



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 24, 2010**

Attendance:

- Bob Cohen, EMC Appointed Member
- John DeGilio, EMC Appointed Member
- Vicky Kelly, EMC Appointed Member
- Lalita Malik, EMC Chair
- Maribel Pregnall, EMC Appointed Member
- Allison Chatrchyan, Ex-Officio, CCEDC
- Pete Berasi, East Fishkill CAC
- Sharon Kroeger, T/Amenia resident

Administrative Items:

- The minutes of the January 2010 meeting were approved.
- Lalita will follow-up with the Legislative Clerk to appoint representatives to the EMC for vacant slots.
- The EMC discussed the draft 2009 EMC Annual Report. There were a few small changes that Allison will incorporate into the report. The committee approved the final report with those changes. It will be sent to the all Legislators by email and hard copy.
- EMC Outreach: Lalita will be requesting a meeting with the Chair of Legislative Environment Committee, and the new DC Planning Commissioner, Kealy Salomon. Lalita suggested that each EMC appointed member reach out to their personal Legislative representative. If Lalita sets up the meetings and lets the appointed members know the date, they will try to attend.
- The EMC reviewed the process of handling requests for the Environmental Management Council to consider.
- Website maintenance. Allison will prepare a quick website maintenance checklist and schedule for herself, Sean and John to use for regular maintenance. All EMC

members were requested to check the website regularly, especially the community forum (www.dutchessemc.org).

Updates from CACs/Municipalities/Ex-Officio/Legislature

- The Town of Beekman CAC gave a presentation to the Town Planning Board about how to use GIS/ for site assessment for a particular proposal. The CAC is setting up a process now to present GIS information to the Planning Board, and Bob Cohen has been training his CAC members. Bob is working on a standardized assessment check list for CACs to consider when reviewing a property and making a presentation using GIS to the Planning Board.
- Bob will work with Neil Curri from CCEDC on the check list, and make a presentation to the EMC at the next meeting.

Follow-up Planning for 2010 EMC Projects:

- Regular Meetings & Minutes: the EMC recording secretary will continue to keep minutes at all regular meetings, and share them with members in advance of the next meeting for approval; following approval, the website team will post agendas or minutes on the website.
- Annual Report: the EMC 2009 Annual Report was drafted and will be sent the Legislature in April 2010; older Annual Reports will be scanned and added to the website (as PDFs).
- Sharing information: The EMC will continue to make a regular spot on their meeting agenda to share info between CACs, Towns, and agencies. The EMC can also promote the use of the community forum on the website to share info more widely with county residents, the DC Legislature, and Watershed groups.
- Maintaining the Natural Resource Inventory – the NRI is currently being updated with CCEDC, DC Planning and local scientists; the natural resource GIS data layers are maintained by CCEDC. Allison is facilitating the Steering Committee, and Lalita and John are participating. There will be an NRI conference at Vassar in October.
- The State of the Environment Report – Allison will bring one of the old State of the Environment reports to the next EMC meeting. Vicky agreed to do a quick search to see if any other county EMCs have recently updated their county's State of the Environment Report, and make a recommendation to the EMC on how feasible this could be to take on and what it could cover using readily available data.
- Land Use - Bob is working on a standardized assessment check list for CACs to consider when reviewing a property and making a presentation using GIS to the Planning Board. Bob will work with Neil Curri from CCEDC on the check list, and make a presentation to the EMC at the next meeting.

- Educational Initiatives – The EMC will continue its role with public education and outreach on various topics, noted below:
 - Reduce/Recycling Issues: Maribel, John, and Judith
 - John will look into putting additional information/links on re-usable items on the EMC website.
 - Maribel has been talking to various local high schools/teachers about recycling in schools. In Arlington High School, with the bottle bill, there is now an incentive to take them back. The school's recycling committee is now collecting and sorting the bottles, and taking them back. Maribel will write up the story, take some pictures and the case study can be featured on the EMC website and through the Poughkeepsie Journal. The case study can then be eventually spread to other schools.
 - Judith is continuing to work on the EMC's Pharmaceutical Take Back Project with Tuminaro Pharmacy; linking with the DC RRA; and spreading the effort to other pharmacies.
 - Dutchess Watershed Awareness Month – Lalita noted what was done in 2009, and Vicky suggested that possibly the Cary Institute could possibly do an educational event for WAM. Vicky and Lalita will follow-up with Carolyn Klocker.
 - Vicky will continue to work on the Road Salt report, and will share the draft results with the EMC when a draft is completed. Vicky may ask some CACs to help with a cost/benefit analysis.
 - Outdoor Wood Boilers – Allison will ask ESAN for input on the environmental effects of OWBs. Pete and Bob will send Allison their local ordinances.
 - Outreach materials: John will look into the possibility of EMC t-shirts or hats. There is a possibility of EMC information being shared at Cooperative Extension's booth (all day/two days) at the Hudson Valley Green Earth Day Weekend (April 24-25); there is a need to develop an EMC Brochure – Follow-up with Sean and or Vicky Buono.

Other Business/Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28 at 5:00pm, followed by the CCEDC Educational Forum at 7:00pm.

Minutes were prepared by Allison Chatrchyan in the absence of Sean McDermott and Rachel Noe. The EMC will need to identify an alternate secretary to take meeting minutes in the absence of the recording secretary.