

# Dutchess County Environmental Management Council (DCEMC) Meeting Minutes October 26, 2022

# This meeting was held by Zoom

# **Attendance:**

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi		
James Fredrickson	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas		
John Paraskeva	X	
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Lora Schilling		X
Keri Ann Wright		X
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Devin Rigolino, Dutchess County Dept. Planning & Development	X	
Kelsey West, CCEDC	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman's comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the September 2022 meeting was made by John Paraskeva with a second by Candis Sunderland; all were in favor.

Joining NYSACC: No new updates. Kelsey will follow up with Carolyn Klocker

Correspondence:

Several emails from NYSACC

Website update: Vicky reported that she wrote a brief blog with links to composting resources, which was posted last week.

Funds Update: No new updates. Jim will follow up with Carolyn Klocker.

#### Reports:

Natural Resource Inventory for Dutchess County (all): Devin reported that they are still reviewing the existing NRI. Kelsey from CCEDC will work with Devin while Sean is out on parental leave. Launch of the NRI will be November 2023.

Road Salt (Vicky, Candis, Jim, John): Vicky reported that she and Rhinebeck Highway Superintendent Bob Wyant participated in an online symposium with Western Connecticut State University about road salt. The symposium was very well-attended by faculty, students, members of the community and highway workers. John shared that he's been in contact with The East Fishkill Highway Superintendent and the Commissioner of Public Works of Putnam County and is setting up a meeting next week to talk about sharing brine making facilities. Jim will meet with his legislator to try to get the legislature interested. The group discussed a forum and will keep it on the agenda.

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring Updates (Nancy, Candis):

Nancy reported the following:

Sierra Club finalized election endorsements so no real update other than mailing of postcard to communicate the selections.

Catskill Mountainkeeper is highlighting the launch on November 19 for the Climate, Justice, and Jobs Package. It's not exactly clear what it is but appears to be statewide rallies to announce the funding distribution that goes along with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Hudson Clearwater celebrated 50 years of the Clean Water Act.

The Hudson River Watershed Alliance is holding their annual conference on October 24-26 with the in-person events to be in Hyde Park on the 25th and Kingston on the 26th. The October 24th session is virtual. The theme is Climate Change Impacts on Water in the Hudson Valley.

## Candis reported the following:

She watched parts of the NYSACC conference. Notes from the sessions she watched can be distributed to the committee if there's interest. She found the Agriculture and Open Space speakers the most interesting and didn't spend time with the Bond Act sessions but they go in to some detail about how they can be applied for; they are competitive apparently.

Here is a link to the sessions which are available online: 2022 Conference on the Environment Speakers - Google Sheets

### Other Business:

Jim suggested developing information about pollinator landscaping. Devin suggested a brainstorming session at the end of the year to come up with a list of information we would like to potentially give to new homeowners.

Devin discussed draft DEC, state owned properties east of Hudson management plan that includes conservation and Devin will share the document and we will discuss at the December 7 meeting.

Introductions were made for new member, Kelsey West.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is December 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.