

Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Task Force Tuesday April 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom  
Present: Carol Gable, Coordinator; Shirley Knop, Mona Perrotti; Aaron Strong; Sally Carman, Secretary; Steve Orvis; Alan Cole; Liseli Haines; Kathy Collett, Garry Colorusso, George Kuckel; Kirkland/Clinton Improvement Commission;

Jackie Walter, Clinton Chamber of Commerce Executive George Kuckel spoke about the Kirkland/Clinton Improvement Commission (CKIC), a group of ten people from the area who are concerned about economic development in the downtown section during the Covid-19 pandemic. Jackie Walter noted that the Chamber is not a 501-c3 organization and thus cannot accept donations as a non-profit. The Commission researched communities they felt to be the most vibrant such as Hamilton, Corning, and Remsen and realized it was their grass roots efforts that have been so successful.

They would like to build on energy and success Clinton and Kirkland had with the Hockeysville campaign and preparation of DRI grant application about a year or two ago. Utica won that 10 million grant and funds will support their downtown revitalization plan. CKIC will likely submit another application for DRI fund this year, but doesn't expect to win since community in Oneida County (Utica) won last year. But they will continue to fine tune the application and apply in future years and also look for smaller grant possibilities. They hope to liaison with other local groups such as ours. They are also in contact with Kirkland Trails, Clinton Pool Foundation, Kirkland Art Center, Kirkland Town Library, etc.

The CKIC currently has By-laws, but no funds or status as a non-profit. They applaud the work of the CSC taskforce and initiatives such as a community engagement plan on climate and more renewable energy. One thought is to have an electric trolley which would ferry people from parking outside the center of the Village to the area of the stores..

The email contact for this group is: ckic13323@gmail.com They will be holding a meeting on Friday, April 16 at 2 pm for anyone interested in volunteering. Steve Bellona was suggested as a liaison to this group.

The Kirkland/Clinton Engagement and Education Plan was presented by Alma Lowery with assistance from Aaron Strong. The plan is to prioritize projects, selecting a few to pursue. The next step is to get both the Village and Town to agree to the plan. Some suggestions of events include: a table at the weekly farmer's market on Thursdays during the summer, a fair in conjunction with the Art and Music Fall Festival in late August. Other ideas include: a series on sustainable gardening, a Heat Smart Program. Sally noted that the Clinton Fire Department is hosting an annual classic car show in June, and we may be able to piggy-back with that. [See addendum]

Action item: a resolution on this Engagement and Education Plan will be presented to both the Village and the Town at their next meetings. There would be no cost to either. Carol will send out the dates of the meetings, though only two or three people need to represent our group because of Covid.

Garry mentioned that the town was researching the possibility of replacing a police car with an electric vehicle. There are no more high-speed police chases, and the 32 square mile area covered might work well with an electric car. New Hartford has one or two. Combining with the NY State bidding process would be a potential saving.

Kirkland plans to install an electric vehicle charging station at the Clinton Arena with two ports. It would be about half way back along the parking lot side. There is sufficient energy, level 2, because of the ice making equipment. This is the plan for use of the \$5000 CEC grant to be received from NYSERDA. Other uses for the CEC grants funds include installing motion sensors for lights in town buildings.

Sandy Scofield is working on a proposal regarding sidewalk improvement.

The food waste survey is in process and nearly complete. [It was mailed on Tuesday, April 20.]

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Sally Carman Secretary

Addendum: Sally contacted Bill Huther, who is organizing the Classic Car Rally, an annual fund raiser for the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department. We have been approved to have a separate area for electric/hybrid cars including a flag. It will take place on Sunday, June 13, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Clinton Central School on Chenango Ave. Each car will be asked to donate \$10 to the Clinton Fire Department to take part. He will need a count of cars by May 29 to estimate the space needed. Contact Sally at [scarman3@roadrunner.com](mailto:scarman3@roadrunner.com) if you would like to take part.