



Climate Smart Kingston Commission
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
(845) 481-7339

**Minutes to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission March 30, 2016
Kingston City Hall, Conference Room 1 4:30-6:00 PM**

Commission Members (Voting): Azriel Alleyne, Elizabeth Broad, Pat Courtney Strong, Michael D'Arcy, Emilie Hauser, Nick Hvodza, Kevin McEvoy, Sarina Pepper, Karen Sullivan, John Wackman (excused),

Commission Members (Non-Voting):
Nolan Bastianelli, Casey Schwarz, Amanda LaValle (not present)

Ex-Officio Members: Suzanne Cahill (Kingston Planning Dept.), Brenna Robinson (Kingston Community & Economic Development), Julie Noble (Kingston Parks & Recreation, Commission Chairperson), NYS Assembly Member Kevin Cahill represented by Jillian Nodiak, Kingston Common Council (not present), Kingston City Engineer (not present), Kingston Dept of Public Works (not present)

Guest: Kristina Virgil (City of Kingston Parks & Recreation Climate Smart intern)

I. Welcome & Introductions: The chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:36PM. The commissioners and other attendees each introduced themselves.

II. Climate Smart Kingston Commission

- 1. Establishing Resolution #120 of 2014:** Julie gave an overview of the Climate Action Plan and the implementation task force that was formed thereafter and is now formalized in the Climate Smart Commission pursuant to establishing local legislation attached hereto as Appendix A.
- 2. Members and roles:** Julie Noble has been designated the chairperson of the commission. Upon motion duly made by Commissioner D'Arcy and seconded by Commissioner Broad, the voting Commissioners present unanimously selected Commissioner McEvoy to be the Secretary of the Climate Smart Kingston Commission for the present period, as Resolution #1 of 2016.
- 3. Setting meeting schedule-time, date, location:** It was decided by unanimous acclamation of the voting Commissioners present, as Resolution #2 of 2016, that the Commission shall presently meet once per month on the 4th Wednesday from 4:30 to 6PM. the Meeting until otherwise determined.

III. Vision, Mission, Goals: With regards to vision, mission and goals, the Commissioners reviewed the sections of the Climate Action Plan pertaining to goals which states the following in the Executive Summary on page iii, "The ultimate goal of this effort is to locally reduce GHG emissions. In addition rising energy costs make it imperative that the City of

Kingston local government take a leadership role in advancing energy saving measures and other sustainability initiatives that will stabilize and potentially reduce energy related expenditures for City government, local businesses and City residents” and the following on page iv of the Executive Summary, “The proposed overall goal is to reduce energy usage and GHG emissions 20% by 2020 or 20 by 20” taking into consideration that Kingston is a Certified Bronze Climate Smart Community, one of two in New York State. The Commissioners further reviewed a Draft Vision, Mission and Goals document revising the text of the document before entertaining a motion to adopt a statement of Vision, Mission and Goals. Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Courtney Strong and seconded by Commissioner D’Arcy, the voting Commissioners present unanimously agreed to adopt the Climate Smart Kingston Vision, Mission and Goals, attached hereto as Appendix B, as Resolution #3 of 2016.

IV. Focus Areas:

1. Climate Action Plan: Julie further reviewed the executive summary of the Climate Action Plan with the Commission. Kristina reviewed the Climate Smart Communities Certification Checklist Verification spreadsheet together with a separate tracking sheet showing targeted tasks that have been completed and target dates for uncompleted tasks.

2. Grant Possibilities: Pat discussed a NYSERDA Cleaner, Greener Communities grant possibility. Rich Schiafo will be the contact person for the Mid-Hudson Valley with regards to this matter. A grant application could be made to do a feasibility study regarding establishing a mini energy grid for the Kingston civic center buildings. Pertinent NYSERDA links are below.

Phase II of the Cleaner, Greener Communities Program:

<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Cleaner-Greener-Communities/Implementing-Smart-Development-Projects>

Cleaner, Greener Communities Program Overview:

<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Cleaner-Greener-Communities>

Cleaner, Greener Communities Program Grant Guidance Documents:

<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Cleaner-Greener-Communities/Guidance-Documents>

V. Adjournment: Upon motion made by Commissioner Broad and seconded by Commissioner McEvoy, the voting Commissioners present unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 6:01PM.

Appendix A: Climate Smart Kingston Commission Minutes 3-30-16

Resolution 120 of 2014

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, ASSURING THAT THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TASK FORCE MOVES THE PLANS OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FORWARD

Sponsored By: Public Safety/General Government Committee:
Aldermen: Carey, Seche, Mills, Schabot

WHEREAS, the City passed the Climate Smart and Green Jobs Community Pledge in 2009, which called for the formation of a Climate Smart and Green Jobs Community Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force stewarded the completion of Kingston's Climate Action Plan and subsequently has been tasked with implementing the recommendations set forth in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Kingston has designated the Environmental Educator of the City of Kingston as the "Climate Smart Community Coordinator".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Kingston recognizes the importance of mitigating and adapting to Climate Change and it supports community engagement and involvement in addressing this critical environmental issue.

SECTION 2. That the Climate Smart and Green Jobs Community Task Force now officially be established as "Climate Smart Kingston", a commission led by the City of Kingston and appointed by the Mayor to address Climate Change, implementing the goals and initiatives of Kingston's Climate Action Plan, working directly with relevant staff, policy experts and community stakeholders to achieve these goals.

SECTION 3. That the Climate Smart Kingston Commission is hereby created to serve as a resource on resiliency, adaptation, and mitigation, through research, actions, and initiatives towards a more sustainable city via coordination of this group with City staff, and local non-profits and civic organizations.

SECTION 4. That it is the intent of the Climate Smart Kingston Commission to implement the Action Plan including comprehensive policies and programs for the City of Kingston to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance operational and energy efficiencies, reduce energy costs, support local job growth and adapt to a changing climate while improving quality of life, saving taxpayer dollars and promoting social justice.

SECTION 5. This Climate Smart Community Coordinator will serve as the Climate Smart Kingston Commission chair to ensure that there is a single point person to serve as a liaison among the governing body, chief executive and Climate Smart Kingston Commission Members.

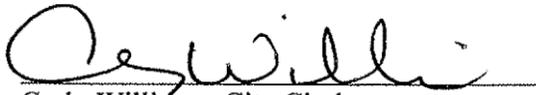
SECTION 6. That said Climate Smart Commission shall be composed of eleven (11) voting members, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of Common Council, who are interested in achieving a Climate Smart community and who want to explore opportunities and find collaborative approaches and solutions for resiliency, adaptation and mitigation, and could include representatives from the following:

Non-profit organizations, county, state and local government agencies; community organizations; business community; media; educational organizations; clergy/faith based organizations; citizens; developers/investors; and property owners, plus three (3) non-voting members at large of whom at least one is under the age of 21, where there shall be seven (7) non-voting ex-officio members, or their designees, consisting of the: City Planner, City Engineer, Office of Economic Development, DPW Director, Recreation Director, one (1) Alderman, and a representative from a state legislative body such as the State Senate District office and the voting Commission members will serve for two (2) year terms and vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, except that a vacancy occurring other than by an expiration of term shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term, and this group will form rules of procedure as they deem necessary.

SECTION 7. That the Climate Smart Kingston Commission will serve as a resource and a collaborative partner for City elected officials, municipal staff and the City's Boards, Committees and Commissions on matters germane to Climate adaptation, mitigation, resiliency, and sustainability and report on matters within its purview to the Mayor and the City Council at least once per year following the date of passage of this resolution with progress made toward a greener and more livable city.

SECTION 8. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Submitted to the Mayor this 4th day of
June, 2014


Carly Williams, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor this 5th day of
June, 2014


Shayne R. Gallo, Mayor

Adopted by Council on June 3, 2014.

Appendix B: Climate Smart Kingston Commission Minutes 3-30-16

Climate Smart Kingston Vision and Mission

Adopted March 30, 2016

Vision

The City of Kingston will be a 'Model City' of energy, environmental and economic sustainability by 2020 within city government operations and throughout the community.

Mission

The City of Kingston will become a Model Sustainable City by:

- Reducing overall energy consumption, improving air quality and the quality of life through energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy
- Encouraging mixed use development; minimizing sprawl
- Shifting to modes of transportation that are less dependent on fossil fuels
- Reducing waste
- Collaborating with city employees, businesses and residents to achieve our vision
- Preparing for climate change
- Leading by example and inspiring others
- Measuring and monitoring our progress
- Maximizing economic opportunities for the local workforce
- Being good stewards of public dollars
- Being inclusive of all sectors of the population