

**Dutchess County**  
**Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
Wednesday, October 28, 2009

**Attendance:**

- Bob Cohen, DCEMC
- Ann Davis, DCEMC
- John DeGilio, DCEMC
- Ramesh Naik, DCEMC
- Larry Steel, DCEMC
- Allison Chatrchyan, Ex-Officio, CCEDC
- Vicky Kelly, Guest, Cary Institute

**Administrative Items:**

- There are two vacancies on the EMC board. Allison asked that volunteers be recruited.
- Allison reported that Wappingers has no CAC – and she is reaching out to the Town Board. There will be outreach to new members of the CAC in Dover.
- There is a new DCEMC website template that Allison created for the EMC, using a content management system called Wordpress that will be easier for volunteers to maintain. The DCEMC commended Allison’s work to develop the site. The website is <http://dutchessemc.org>. The DCEMC authorized the website to be taken live.
- Ann suggested that a regular planning process be established for the program year for DCEMC. Allison suggested that the funds for the Environmental Program are facing possible cuts this year. There will be public hearings on the county budget on December 3. An annual survey of the CACs priorities will be conducted, for the fourth Wednesday in February, 2/24/2010.

**Updates from CACs/Municipalities/Legislative Reps:**

- Bob Cohen reported that the Beekman CAC is frustrated with the zoning changes in the Master Plan, which is stalled. The Town and the consulting firm are disputing a wetland.

**Project Updates:**

- A plan to hold a conference to share the updated Natural Resource Inventory is scheduled for spring. Jeff Walker and Stuart Belli of Vassar College have

pledged to assist. Ann suggested that Dr. William Schlesinger from the Cary Institute be invited as a keynote speaker. She suggested that the business community, as well as CACs, be invited. John suggested inviting the Marist Center for Lifetime Studies, as well.

- Larry reported on the IDEA project. A contractor database is in development, which will allow homeowners and businesses to easily find eligible contractors to work on energy efficiency upgrades. The IDEA website will have an EMC link and vice versa. The next activities include outreach, mailing, vetting, and developing criteria (such as two projects, two referrals). A mission statement will be developed and presented to the Chambers, with highlights of successful energy efficiency projects, case studies, funding, design, and cost savings.
- Judith has taken the initiative with a local pharmacy to develop an EMC pharmaceutical take back program. EMC members approved the project, but suggested slight changes to the flyers. Vicky Kelly also suggested informing residents about other safe disposal options, rather than dumping medicines down the drain. See the DEC website for more information: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/45083.html>.
- The Road Salt conference on October 16, 2009, at the Cary Institute, was a success, with 125 attendees. Vicky Kelly is authoring a report on road salt recommendations, which will be made available on the Cary Institute website. The event was co-sponsored by CCEDC and DCEMC.
- The Climate 350 event was a success. The NYS municipal climate pledge is now a county law. See the DEC website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/53013.html>.
- The next meeting will be on December 2, 2009, due to the holidays in November.

Minutes prepared by Ann Davis.