

**Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart
Community Task Force
January 18, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Alma Lowry, Coordinator; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Mona Perotti; Kathy Collett; Steve Orvis; Brendan Marris; and Liseli Haynes.

The minutes for December 2023 were approved.

Task force Coordinator Transition: Steve Orvis reported to both the Town and Village Boards on our activities over the last year and how close each municipality is to achieving the Bronze level. Both boards passed resolutions appointing Alma as the new Coordinator.

Bronze Certification Update: Steve O reported that once Alma finalizes the education plan and it is uploaded, we can submit for the Bronze level for the Village. For the Town, we still need to complete the GHG Inventory and the Fleet Inventory. Garry Colorusso is gathering data for Aaron to complete the GHG Inventory. Garry gave Steve O the information for the Fleet Inventory already. Once those two actions are complete, the Town will be 3 points shy of the Bronze level. Alan mentioned that both municipalities might be able to get points for the Complete Streets Action also.

Action item: Alma will finalize the education plan and send it to Steve O or Alan. Once uploaded, we will be ready to submit for the Bronze for the Village. Garry is working on final data collection for the town's GHG inventory. Steve O. will look at the Complete Streets Action to see if we can submit for that, and upload the resolutions appointing Alma coordinator.

Education Subcommittee Update: The subcommittee is planning some type of learning circle in which sustainable agriculture practices and/or adoption of energy efficient equipment can be demonstrated and discussed. The first step is reaching out to farmers who have installed high-efficiency equipment like geothermal. The subcommittee has begun reaching out to two farmers who might be able to host such an event. A backup option would be to have Post St farm demonstrate its innovative flood mitigation strategy. Farms that we have reached out to so far are Jake's Creamery in Deansboro, the Baldwin farm, and the Post St farm.

Meredith Callahan's students in the LEAP club are interested in creating an event to encourage use of public transit and may ask for the taskforce's help.

Action item: Brendan will ask Molly Marris if she knows farmers who might have energy efficient equipment who would be interested in working with us. Alma will reach out to follow up on the LEAP plans.

Other Business:

Cooling Centers: Liseli will reach out to the library to further the effort of establishing and/or improving cooling centers.

New roof: Brendan noted that the new roof is completed on the Town Barn, including new insulation. Steve O will look to see if Climate Smart points are possible re: new insulation. If so, he will reach out to Brendan and/or Jon Scott to gather the necessary data and documents.

New Business:

Alan shared information about two bills designed to improve bottle recycling that the state is considering. Beyond Plastics, an organization supporting these bills, is asking municipalities to adopt resolutions in support of the bills.

Action Item: Alan will circulate information on the bills and we will discuss at our next meeting whether we want to recommend such a resolution to the Village and Town Boards.

Alma suggested that we discuss our next major steps at our next meeting, given that we are achieving the Bronze level in the near future.

Action Item: Alma will circulate our original documents re: our purpose in advance. This will be an item on our agenda for the next meeting.

Mona asked if we had taken an official position on the proposed Atlas Solar project. We did send the Planning Board a letter opposing the project. Mona reported that a public meeting about the project will take place but not for some time. The next Planning Board meeting is Monday, January 22, 2024. Mona and/or Kathy will try to attend the meeting and update us next month.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Orvis