

Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Community Task Force
August 20, 2026
6:30 p.m.

Present: Steve Orvis, Coordinator; Sally Carman, Secretary; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Alma Lowry; Mona Perrotti; Brian Roy; Kaitlyn Coluccio, MVEDD; Audra Benincasa

Shirley Knop has resigned from the task force due to illness.

The minutes for June were approved.

Bronze certification

The Town of Kirkland has been granted Bronze certification by NYSERDA. However, we should wait for the announcement before publicizing this. The Town needs to produce the Town Seal. Alan has a black and white copy of this announcement which should be available after September 21.

New representative

Andra Benincasa is the new advisor from NYSERDA

Climate Action Plan

Steve has talked with Garry Colarruso about this. It is still in process. Aaron Strong is traveling and not available to work on this now. The Village Mayor is supportive of a plan.

Repair Café

This will be held on October 24 at St. James Church community room.

Solar outreach

Alan, Mona and Kathryn are on the committee. This will be a theme at the farmer's market table. A community solar forum is a possibility. There is a local community solar company with some subscriptions still available. These lower utility bills for participants.

Balcony solar is waiting for full government approval. It needs to have UL certification.

Farmer's Market

Jim Bramley obtained a tree to be raffled off. The addresses on the tickets can be added to our mailing list. There were some good conversations at the booth. Those staffing the booth need to be proactive in drawing people in. The weekly themes worked well, and included: solar, electric lawn equipment and electric vehicles. Perhaps we could have a QR code that would lead to

more information about what we do. We have had a table four times in July and August. Perhaps a questionnaire about views on solar would be useful. We shared the booth with Kirkland Trails which was helpful for staffing. Thanks to Bryan for storing the booth materials.

Expanding membership

Kathryn met with the Chamber of Commerce Executive. She has a text number to reach the Chamber.

Brimfield solar project

Jennifer Geiger has been asked to write a letter of support of the solar project for the Planning Board. The meeting is to be held on August 24 at 7:30 p. m.

Mona and Maggie Reilly toured the site. This would be the last site in Kirkland because the electric grid will be at capacity. Neighbors on Brimfield and Arrowhead Way are against the project. They have urged a moratorium on solar. The site is an open field with some but not many trees. The company would plant a hedgerow to hide the project. The well of one of the neighbors lies within the site for the project.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Sally Carman
Secretary