

Climate Smart Committee Minutes January 6, 2026

Attendance: Anna Rizzo, Mike Styne, Linda Sheehan, John Sheehan, Sally Lawrence, Shari Mantini, Bernadine Wiesen

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 P.M.

The meeting started with old business. Anna stated that the holiday newsletters were a success and can be found in the Climate Smart section of the Sand Lake website and the Supervisors newsletter. Also, the Hazard Mitigation Plan is complete and waiting on the county to finalize. Lastly, for old business, the Government GHG spreadsheet is complete, and we are waiting for the report from Haley. Once we have the report, we can use that to help with other actions.

For new business we discussed the Climate Action Plan which is a priority action that we can accomplish as a committee with the GHG report. Anna explained that we get 4 additional points if we open it to the public. Once the plan is complete, we will request a public hearing, to maximize points for this action. Mike brought up cloud computing as opposed to hosting everything in the building which is not an action but something we can look into. Anna explained that Supervisor Clemens recommended planting trees for town wide cleanup day which will take place around Earth Day. The Committee can plant a tree at Butler Park as part of the Shaded Structures Policy and set up a table for our committee to hand out our spring newsletter. Sally suggested getting the school involved in helping plant some of the trees. Sally and Linda agreed to look into that. Linda and John also mentioned that this would be a good opportunity to discuss composting tips. We also agreed to investigate getting trees donated. Bernie Wiesen from Cornell Cooperative Extension joined the group and recommended we create a climate smart resiliency planning tool. Bernie will send a template for us to fill in as we gather green priorities for the town. This is another tool that we can use to create a Climate Action Plan. Regarding the risk assessment, the town does not have updated flood data. Our FEMA maps are from 1980. Bernie and Anna pointed out that we can make our own flood data for a risk assessment using information from residents and GIS.

Our goal is to be a certified community by the next deadline which is May 22. Currently, we have 81/120 points needed to be certified. We also need 2 more priority actions to get certified.

Adjourned at 7:17 P.M.