

Climate Smart Committee Minutes February 3, 2026

Attendance: Anna Rizzo, Mike Styne, Linda Sheehan, John Sheehan, Sally Lawrence, Lisa Gutheil, Val Kavanaugh, Jake Miller, Mindy Fowler

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M.

The meeting started by welcoming our new members.

Anna started with Old Business which involved an overview of Town Wide cleanup day. The Committee plans on planting trees around Town and potentially getting students of all ages involved. Additionally, we can come up with composting tips, recycling locations, etc. to hand out at our table. Val mentioned we need a plan to maintain the trees after they are planted.

There was discussion regarding the type of trees to plant. It depends what kind of trees we can get but further research can be done to determine that. Lisa pointed out that Norway Spruce do not get eaten by deer.

Jake mentioned that we should offer a drop-off site for batteries, paint, light bulbs, etc. during town-wide clean-up day. He also mentioned creating a bingo card to offer residents with climate-friendly activities. The first few people to finish it could receive some climate-friendly products.

Mike recommended a second clean-up day around garage sale weekend. That would be sometime in September. He also reached out to the Garden Club at Averill Park High School. We are now coordinating with them to hopefully get students involved in clean-up day.

Anna also reported on the regional leadership network/alliance (the name is a work in progress). Meeting will include Sand Lake, the Village of East Nassau, Stephentown, New Lebanon. The goal is to amplify each other's events and share goals or check in on each other's progress. Meetings will be held quarterly. The regional group discussed a trivia night that we would be interested in participating in as a committee. We are also interested in partnering with another group for a repair café. Anna mentioned that Sand Lake's main goal is to educate the public about green friendly options as much as possible. Community events such as trivia, bingo cards, and clean-up day are all methods to accomplish this goal.

Anna mentioned that we are waiting on Haley for the Government and Community GHG emission spreadsheets which are both priority actions.

REMINDER: Actions can be found on the Climate Smart website linked below.

<https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>

Adjourned 6:58 P.M.