

# **TOWN OF CLINTON CSC TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 24, 2025**

The June 24, 2025 meeting of the Town of Clinton Climate Smart Communities Task Force was called to order at 7:00 pm. Committee members in attendance, via Zoom, were as follows:

Eliot Werner, Deputy Town Supervisor & CSC Task Force Representative  
Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force Chair  
Richard Marshall, CSC Task Force Member  
Jean McAvoy, CSC Task Force Member  
Stan Orser, CSC Task Force Member  
Jim Metcalfe, CSC Task Force Member  
Ken Pickett, CSC Task Force Member

## **Introduction**

Joe Phelan introduced the evening's meeting agenda, which was held for all members via Zoom given the extreme heat index that evening. Joe then asked members if there were any questions, additions, and/or changes to the minutes of the previous meeting of May 27, 2025. With no objections raised, the minutes of the May 27, 2025 meeting were accepted by the acclamation of the Task Force members in attendance.

## **Clinton Community Day Tabling Report**

Richard Marshall and Jean McAvoy provided an update to the CSC Task Force members regarding their efforts to engage visitors to the CSC Task Force table on June 7 during Clinton Community Day. Jean had finalized the survey questions, based upon prior CSC Task Force discussion, and 31 individuals stopped by the table. 23 of those individuals, 19 of whom were residents of the Town of Clinton, completed the survey. The CSC Task Force members discussed the results, which addressed topics such as home heating, sourcing of electricity, seasonal environmental changes, and a variety of other observations connected with climate change.

## **Clean Energy Communities Grant Funding**

Joe Phelan updated the CSC Task Force regarding the status of the \$10,000 CEC grant that was submitted to, and approved by, NYSERDA for the Task Force to conduct a NYSERDA energy study of the Town Highway Garage facility and to begin addressing the study's recommendations. While the on-site energy audit of the Town Highway facility was conducted on April 14, 2025, NYSERDA's designated vendor for conducting the audit, L-S Energy of Albany, NY, still has not provided the Town with a list of Climate Smart Communities-compliant recommendations for use of the grant funding. However, the Town is anticipating being informed shortly within the next several weeks regarding a report and recommendations for possible improvements in accordance with NYSERDA/Clean Energy Communities guidelines.

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County Outreach**

Joe Phelan and Barbara Mansell met via Zoom with Scott Kleinberg, the new Climate and Environment Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC), to discuss and confirm details for possible participation in the municipally-based Climate Smart Resiliency Planning initiative to address data

collection activities regarding the Town of Clinton's policies in addressing possible future crises/natural disasters resulting from the results of climate change. Scott will be providing more specific outcomes and processes for participation to Barbara and Joe, at which point we will be better positioned to discuss the process for moving forward with this initiative.

#### **Governmental Organization Climate Action Plan**

The Climate Smart Communities Task Force, through the leadership and work of Richard Marshall, will resume working toward addressing and completing a Governmental Organization Climate Action Plan (GOCAP), with the assistance and support of Elizabeth Sun and Eleanor Peck of the Hudson Valley Regional Council. In response to the Clinton CSC Task Force's request for assistance, Ms. Sun has begun providing support for this initiative, and Richard Marshall has agreed to continue work toward pursuing this initiative this year, with assistance from CSC Task Force volunteers to help out in completing the GOCAP draft. Upon draft completion, possibly some time in Fall/Winter 2025, the CSC Task Force would plan a presentation to the Town Board, with a request for Clinton Town Board approval, leading to implementation of the adopted plan.

The next meeting of the Town of Clinton Climate Smart Communities Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Clinton Masonic Lodge. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force Chair