

Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Taskforce Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Attendees:

- Cece W.
- Jimmy J.
- Nancy H.
- Mariah
- Severah
- Collin H.
- Barbara H. (virtual)
- Bridgett M.

1. Town Updates

Composting at the Transfer Site:

- Jimmy reported that the new collection site is complete. Signs have been posted with directions to reduce climate confusion.
- The site passed its first DEC inspection. Some contaminants (plastic) were found in the windrows, which is expected; efforts will continue to mitigate this. No fines were associated with the inspection.

EV Charging Stations:

- Chargers have been installed at Cerow Rec Park but are not yet fully open. Jimmy will test them using a vehicle provided by Taylor Caprara. Expected public launch in the next few days.
- The site includes three stations with two chargers each.
- Stations are tap-to-pay (credit card only). Instructions and a contact number will be posted on-site for troubleshooting.
- Jimmy will draft a press release for the *TI Sun*; Bridgett will post on social media announcing the launch.
- Village may be eligible for portal credits for the EV charging stations.

Town Certification Progress:

- Jimmy has reached out to Carly via email but has not received feedback yet. Submissions to the portal continue.

2. Village Updates

- None

3. Other Updates

- Cece noted that the Town of Alexandria is now a registered CSC.
- Mariah mentioned that Fort Drum is considering nuclear power and suggested the taskforce might offer letters of support.
 - Nancy indicated discussions with Scott Gray suggest Fort Drum isn't ready for this yet.
- Barbara raised concerns about the loss of the co-op.
 - Nancy explained that seasonal limitations make it difficult to maintain here.
- Barbara expressed interest in forming a healthy eating book club.
- Barbara also raised concerns about school lunch nutrition.
 - Nancy suggested contacting the school board.
 - Cece noted potential funding for Farm-to-Table lunch options.

4. Tree Committee

- Idea brought forward by Lori A.
- Nancy emphasized the need for a committee chair; the Village cannot directly manage it. Robin Hoffman, knowledgeable about trees, may be interested. Lori will follow up.
- Responsibility for tree care after planting must be clearly assigned. Volunteers or a separate committee should manage watering and maintenance; the taskforce or Village cannot take on this role.
- Lori hopes to include educational opportunities about tree care.
- Current status: awaiting more details from Lori and Robin's level of involvement. Village supports the initiative but will not provide financial backing.
- Mariah noted tree replacements needed from recent marina project and suggested contacting ABM or their arborist for tree survey data.
- Ideas for community engagement: distributing saplings (as done during Spring Fest) and recruiting volunteers via dedicated tables at future events.
- High school SAFE Club students could assist with tree care and log volunteer hours; Bridgett will reach out to Mikey to coordinate.

5. STR's WEC – Saturday, January 31st

- Cece asked for volunteers to table at the event.
- Bridgett confirmed she will attend for TILT and assist with setup, as she did last year.

6. Spring Fest 2026

- Cece will connect with Jimmy regarding partner tables.
- Cece will assess SAFE Club participation this year.
- Barbara noted the event is not listed on the Clayton Chamber of Commerce website; Jimmy will contact Tricia to ensure it is added.

7. CSC Communications

- **Social Media Updates:** Bridgett McCann — bmccann@tilandtrust.org
- **CSC Webpage Updates:** Amanda Cantwell — deputyclerk@villageofclayton.org

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 – 12:30 PM