



Climate Smart Kingston
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
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Meeting Notes
Monday December 16, 2013
City Hall Conference Room 1
3:00-4:30pm

Present: Julie Noble (facilitator), Gerald Berke, Michael Courtney, Pat Courtney-Strong (phone), Jeff Domanski (phone), Michael D'Arcy, Melissa Everett, Emilie Hauser, Guy Kempe, Sarina Pepper, Gregg Swanzey, Arthur Zaczekiewicz

The meeting started with a review of how we got to where we are, with the Climate Smart Pledge, formation of Task Force, crafting and adoption of Climate Action Plan, morphing into Climate Smart Kingston, with a goal of implementing the Plan. At the last meeting we had discussed that we each thought that weatherization and improving energy efficiency was the most important and logical first step towards our goals of '20 by 20': reducing energy consumption in Kingston 20% by 2020.

We proposed starting an energy efficiency campaign for the city and started to scope out this plan with asset mapping:

Asset Mapping

(Who is doing something within Kingston that collaboratively could help to build a solid, well built energy efficiency campaign for the city)

In no particular order:

1. City of Kingston: access to and writing grants, CAC/website, PR
2. Cornell Cooperative Extension: Training events; training staff; literature; research-based knowledge; low hanging fruit
3. RUPCO: GJGNY; access to NYSERDA EMPOWER NY; assisted home energy performance; want boots on the ground/train the trainer for info gathering; mapping of NYSERDA projects/weatherization; Central Hudson referrals; outreach staff
4. UC Community Action: Weatherization programming; data source; HEAP
5. Courtney Strong, INC.: NYSERDA commercial; EDGE Program
6. Central Hudson: energy/fossil fuel consumption data for tracking reductions in use
7. Sustainable Hudson Valley: Training; support; social marketing; professionals and volunteer coordination; Energize NY and Solarize CT
8. Kingston Library: space (meeting and displays); energy savings data; pledge template
9. Businesses: Herzog's; Contractors; SUNY Ulster; US Green Building Council; Central Hudson/Fortis \$250,000 main stream funding; Real Estate Agents

Data Mapping

(What data exists that we could compile to produce a GIS map for internal use and eventually external, for highlighting champions/neighborhoods/wards, demonstrating trends in efficiency, identifying gaps in areas/housing stock)

1. Retrofits completed
2. Audits completed
3. RUPCO has started to compile data, will create GIS database/maps
4. Could aggregate information, eg for Kingston Housing Authority properties

Outreach

(How can Climate Smart Kingston, in an effort to reduce energy consumption 20 by 20, outreach and communicate with the public, to change behaviors/mindsets/practices/policies)

Goal: Reduce energy consumption, save taxpayer dollars

1. Door to door Energy Ambassadors more effective than event based outreach

2. Focus on residential as first phase, commercial/institutional as second phase

3. Set up training to train volunteers to go out into community

a. Develop training

Goal: Put together a program to train volunteers who will go out door to door to educate the community about how to make energy efficiency improvements in their homes and lifestyles; explain that this is part of Climate Action Plan, city's commitment to 20 by 20.

b. Create a toolkit to distribute

Goal: Provide citizens a resource guide to energy savings, services and providers in Kingston that will help them make energy efficiency improvements and save money.

- i. Resource guide
- ii. Home Energy Audit info (benefits, how to do it)
- iii. Quick fixes
- iv. Easy energy efficiency upgrades

c. Create Map (target date by Jan 15)

Goal: See "Data Mapping" above.

- i. Homes which have completed energy audits
- ii. Homes which have taken the next step to complete energy upgrade retrofits
- iii. Look at housing stock
- iv. Aggregate some data, eg for Kingston Housing Authority
- v. Analyze for trends, gaps

d. Select neighborhoods to address first, based on analysis of maps

Goal: Create a roll out strategy for the door to door Energy Ambassador campaign

e. Recruit volunteers

Goal: Identify Energy Ambassadors who will go out into the community

- i. Could be people acting as ambassadors in their particular neighborhoods or city wide

f. Host training (target date mid Feb)

Goal: Train the Energy Ambassadors; help build our cadre of people who will assist with marketing and outreach of the Climate Action Plan

g. Host Open House(s) in several wards/throughout city with influential people showcasing work

Goal: Identify leaders in community to either 1)commit to energy savings or 2)who have already done retrofits or audits, to showcase their improvements

h. Get mayor or other influential community members as Champions, get them to do audits

Goal: Social marketing and media is influenced by community leaders, who will help Climate Smart Kingston promote our goals of 20 by 20.

i. Track success of new upgrades/energy savings in a visual way somehow

j. Earth Day PR for campaign

The next Climate Smart Kingston meeting will be January 23rd. On that agenda is reviewing the energy improvements map; planning the agenda for the training; recruitment planning; big picture outreach strategy.