



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 23, 2013**

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
Bob Cohen	X	
John DeGilio	X	
Vicky Kelly		X
Constance Kustas	X	
Marsha Leed		X
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
Maribel Pregnall	X	
Paul Quinn	X	
Chris Robins	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Allison Chatrchyan, CCEDC	X	
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	

Administrative Items:

- Meeting minutes for the November 28, 2012 meeting were approved with a motion by Bob Cohen.
- The Ad-Hoc EMC website committee had not had a chance to meet formally and did not have a report for the meeting.
- The EMC could consider reviewing the existing EMC enabling law, and drafting an updated enabling law to present to Rob Rolison, Chair of the County Legislature. Allison stated that there is already a draft update available and she will email the draft document to EMC members for review before the next meeting.
- The 2013 meeting dates and times have been identified and will be posted on the EMC website by John DeGilio.

Email Correspondence:

- Connie Kustas emailed Robert Cruz, reporter for the Poughkeepsie Journal, regarding this meeting. Robert has requested that he be kept informed of all upcoming EMC meetings. There was a discussion as to whether Robert Cruz should be added to the EMC/CAC listserv but it was decided that his email address would be given to Allison and he would be

added to the Dutchess Environment listserv instead. In addition, Connie would email Robert Cruz prior to the EMC meeting as a reminder.

- Chris Robbins has not heard back from Bonnie Lichak of Clean Air Rights for Everyone since the last meeting. This issue will be tabled until she contacts the EMC.
- Maribel Pregnall has not received an email response from Bryan Glick regarding permission to have a public showing of his film “Fish Meat” at Arlington High School. Lalita Malik suggested that just projecting the film on screen at the Arlington High School should work without the necessary permission requirement. In addition to EMC members attending, CACs would also be invited to the showing.

Updates on EMC Projects, Subcommittee Reports & Homework:

- Subcommittee Reports
 1. Road Salt Reduction (Pete Berasi, Vicky Kelly): Peter said that the committee drafted a survey that will be sent out to municipal officials and town highway departments that attended the fall 2012 training. Peter read off the eight questions and Allison suggested the last question be reworded, stating: “What other information, tools or training do you need on this subject?” A cover letter was also suggested to accompany the survey. The next step will be to finalize and send the survey to officials.
 2. Recycling (Bob Cohen, Lalita Malik): Bob Cohen did not have a report from the committee. Allison brought up the point that the Dutchess County Solid Waste Plan has been published and the EMC can provide review and feedback. There will be a public meeting held on Tuesday, February 26th. Allison will be attending and suggested that EMC members attend as well. Lalita suggested that the committee and EMC members could review the document. Bob Cohen will collect any comments, submitted to him by February 10. John DeGilio will post a link to the Dutchess County Solid Waste Plan on the EMC website.
 3. NRI Educational Materials (John DeGilio, Maribel Pregnall, Paul Quinn): Maribel Pregnall reported that Vicky Kelly had reviewed the draft NRI curriculum, e.g. acid precipitation, extreme weather, and bird graphs for accuracy. Maribel handed out the lesson plans and asked for feedback from EMC members about the activities as well as the use of graphics developed by the NRI. She envisions these quick activities as a supplemental resource to classroom materials for the disciplines of chemistry, earth science and biology. Allison suggested that the land use section be sent to Neil Curri at the Cornell Cooperative Extension for his input.
 4. Energy Conservation & Renewables (Allison Chatrchyan, Lalita Malik, Marsha Leed): Lalita Malik has been encouraged to write about her experience with a home energy audit and subsequent installation and use of solar panels. Allison stated she would be scheduling eight Save Energy, Save \$ workshops as a result of the funding received from Cornell via NYSERDA. One challenge will be to try to get a large turnout at workshops.
 5. Low Impact Development (Steve MacAvery, Marsha Leed): Steve is still working on reviewing the municipal town codes, specifically those who may have adopted more stringent stormwater regulations than issued by the state. He stated that the review needs to examine whether the codes promote or discourage low impact development and working with the local CACs will help. Lalita suggested that at the February 27th Annual CAC and EMC Roundtable Forum, Steve connect with the chairs of the CACs. Bob Cohen suggested contacting Hudsonia as a resource as well. Steve is working on a new draft Greenway Guide. Allison suggested that he work with Carolyn Klocker of CCEDC.

6. Climate Change (Allison Chatrchyan, Chris Robbins, Vicky Kelly): Allison stated that the committee has not met, however she had two project updates for the members. CCEDC is working on a new contract on Hudson River Estuary Watershed resiliency, which focuses on providing education on stream management best practices. A conference is scheduled tentatively for May at the Cary Institute. The second project involves Cornell Cooperative Extension at Cornell University and its request to have a regional conference in 2013 headlining community energy planning and climate change. Allison is also working on the climate change outreach with Cornell and CCE.

Updates from CACs/Municipalities/Ex-Officio Members/ DC Legislature

1. Joel Tyner suggested that the county could develop a climate action plan. He recommended contacting several municipalities and reviewing several websites: Town of Bedford town board and David Gabrielson, www.energizebedford.org, Northern Westchester County municipalities, www.nweac.org, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Waster to Wealth, www.ilsr.org
2. Joel also discussed the county solid waste management plan plant. He is encouraging that the EMC, as the environmental body of the county legislature, review and provide input on the plan. Joel also suggested that the EMC website could have two areas devoted to climate change and energy conservation. One clickable button would have facts about how climate change has affected Dutchess County and the other button would emphasize how going green will save tax dollars while protecting the environment.
3. CCEDC - Allison reported that Dutchess County Cooperative Extension has to submit a proposal through an RFP process by February 1, 2013 in order to receive funding from the county. CCEDC has a new Executive Director, Ruth Moore, who previously worked for the NY Department of Agriculture and Markets and the DEC. Ruth will be at the Annual CAC and EMC Roundtable Forum on Wednesday, February 27, 2013. Steve MacAvery will ask for CAC input to the EMC's Low Impact Development project at the Roundtable Forum.

Other Business:

1. The Annual Report is due on April 1, 2013, and the EMC needs to begin working on it. Allison will email copies of last year's annual report to Bob Cohen, Connie Kustas, Vicky Kelly and Chris Robbins.
2. The Annual CAC and EMC Roundtable Form at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook will be held on February 27, 2013.
3. The next regular EMC meeting is on March 27, 2013.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned by Bob Cohen without a motion.

Minutes were prepared by Connie Kustas for Vicky Kelly.