



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2022**

This meeting was held by Zoom

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
James Fredrickson		X
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
John Paraskeva	X	
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Dept. of Planning & Development	X	
Sean Carroll, CCEDC	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman's comments: In Jim Fredrickson's absence, Candis Sunderland welcomed all to the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the May 2022 meeting was made by Peter Berasi with a second by Nancy Severns; all were in favor.

2021 Annual Report: A motion to accept the 2021 annual report was made by Nancy Severns with a second by Vicky Kelly; all were in favor.

Joining NYSACC: In Jim's absence the discussion was tabled. The group discussed the 2023 budget and Vicky will email Jim & Carolyn about our budget requests.

Correspondence:

- An email from Gabrielle Esposito, Librarian, Howland Public Library in Beacon asking for potential speakers to present a program at the library focused on sustainability, renewable resources, planting, etc. Several suggestions were made and will be forwarded to Gabrielle.
- Letter from Johanna Fallert, Co-Leader, Mothers Out Front regarding a county composting facility. The group briefly discussed the issue and decided to review the solid waste management plan and the CCEDC organics recycling study; both reports were cited in the letter from Ms. Fallert.

Website update: no new updates

Funds Update: Sean Carroll will find out the status of our funds and Vicky will send an email to Jim & Carolyn about next year's budget.

Reports:

Natural Resource Inventory for Dutchess County: The kickoff meeting of the steering committee was held June 6. The steering committee is reviewing current chapters and a survey was sent to CAC's and municipalities to find out how the current NRI is being used and what's needed for the new NRI.

Road Salt Brine Cost Benefit Analysis (Vicky, Candis, Jim, John): A motion to accept the report was made by Nancy Severens with a second by Pete Berasi; all were in favor. The report will be distributed to the CAC/EMC listserve, all Dutchess County highway superintendents and municipal clerks with a request to forward to municipal councils, the County Legislature and several members of the County public works department.

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring Updates (Nancy, Candis):

Nancy Severns reported that there were no updates relevant to Dutchess County from the three organizations she follows: Sierra Club, Catskill Mountainkeeper and Sloop Clearwater.

Candis Sunderland reported on Climate Action Council events. The DEC and NYSED held a public hearing at noon on the Draft Disadvantaged Communities Criteria. The Draft criteria for identifying disadvantaged communities for public review ends July 7. The DEC is accepting public comments until July 7, 2022, on the draft criteria and will hold at least six public hearings during the comment period. The draft criteria, community list, map, and supporting documentation are available on the New York State Climate Act website at <https://climate.ny.gov/DAC-Criteria>.

Other Business: The group discussed giant hogweed and the need to be aware of it.

A motion to adjourn was made by Peter Berasi. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is July 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.