



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 2010**

Attendance:

- Pete Berasi, (CAC T/East Fishkill)
- Bob Cohen, EMC Appointed Member
- John DeGilio, EMC Appointed Member
- Vicky Kelly, EMC Appointed Member
- Judith Papo, EMC Appointed Member
- Maribel Pregnall, EMC Appointed Member
- Vicky Buono, CCEDC Admin. Asst.
- Allison Chatrchyan, Ex-Officio, CCEDC
- Larry Steel, EMC Appointed Member
- Emily Vail, CCEDC

Administrative Items:

- Bob Cohen chaired the meeting in Lalita Malik's absence. The minutes of the April 2010 meeting were approved after a brief discussion for clarification (regarding email requests).
- Allison was unable to set up the EMC's email google account to automatically forward to the EMC's yahoo listserve (because it's not an email address/but a listserve). As a result, any incoming mail sent to the EMC to its google email account will be automatically forwarded to the Vicky Buono (vcb4@cornell.edu) and Allison Chatrchyan (amc256@cornell.edu), who will forward it to the EMC. Vicky and Allison will also recommend if it seems as though the information request could be readily handled by CCEDC staff (i.e. a request for GIS mapping could be handled better by Neil Curri). Allison has been able to set up an automatic responder, so that when requests come to the EMC's email, a standard response is sent to acknowledge that the note was received and a response will be forthcoming. ("The Dutchess County EMC has received your email and will respond as soon as members have had a chance to review it. You are invited to attend an upcoming EMC meeting, held regularly at the FHC in Millbrook, NY. Please check <http://dutchessemc.org/> for meeting dates/times. Thanks!")
- Allison also distributed a 4-page document on information on how to update and maintain the www.dutchessemc.org website, reminding everyone that it contained confidential ID's and passwords.

- There will be five openings for At-large appointments to the EMC; the Legislature will be conducting interviews on Monday June 7th for reappointment of Larry Steele, John DeGilio and Lalita Malik.
- The EMC reviewed the draft position description and made several suggestions; Allison will make the changes and get review from the Planning Department and Legislature. The final position description can be posted on the EMC's website.

Update on EMC Projects:

- The NRI update is progressing. An NRI Steering Committee meeting with the Planning Department, chapter authors and EMC members regarding the NRI update, is scheduled for June 6th.
- Vicky Kelly reviewed several old EMC State of the Environment reports (from the early 1980s) from the EMC archives. She asked for feedback on the possibility of doing research on environmental issues the county has faced in the last 5 years, generating a report with the results. Part of the report could focus on environmental issues covered by the Poughkeepsie Journal and other local media. Allison will send Vicky a file with the topics covered at the Environment forums since 2003. Allison also suggested that it might be possible to include easily-accessible environmental data (stream monitoring, air quality) in the State of the Environment report. Vicky will review data/topics and make recommendations to the EMC at a future meeting.
- Neil will be giving a GIS presentation to the Town of Pleasant Valley – Allison will ask him to share the presentation with the EMC and attend an EMC meeting if he's available. Bob C is continuing his work on GIS education with his town.
- Maribel is pulling together materials on Arlington HS's recycling efforts. She is still looking for a recycling vendor to collect large quantities of bottles. (Currently two high school seniors are returning bottles and collecting the money.) Judith will check with BOCES again.
- Judith is continuing to work on the EMC's Pharmaceutical Take Back Project. Medi-Gap in Fishkill has begun a take back project and Northern Dutchess Pharmacy in Rhinebeck is interested in doing the same. National Geographic recently published a special edition on water which carried an article about pharmaceuticals and our water.

Other Business:

- Emily Vail distributed copies of a draft EMC brochure that CCEDC staff has developed for the EMC. Suggestions were made to add a section for those interested in joining the EMC, also adding 'providing advice to the legislature' as a responsibility. Emily will make changes and send out a revised version to the EMC for further review.
- The CCEDC Environmental forum will follow this meeting. The topic will be 'Engaging the Wappinger Creek Watershed Stakeholders' (those who participated in the recent survey conducted by Carolyn and Dr. Shorna Broussard). The June 23rd forum will be on 'Deer Management', and the September 22nd forum will be on 'Air Impacts from Outdoor Wood Boilers'.

- Allison, Carolyn, and Emily attended a launch for the new website, www.dutchesswatershed.org website, held at Vassar College on May 11th. All EMC members are encouraged to logon to the site, create an account, and start contributing.
- John mentioned the importance of recognition for the EMC – the EMC could play an important role in recognizing those in the community for their environmental service. John will look into options for recognition and will get back to the EMC.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.
- The next EMC meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 23rd at 5:00pm, followed by the CCEDC Educational Forum at 7:00pm.

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Buono, CCEDC Administrative Assistant.