

## MEETING MINUTES

### Town of Aurora Climate Smart Community Task Force

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#### MEETING DETAILS

**Project Manager:** Luke Wochensky, Town of Aurora Councilman

**Date:** 04/15/2026

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Location:** Town of Aurora Municipal Building, 575 Oakwood Ave. East Aurora, NY

#### ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Ray Wrazen - Town of Aurora Council member; Claudia Newton- ACES Representative & Town of Aurora resident; Susan Russell- ACES Representative & Village of East Aurora Zoning Board; Lori Borowiak- Village resident; Michele Bjella- Village Resident & member of Citizens Climate Lobby; Steve Bjella- Village resident; Annika Safford - Village resident & graduate of University of VT, Sustainability & Marketing Program

**Absent:** Sharon Bachman, Erie County Cornell Cooperative Extension

**Guests:** Ben Garvey Town Planning Board, Rennie Selkirk Town Open Space Committee, Deb Fenn, Town Open Space Committee, John Hughes, Town Open Space Committee, Phillip Payne, Open Space Committee. Agenda

**I) Solar Savings Campaign Update - Susan-** via Brad Tito, Director of Community Energy, Powermarket: "Since the campaign launched last month, we've confirmed 253 household enrollments accounting for 5.8 MW of solar. In total, 342 households have started the enrollment process during this most recent phase of the campaign. The remaining enrollments are either incomplete are still under review. Combined with the original campaign push, we're now at over 5% of all households in the Town having enrolled in Aurora Solar Savings. Congratulations on a successful campaign. (63 were signed up as of November 2025.) 160 was original goal. **Question from John Hughes:** can we get an aggregate energy savings report from Brad?"

#### **Brad Tito**

Director of Community Energy

(716) 466-5666 | [brad.tito@powermarket.io](mailto:brad.tito@powermarket.io)

**II) Scoot Around June - Steve & Annika** - The last month was busy for Steve and he didn't start working on the project. As per last year's stated goals, the hope is to increase the committee from 3 members to 7 or 8. Steve plans to reach out to community members on the Town and village bike /pedestrian committees as well as those leading the Parkside Bike Bus.

**III) Presentation of Natural Resources Inventory-** Rennie Selkirk, Town Open Space Committee. (See slide show attachments.). Draft stage of NRI has been in progress since 2025 using Hudson Valley NRI as guidepost. A representative from Task Force to assist and attend June meeting, date TBA, is requested. Town will also advertise for committee volunteers for the project plus Open Space and Climate Task Force Committees. Susan will forward to Rennie NRI link for Erie County and NYS PE 6 requirements. Susan will forward the slide show to Task Force members.

**V. ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm  
**Next Meeting: May 20th, 6pm**

Minutes submitted by: Susan Russell