



**Dutchess County  
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)  
Meeting Minutes  
September 26, 2018**

**Attendance:**

<b>At-Large Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Pete Berasi	X	
John DeGilio	X	
Shannon Fatum	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas		X
Marsha Leed	X	
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
John Paraskeva	X	
Yvette Valdes Smith		X
Candis Sunderland	X	
<b>Ex Officio, CAC Members &amp; Others</b>		
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	
Michelle Gluck, CCEDC	X	

Chairman's comments: EMC Chair Steve MacAvery welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of July 2018 meeting: With the correction of a typographical error, a motion was made by Lalita Malik to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Berasi, all present were in favor.

Membership update: Membership in the EMC is full with 11 appointed members. John DeGilio circulated a directory that he found from 1992. The directory includes resources such as the DEC and other organizations. The group will divide the task of updating the document.

Correspondence: There were two email messages. One from a member of the LaGrange CAC who requested that we correct a blurb on our website under Renewable Bag Campaign from "the US uses 100 million plastic bags a year", to "100 billion/year". He referred us to [www.biologicalDiversity.org](http://www.biologicalDiversity.org) for the citation. The second correspondence was an email exchange

with a member of the new Town of Poughkeepsie CAC. Michelle Gluck responded as well as Steve MacAvery and Shannon Fatum who will attend their October meeting.

Budget requests to County: Steve MacAvery will send a budget request to Gregg Pulver, Eoin Wrafter, Brad Barclay and Ruth Moore. It may be late but the group requested that we send the budget nevertheless.

State of the Environment Report: Vicky Kelly reported that the report is progressing well with 5 of the 11 sections written. The estimated date for final drafts to the CCEDC staff for formatting is end of October with a final report by mid November.

Website update: John DeGilio distributed statistics on “hits” to the website since March 2018. Vicky Kelly reported that she completed an upgrade of the version of Wordpress, which now hosts the domain name as well as the website. There will now be one annual bill in August. The \$96 fee was paid by Michelle Gluck of CCEDC. The source of the funds to pay the bill will be determined based on CCEDC recommendation. The <http://dutchessemc.org> URL now works.

IBM grant discussion: Pete Berasi informed the group that, after participating in the Corn Festival, IBM approved the grant and CCEDC received the \$2000. Thanks to Pete were expressed for his work securing these funds.

CAC liaison: Shannon Fatum had no new updates. Candis Sunderland reported on her attendance of the La Grange CAC meetings.

Proposed EMC Enabling Legislation: Joel Tyner discussed his proposal to put this on the Legislature’s agenda, which was refused. He requested an email from the EMC to all of the legislators asking for this to be placed on the agenda. Steve MacAvery will bring this to the attention of several particular legislators.

Subcommittee reports:

Plastic Bag Ban: Steve MacAvery reported that the subcommittee investigated Governor Cuomo’s proposal as well as Riverkeeper’s response and its proposals. The subcommittee referred to the NY State Plastic Bag Task Force report, which listed 8 options. The group narrowed the options to #6, a complete ban on plastic bags, or #7, a hybrid ban with a fee. This ban incurs fewer lawsuits, results in significant reductions in plastic bag litter and the cost is limited to \$4 per person per year. A third option that was not part of the report is a Cape Cod communities ban in which consumers receive a reusable, recyclable HDPE plastic bag. The subcommittee suggested making a recommendation to the Legislature of one of the 3 options. The subcommittee will send a summary of the 3 options and in October the group will choose an option to recommend to the legislature. Joel Tyner discussed the recently passed by the Ulster County Legislature ban on plastic bags.

Recycling Including Organics: Vicky Kelly reported that the group decided to rename this subcommittee “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”.

Fossil Fuel Reduction: Steve MacAvery informed the group that the County formed a Climate Smart Communities Task Force and he and Brad Barclay are co-chairs. Vicky Kelly and Carolyn Klocker were also appointed to this task force.

Environmental Fair: The group participated in the Corn Festival in August and decided that this was not the right venue for distributing information. The group discussed events such as films, forums or education sessions as opposed to fairs.

Road Salt: Vicky Kelly reported that the Cary Institute's road salt solution report is progressing and that the EMC will be represented as a co-sponsor.

Low-impact development / green infrastructure / water quality: CCEDC will hold a LID forum on October 29 at the Farm & Home Center (see below under new business).

Updates from Legislature / Ex Officios / CACs / Municipalities:

Joel Tyner discussed a letter on recycling and composting that he and 5 other legislators signed. He asked the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle subcommittee to consider endorsing his letter.

Other business:

Vicky Kelly raised the issue of reduction of Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Waste events being held by the County. Vicky will recirculate a letter addressing this issue and the group will discuss this at the October meeting.

John Paraskeva raised the issue of the Stormville Airport Flea Market sale to a company that handles old vehicles. Several meetings in Town of East Fishkill have occurred and the proposal has met with significant opposition. Pete Berasi reported that the East Fishkill CAC has commented on this proposal.

The CCEDC Low Impact Development Forum is October 29, 2018 at the Farm & Home Center from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The keynote speaker is Dr. Nina Bassuk, Program Leader, Cornell University Urban Horticulture Institute. The cost of the forum is \$5.00. For more details and to register [View 10/29 course details and registration](#)

A motion to adjourn was made by Lalita Malik. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is October 24, 2018 7:00-8:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.