seedling handout at St. Pat's parade again.

Invasives: Enthusiasm for making them our next educational project

The DEC can do removal, but citizen "eyes on the ground" necessary for spotting locations they've infested. Thus people learning identification would be both interesting and useful.

Action: Dave T will ask the DEC about a powerpoint or speaker, and handouts with pictures, and Patty will ask the Trail Conference. Focusing on what is actually here.

Maybe invite other towns?

Next meeting: January 21, 2020