

## **Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting April 21, 2022 beginning at 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Steve Orvis, Coordinator; Sally Carman, Secretary; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Liseli Haines; Aaron Strong; Kathy Collett; Mona Perotti; Alma Lowery; Steve Bellona; Natalie Longrea, guest.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

### **Heat Smart Meeting**

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 27 in the Kirkland Town Library upstairs room beginning at 7 p.m.. Natalie is a Heat Smart representative and will be presenting information and a slide show about the advantages of air source heat pumps, and geothermal heating. There will be representatives of suppliers in the area who have been vetted by NYSERDA. The program lasts 35 minutes followed by questions.

Our group can earn points if three homeowners sign up for a system and two homeowners sign up for an energy audit. There are loans and rebates available. Publicity will include a press release and posters in local venues. An article appeared in the *Waterville Times* on April 20. Hamilton College's technical department will assist in making this available on Zoom. The Library normally closes at 8 but the Director Anne Debraggio will be willing to keep it open later.

In the future a similar event will be scheduled in Clark Mills at the American Legion.

Kathy Collett's house is having a heat pump installed and the wiring is completed but the system has not been installed. She will have a tour when it is completed.

### **Flooding meeting**

The meeting about area flooding is scheduled for the VFW in Clinton on May 4 [now rescheduled to May 11] from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.. Aaron will contact Laura Stoll at the KTL to have a notice put on the sign at the end of the Village Green. Aaron's students have been interviewing people regarding past flooding on Sanford Ave. and St. Mary's Ave. Maggie Reilly, an engineer specializing in water issues, has been enlisted to present a condensed version of Water 101. This will entail explaining the complexities of the flooding issues, what is being done and what can be done in the future. An Oriskany Creek Commission has been formed to include the various municipalities along this waterway.

The Hamilton College students will present a slide show highlighting the various aspects of flooding events locally. Heather Croft of H.C. will present data on a precipitation gauge in the Town. Aaron will provide an electronic projector and a computer. We should all spread the word through our contacts and social media. Hamilton College is conducting Green Week the last week in April. The meeting will be recorded with prior notification. Also, there will be five student scribes recording the comments without names attached.

At a later time, Jon Scott will present the engineering report on the St. Mary's Brook Watershed. It was noted that the students should interview people located on Proctor Ave, Berkeley Drive and College St who have had flooding issues.

### **Event in the Red Pit at Hamilton College**

On May 28 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a virtual presentation by Dr Anjana Elizabeth Johnson on all we can save. It will also be on Zoom and Aaron will send a link.

### **Ambitious climate agenda**

Aaron and Andy Patterson will present a poll of Colgate and Hamilton College on New York State's ambitious climate agenda. It will take place on May 5 at 7 p.m. on campus and on Zoom, and will be recorded, Transportation will be available for students, Publicity will appear in the *Daily Sentinel* and on the Hamilton College events calendar. The set-up will begin at 6.

### **Electric vehicle car show**

Sally reported that the second annual electric car show will take place on the grounds of the Clinton Central School on Sunday, June 12 beginning at 10 a.m.. It will be in conjunction with the Clinton Fire Department's classic car show. Since the Village owns the vehicles of the Fire Department, it denotes a form of support. Steve O. reported that the Village Board is in support of the car show and will include it in a general resolution. Please tell your friends to bring their cars.

### **Hannaford's environmental program**

The corporate organization of Hannaford's supermarket has announced plans to pursue a variety of programs to help prevent additional climate change. The local store already collects all food waste and takes it to the anaerobic digester in Utica. They have been promoters of the use of reusable bags for a number of years. They are replacing open refrigerator cases with closed ones. There are future plans to install solar panels and an electric charging station in the parking lot. We will contact the manager and offer our support.

### **Town of Kirkland Grant**

Steve O., Mona and Alan plus John Hysell were the only ones to attend the public hearing on potential uses for the grant of \$450,000 received by the Town. This is half of the \$890,000 received as part of the American Recovery Act. The meeting was not well advertized. The first priority of the Town is to fix the leaky roof on a Town building, and make improvements to the Clinton Arena. Our group listed three priorities we would support: electric charging stations, solar panels on town buildings and heat pumps in municipal buildings. No commitments were made at the meeting. There are incentives available for municipal buildings that install heat pumps or geothermal units.

**Action item** Steve O. will call Garry C to learn the time line on spending the money. He will offer our help in possibly writing a grant application for solar roof panels or a heat pump. The Heat Smart group will provide assistance.

It was suggested that public meetings of the Town be advertised on the sign board on the Village Green.

### **Levitt Fellows**

Aaron noted that there will be Levitt Fellows available for projects during July and August. These are selected Hamilton students who will be funded by the Levitt Public Affairs Center. Jack Schuman is the contact person.

**Action item** Steve B. will talk to Garry C and Jon Scott about working with the Levitt Center and the Village to work on sustainability projects.

It was suggested that the VFW, which is currently without a working furnace, consider installing a heat pump system.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m..

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m..

Sally Carman  
Secretary

