

**Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Community Task Force
Thursday, August 10, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Steve Orvis, Coordinator; Sally Carman, Secretary; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Liseli Haines; Prof. Aaron Strong; Kathy Collett; Shirley Knop; Alma Lowery

The minutes were approved.

Farmer's Market

A certificate of insurance has been received by the Chamber of Commerce from the Village and the Town so that we can proceed with the Farmer's Market booth on Thursdays.

Sally has ordered a banner and sign, and raffle tickets. She has also printed additional signs. She has an electric mower to be raffled. We will also include Heat Smart information and a bucket for donations at the booth.

Action item: Steve will find a tree for the raffle.

We will need people to staff the booth in two-hour shifts for the next three weeks. The following have volunteered:

August 17: 10 - 12 a.m.	Sally	12 - 2 p.m.	Steve
August 24: 10 - 12 a.m.	Sally	12 - 2 p.m.	Alma
August 30: 10 - 12 a.m.	Sally, Alan	12 - 2 p.m.	Liseli

Brendan Marris has also volunteered to help. It was suggested that we locate near the Voter Registration table, because our members overlap those who are staffing their table.

Action item: Steve will send an email asking for volunteers to staff the table.

Our purpose for the booth is education and adaptation.

Adaptation event

We will sponsor an educational event on education and adaptation on Tuesday, October 3 at the Kirkland Town Library. Steve will be meeting with Amanda and Matt from NYSERDA for planning this event. This will include ways that communities and individuals can adapt to climate change.

Rain gardens were on suggestion. A rain garden was established at the Utica Zoo. Unfortunately it was not well protected and was trampled. Retention ponds can be used to combat flooding.

In the spring, “buffer bags” are available through the DEC and contain seedlings for planting. More information will be included at the October event.

Cooling Centers

Because of the recent heat wave in the area, regional heating centers are needed. Suggestions for potential cooling centers are: the Kirkland Art Center Gallery, the Senior Center in Clark Mills, the Kirkland Town Library, Clinton Central School Administrative Building, Hamilton College buildings. These groups need to be contacted and agree to take part. They would need to have extended hours and increased staffing. Then the Village and Town would need to be notified and it would be advertised.

Action item: Liseli will take the lead on developing the idea of cooling centers.

Brochure

Action item: Sally will update and reprint the brochure about our group.

Solar farm planting

Action item: Steve has the contact information and will contact the company building the solar farm on Kirkland Avenue about planting native plants under the panels.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Sally Carman
Secretary