

**Minutes of the Kirkland/Clinton Climate Smart Community
Task Force
September 21, 2023 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Steve Orvis, Coordinator; Alan Cole, Webmaster; Sally Carman, Secretary; Matthew Syke; Katie Rockford; Catherine Berryman. At 7:00 Kathy Collett and Brendan Marris joined.

The August minutes were approved.

Climate adaptation event

There will be an event at the Kirkland Town Library on October 3 at 7 p.m. to discuss the ramifications of climate change on the local area. Matt Syke, Aaron Strong and Amanda Kyer will be presenting. Matt and Amanda represent NYSERDA and coordinate with the Mohawk Valley Economic District. They will discuss climate change mitigation, resiliency and adaptation, including federal and state polices. Topics will include: energy efficiency in the home, heat pumps, rain gardens, mutual aide, food systems, etc. They will discuss what the area will look like in the future, using a PowerPoint presentation. Financial incentives that are available will be discussed. Free home inspections are a possible option. Steve noted that some financial incentives for changing to heat pumps will not be available until spring.

Advertising will include: posters at KAC, Hannafords, Lombard Hall, Kirkland Town Hall, *Observer Dispatch*, *Waterville Times*, *Daily Sentinel*, Next Door, Facebook and the lighted bulletin board in the park. Please email your friends and talk to students on Hamilton College campus. Help is needed for a setup at 6:30 p.m.

Action item: Alan will put the meeting announcement on our website and on the Village website. Katie will put posters up on the Hamilton College campus. Brendan will put them up at Nelson Associates and make sure a notice is included on the Chamber of Commerce calendar. Kathy will put them up at St. James Church. Steve will email the Task Force members who are not present.

Education plan

Alma asks us to look at the education plan she submitted and made any edits or additions.

Action item: A committee composed of Steve, Alma and Sally will work on any revision to the plan.

Action item: Katie will send an email to the campus list about any events our group is sponsoring. They have a sustainability group on campus.

Cooling centers

Liseli is investigating possible cooling centers in addition to the Kirkland Town Library.

Coordinator needed

Steve will be in DC to lead a Hamilton College course in the spring. Thus we need a new coordinator for the Task Force.

Kirkland Avenue solar field

There has been no response to our request for native pollinators to be used under and surrounding the solar panels.

Bronze designation

We hope to receive the bronze designation which will open up more grant opportunities. The Village Board is supportive of this, but the Town Board is more reluctant. We need to determine our next climate action plans.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Sally Carman
Secretary