

**Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Task Force
June 8, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Carol Gable, Coordinator; Shirley Knop; Joanne Giles, Clinton Board Liaison; Alan Cole; Garry Colarusso, Kirkland Board Liaison; Aaron Strong; Mona Perrotti; Steve Orvis; Sally Carman, Secretary

Carol announced that both the Town of Kirkland and the Village of Clinton have received \$5000 from NYSERDA for completing the points required

Car Show: Sally reported that we have ten electric cars registered for the car show sponsored by the Clinton Fire Department on Sunday, June 13 at the Clinton Central School, 11:00 am - 2:30 pm. We will have a booth and materials about owning an electric vehicle, including a map of EV charging stations, advantages of owning an EV, rebates available, a history of the electric car, etc.

Joanne reported that the resolution in support of the task force's plan on community education and engagement regarding climate change proposed was passed unanimously by the Village Board.

Alma is meeting with people at Kirkland Town Library about collaborating on grant they received to have community discussions on matters such as climate change.

Kathy is working with Amy Wyatt concerning the Heat Smart Mohawk Valley project. Aaron suggested we might have a joint event with Indivisible Mohawk Valley Climate Action.

Action Item: Kathy will discuss possibility event, materials, grant funding with Amy and bring to the next meeting.

Farmer's market. We hope to set up a table at the Clinton Farmer's market sponsored by the Clinton Chamber of Commerce held on Thursdays this summer. We might be able to work with Kirkland Trails on this. [Unfortunately, we later learned that this would not work.] Steve, Alan, Sally and others offered to help staff this. We will need materials for our table. This might include: information about Heat Smart, electric vehicles, composting, and a brochure about our committee. Sally may also bring her book about the relationship of food and climate change: *Food: combat climate change while eating well.*

The Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Task Force is now a member of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, thanks to a donation by Alan Cole. There may be other contributions for next year's renewal.

Action Item: Carol will complete the Chamber registration.

Action Item: Mona will talk to Jackie Walters, director of the C of C about a table at the farmer's market.

Action Item: Alan will bring a one-page handout from the League of Conservation Voters about environmental benefits. <https://www.lcv.org/>

Food Waste Project Survey - we had an excellent response. However, to move forward we need to obtain a grant to fund the project. Carol mentioned that she has experience with grant applications and happy to assist. We are working with the Green Bucket Project run by Melissa Shupp..

Preliminary results of the survey: 550 surveys were mailed to Clinton residents, A total of 213 were returned before the tabulation, with 12 more received later that are not included - about a 40% response rate. A total of 56 residents already compost, 63 would be willing to take food waste to a central location, 163 would be willing to collect food waste in a bucket at no cost, 64 would save their food waste for collection if it cost \$10 a month, and 20 would be willing to pay \$20 a month to have their food waste collected

Proposed Solar Farm on Kirkland Avenue. - The public hearing will now be on June 28. It was delayed from May 24 when originally scheduled because of some last-minute changes in the plan. Aaron, Mona and Sally attended this meeting. Several task force members will attend the one on the 28th. We hope to provide support for the project because some of the neighbors are opposed. The Kirkland Planning Committee Chair, John Heclau, asked some pertinent questions at the last meeting, including using shrouds to muffle the sound of the construction equipment, the spacing of the trees surrounding it (20 feet apart in two rows, thus at an angle of 10 feet spacing), underground cabling, size of the access drive, etc.

Aaron has students working studying community response to solar development. He noted that a study done in Austin, Texas demonstrated little impact on property value assessments on properties neighboring a solar farm.

Action Item: Carol will send out a reminder about the June 28th meeting.

EV charging station - Garry reported that the electric vehicle charging station will be installed at the Clinton Arena during the following week. It is being installed by Potentia and will include both a universal connector and a Tesla adaptor. <https://www.potentiamanagement.com/>

Action Item - Kathy and Sally will develop a brochure about the Climate Smart Task Force, including a summary of our project and the names of committee members.

The next meeting will be in-person on Tuesday, July 13 at the Kirkland Town Park.

Sally Carman
Secretary