



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2021**

Due to the COVID19 pandemic and in accordance with Governor Cuomo's executive order 202.107, which suspends certain provisions of the Open Meetings Law, this meeting was held via Zoom and recorded.

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
Shannon Fatum		X
James Fredrickson		X
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Sarka Leff	X	
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
John Paraskeva		X
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Michelle Gluck, CCEDC	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman's comments: Steve MacAvery welcomed all to the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the April 2021 meeting was made by Pete Berasi, with a second by Nancy Severns; all were in favor.

Correspondence:

Email from Svetlana Grinberg Forest Lake Country Club, Hopewell Junction about sick woodchuck. Nancy Severns referred the person to animal control or DEC.

Email from Thomas Ayotte | Environmental Project Manager requesting any documents that may exist regarding permits, USTs, spills, releases of hazardous materials, or known contaminated sites on our subject property at 207 Haight Hill Rd, Stanfordville, NY 12581. Vicky will respond that we don't have any information.

Website update: The following additions were made as suggested and per previous discussions: link to the 511 Rideshare program, zero waste meal blog post by Vicky Kelly & Judith Enck plastics prevention course information.

Draft Revised EMC Enabling Legislation: The group discussed sending the revised enabling legislation to the County Legislature. All agreed and Steve will send the draft.

EMC Chair: Shannon Fatum as vice chair would logically run meetings until a chair is identified. No one expressed interest in being the next EMC chair.

NRI: CCEDC Environment & Energy Program is developing a grant proposal to update the 2010 Natural Resources Inventory and would like EMC to collaborate. They are looking for assistance and a letter of commitment from the EMC. Sean Carroll will draft a letter for the EMC and Steve will circulate it to the group for approval (or not).

Subcommittee Reports & Updates:

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring (Candis, Shannon, Nancy): Nancy reported that Sierra Club had issues that are outside Dutchess County, Catskill Mountain Keeper Ashokan Reservoir proposal has been withdrawn. Nancy also reported on Clearwater, HRWA, Hudson Smart Growth Alliance. Candis reported on a CLCPA forum on manufacturing and effect of CLCPA on businesses in that electrical prices are increasing. Candis also reported on an Omega event about recycling with Judith Enck, and a Poughkeepsie Public Library presentation with Keri Russell of Dutchess County. Judith Enck has said plastic recycling is reduced and only 1 & 2 plastic is recyclable, but Keri Russell said the Beacon facility is finding a market for plastics. The Beacon facility will take shredded paper in clear plastic bags so they can see and remove it. Michelle pointed out that only communities that use the Beacon facility can do this.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (including Household Hazardous Waste) (Candis, Vicky, Steve, Sarka, Lalita): Vicky wrote a blog post about zero waste and the cost of plastic recycling, which was posted on the EMC website. There are 2 more Household Hazardous Waste events this year: June 19 and October 2. Vicky will ask to have the HHW events listed on the website. Vicky and Candis discussed homemade soaps and the group discussed educating about reduction in consumption of plastics.

Climate Change & Alternative Energy (Vicky, Jim, Steve, Lalita): no updates

Road Salt (Vicky, John, Jim): The group did not meet but Vicky reported that the report: "Road Salt, The Problem, The Solution & How to Get There", was downloaded 700 times in 2020,

indicating a clear desire to address the problem. Vicky will see if it can be linked to the EMC website.

Green Infrastructure (Pete, Steve, Jim, Sarka, Nancy, Connie): Steve sent the Greenway Guide to the subcommittee and the group discussed 5 practices that could be addressed, all are pavement reduction practices. The group discussed using the environmental ordinance matrix that CCEDC has posted on its website to look for ordinances that can be updated with GI practices. Steve suggested discussing the project with Brad Barclay. Michelle Gluck will share the matrix with the subcommittee.

Pesticide Use in County Public Parks: Steve discussed a move for NYC parks to eliminate pesticide use in city parks. Steve contacted Bob Balkind who said they use pesticides sparingly. Steve doesn't see a need to follow up.

Other Business: none

A motion to adjourn was made by Candis Sunderland. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.