

## **Minutes of the Kirkland Clinton Climate Smart Community Task Force**

### **Thursday, January 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm**

Present: Steve Orvis, coordinator; Sally Carman, secretary; Alan Cole, webmaster; Shirley Knop; Joanne Gilles, Village liaison; Alma Lowery; Aaron Strong; Mona Perrotti; Liseli Haines; Carol Gable; Bryan Roy; Garry Colarusso, Town liaison. Kathy Collett joined later.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

### **Flooding Town Hall**

Aaron reported that the Village is cosponsoring this event.

**Action item:** Steve Orvis was approved as coordinator for the event

Discussion included: concern that an in-person meeting might not be good because of the current prevalence of Covid. However, many want an in-person event so it will be conducted as hybrid with some people attending on-line. Some Information Technology people from Hamilton College will be asked to set this up.

The timing should be early March and before April. The roll-out of the Oriskany Creek Basin Commission Plan should take place before that. Carol noted that the Town of Kirkland approved the event at their January 21 meeting.

It is important that the community understand all the ramifications of flooding including what happens upstream. Asking Maggie Reilly to present this kind of information, "Water 101" would be important and the meeting needs to be structured. She wants to wait until after the Sauquoit water project is presented. One meeting would be in Clinton but another should be planned in Clark Mills to be fair to those residents.

The Town wants to be careful about what is done to the Oriskany Creek because they were sued 20 years ago, and ordered not to go into the Creek. Tony Hallack, Town Attorney, is researching the laws in other communities. Jon Scott, Supervisor of the Town DPW, has been extensively studying what other communities are doing to combat flooding. It will be important to keep the meeting on a friendly level, as it is a "hot" topic.

### **Heat Smart Town Hall**

A meeting will be held in April to discuss environmentally-friendly sources of heat: i.e. air and ground-source heat pumps and geothermal systems. Amanda from NYSERDA will help setting up and conducting the meeting, as well as advertising the event. The *Waterville Times* is the official newspaper and can be used for advertising. Zack Lewis is local and reports for the paper.

**Action item:** Steve will lead the committee with assistance from Carol, Mona, Aaron and Alma.

The event site might be the Kirkland Town Library or Clinton Central School cafeteria. Energy audits are available and the community receives points if two or more people sign up, plus three families who sign up for a system. Kathy Collett is having a system installed and is willing to conduct tours to demonstrate how it works. This might be a virtual tour. Maggie Reilly's house is another example. Liseli has an air-sourced water heater.

### **Education Plan**

Alma is continuing to refine the language in the plan. She has contacted various groups and stakeholders to evaluate their reaction to it. Aaron noted that his class conducted a survey about community member's

concerns. Flooding seems to be the biggest issue. Margaret Callahan, a teacher at CCS, mentors the LEAP environmental group at the school and that group can be enlisted to help.

## **Other projects**

### **Car Show**

The electric car show held in conjunction with the Clinton Fire Department's June show might receive publicity help from the Village in order to be eligible for points.

### **Farmer's Market and the Art and Music Festival**

These events did get information out to the community, particularly the Festival in August. Will we continue this?

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Station**

Garry reported that the wiring for this is installed at the Clinton Arena. However, Potentia, the company selected to install the charging station appears to be out-of-business. Thus, another supplier will be sought.

## **Recycling**

Sally noted that a company based in New Jersey, Terra-cycle, will recycle materials that can't be recycled by the Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority. Examples are: styrofoam, fabric, VHS tapes, packing materials, dental products (toothbrushes and toothpaste containers), and others.

[If someone in the local area wants to recycle any of these, put any **clean** items in Sally's milk door, a small white door next to her back door.]

She also mentioned Blueland.com This company supplies reusable glass bottles and tablets for various cleaning purposes which are regenerated with warm tap water. This helps eliminate the use of plastic bottles.

This meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Sally Carman  
Secretary