

## **Nyack Sustainability Committee Meeting**

**January 18, 2022**

Attending: Steve Cea, Marcy Denker, Liz McGrory, Joel Newton, Dave Zornow, Rosemary Farrell, Lorien Barlow

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### **Sustainability Committee Reorganization**

The Nyack Sustainability Committee agreed on a reorganization plan whereby the current committee would dissolve.

1) A *Climate Smart Committee* will continue to meet regularly to advance an agenda including actions in the Climate Smart Communities and Clean Energy Communities programs and rebooting the Climate Action planning process that was interrupted during the past two years. Marcy—the Village’s Sustainability Coordinator—and Steve will co-chair the committee. Taylor Mandelbaum has expressed interest in becoming a member, and Liz McGrory has said that she would like to remain involved. The committee will seek to formalize the regular involvement of the Village Administrator’s office. The Climate Action Plan process will offer an opportunity to identify ways for others to get involved.

2) The Committee spent most of the meeting discussing an alternative structure that would allow a coalition of community groups involved in environmental protection—tentatively called the Green Circle—to be organized by a facilitator, selected from among the former Sustainability Committee members who express willingness to serve in this role, based on ranked choice. Representatives of the Nyack Tree Committee, Rockland Composters, Beyond Leaf blowers, Rockland Shared Streets, the Climate Smart Committee, and possibly others such as the Nyack Parks Commission, would meet to share information and find synergies. Specific organizational dynamics are still to be determined and may evolve over time. Initial ideas include: setting a consistent meeting time each month and highlighting the work of one group each meeting to allow for in depth discussion and problem solving as needed.

### **Climate Action Plan**

Steve and Marcy have drafted a presentation to present to the Village Board this winter about the Climate Action Plan with the Climate Smart Committee, at a date to be determined soon, and have drafted a simple website as a tool to help communicate about the plan and easily keep it up to date over time.