

ATTENDING via ZOOM:

Task Force members: Bill Mancini (Chair), Sandra Telosa and Ann Birckmayer  
Tara Donadio, Senior Sustainability Planner  
David Flaherty (Village Trustee)

CEC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE:

B. Mancini announced that the Solarize Kinderhook campaign continues. The two providers working on the campaign, Solstice and Astral Power, have agreed to continue promotion of the campaign until December 31. At this date, there have been more than thirty signups, surpassing the minimum requirement of ten. B. Mancini submitted a grant application to NYSERDA and asked members for suggestions on spending the \$5,000 grant offered by NYSERDA.

BIG GREEN BOX:

B. Mancini stated that the program has been successful so far. The box in the Library was filled in a few days. He returned the box for recycling and ordered two additional boxes for placement in the Library.

BAT HOUSE PROJECT:

Bat Week was held at the KML. It included programs for children and teens led by the Library staff. More than thirty children participated in making bat crafts including bat houses. The CSCTF provided funding for the purchase of twenty new books and materials to build five bat houses. B. Mancini thanked Tom Messina who volunteered to work with teens to build the bat houses.

CCA UPDATE:

B. Mancini reported that the consortium of municipalities making up the Capital District CCA have agreed to reject the latest proposal offered by MEGA and Joule Assets. The group has created a Capital District Community Energy to further investigate a 100% green energy alternative for CCA members.

MEATLESS MONDAY 2022:

A. Birckmayer and W. Applegate will be working with the KML and Hannaford to hold another Meatless Monday campaign later this year. It was proposed that the campaign be held during the summer in order to make use of a presence at the Farmers' Market as well as the Library.

**Press Release to Columbia Paper sent 9-11-21****The Kinderhook Memorial Library and the Village of Kinderhook Climate Smart Task Force are pleased to report the results of their Meatless Monday campaign.**

Meatless Monday is a non-profit health initiative encouraging people to go meatless one day a week for their health and the health of the planet. In our second year of the challenge, 76 households (152 individuals) registered for the six-week joint venture campaign.

Meat can be an excellent source of protein and other nutrients. However, Americans are now eating nearly double the amount of meat that was consumed one hundred years ago, according to the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future (JHCLF). This is nearly three times the global average. Excessive meat consumption has been linked to heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, obesity, certain cancers, and earlier death.

Additionally, livestock production accounts for an estimated 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. According to the JHCLF, reducing meat and dairy by just one day per week is more effective at lessening these emissions than eating locally every day. Studies have also found that when people reduce their meat consumption, they are more likely to buy locally produced meat, boosting local economies and supporting community farms.

6.2 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is emitted for every ¼ pound of beef produced. The equivalencies calculator available on the EPA website shows that the 152 individuals who participated in our Meatless Monday campaign saved 5,654 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which is equivalent to using 289 gallons of gasoline, or burning 2,835 pounds of coal, or charging 311,988 smartphones.

Our local campaign proves that we are at our best when we work together. As a community, we have the ability to diminish destructive emissions and help to ensure a healthy planet for future generations.

The Kinderhook Memorial Library and the Village of Kinderhook Climate Smart Task Force thank everyone for their participation, with special thanks to Casey Powers at Hannaford and Samascott's Garden Market for their support in making this campaign a success!