

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

Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Alma Lowry, Coordinator; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Sally Carman, Secretary; Shirley Knop; Kathy Collett; Liseli Haines; Mona Perrotti; Aaron Strong; Samantha Francisco; Kathryn Coluccio; Hamilton College students: Lucy Meola; Carson Hall.

The meeting was recorded.

The minutes for September were approved.

### **Repair café**

The second repair café will be held on Saturday, October 15 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the St. James Episcopal Church meeting room. Advertisements included: the sign on the Village Green, Facebook, webpage, and posters as well as Patch online. There are eight volunteers to provide expertise, four of these for clothing repair. We hope to host two or three events next year.

### **Climate action plan**

A subcommittee met with the Village Mayor. There is a broad overall plan. The hope is to incorporate a climate plan into the overall plan. Steve Orvis, Alma Lowry and Aaron Strong met with Hamilton College students to work on this climate plan. The Mayor is reluctant to say all public vehicles should be electric.

Samantha, our state liaison, noted that the number of points that can be achieved by a plan is variable. She can find examples of plans used in other areas and the number of points they received.

The current Master Plan was implemented in 2017, with an update in 2024 as outlined in an article in the *Waterville Times*.

Sustainability elements that might be included are: sidewalks and flooding prevention. Can we get credit for the sidewalks installed by the DOT on 12B? Perhaps crosswalks would qualify.

The Village has an environmental plan that is separate from the government operations plan. Areas to focus on include: utilities, building heating, trash pickup, food waste collections, waste water treatment.

A public meeting with the mayor is planned for Tuesday, October 21 at the Kirkland Town Library.

The greenhouse gas inventory done from 2017 - 2021 needs to be updated.

The Hamilton students will put together a draft outline for the next meeting. Send ideas to Lucy

at [lmeola@hamilton.edu](mailto:lmeola@hamilton.edu).

### **Expanding the task force**

We need representatives from the Town and the Village to take part. Someone from the business community would be helpful.

There will be a meet the candidates meeting on October 28. We should ask the candidates their views on environmental concerns. Then we should follow up after the election to remind them that this is important.

**Action items:** Alma will ask the Village representatives and the Chamber of Commerce for suggestions for task force members. Aaron will ask Mike Townsend who works at Agway if he is interested.

### **Town of Kirkland Bronze Certification**

The deadline for resubmittal of the application is January 9, 2026. The greenhouse gas emissions update is needed.

**Action item:** Send information and photos about events we have taken part in to Alan and Alma. Alan will post these on Bluesky and Alma will put them on Facebook.

### **Other business**

A controversial solar project proposed for Brimfield Street is being considered by the Town Planning Board.

**Action item:** Liseli will follow up on the idea of a swap shop at the transfer station.

Mona asked where the Village truck is charged? There are grants available for charging stations and rebates available.

**Action item:** Samantha will send information about rebates available.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Sally Carman  
Secretary