



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2015**

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
Chris Robbins	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Jean MacAvery, Poughkeepsie High School student	X	
Camille Marcotte, CCEDC	X	
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	

Administrative Items:

- Minutes for the January 28, 2015 meeting were approved with a motion by Pete Berasi, 2nd by Chris Robbins.
- Enabling legislation draft - Steve MacAvery reported that he received notice from the Legislature that the County attorney is reviewing the draft.
- Web site update - John DeGilio reported the number of "hits" received by the website, which was created in the fall of 2009 (table below). Values for 2015 are for January through March. Visitors seem to view all pages equally. The bill for the website should be submitted for reimbursement through CCEDC, which will receive funds from the Planning Department for this expenditure. Steve MacAvery will contact Ruth Moore for exact procedure and paperwork for this.

YEAR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
HITS	1,557	3,691	3,193	2,463	2,570	1,771	537

- Correspondence – An email message was received requesting information about volunteer work. Steve MacAvery responded noting that if there was interest in a position on the EMC a letter of interest should be sent to the Legislature. An email request was received about Fishkill Creek watershed maps. The message was forwarded to the Fishkill Creek Watershed Alliance who sent the requested maps.

- EMC members -Steve MacAvery reported that the Legislature is in the process of setting up interviews with prospective members. It was noted that John Bickford has not yet heard about an interview.
- Connie Kustas has completed a draft of the 2014 Annual Report. Members should send comments to Connie by April 8, 2014. Steve MacAvery will look up the Environment Committee Chair of the Legislature to ask about presenting the report to the environment committee.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting is on April 22, 2015. Solarize Hudson will present to the committee at the request of Brian Kehoe of the Planning Department. Steve MacAvery and Chris Robbins will also report on a meeting held with the Planning Department.

Upcoming meeting dates for 2015 are:

- April 22
- May 27
- June 24
- July 22
- no August meeting
- September 23
- October 27 (note this is a Tuesday to avoid conflict with the CCEDC annual dinner)
- December 2

Reports of EMC Subcommittees:

1. Road Salt (Pete Berasi, Vicky Kelly, Chris Robbins): Vicky reported receiving many requests for interviews from reporters from around the northeast about road salt. There is more concern than ever about salt accumulating in drinking water. There is also information in the literature about the increase in the proportion of salt used by private contractors who have a disincentive to reduce salt use as their patrons may want to see residual salt on parking lots, etc.
2. Clean Energy (Lalita Malik, Marsha Leed, Connie Kustas) No report.
3. Recycling (Bob Cohen, Lalita Malik, Pete Berasi, Vicky Kelly): Pete Berasi reported that participants of the No Child Left Inside program of the CCEDC have submitted a proposal to do a waste audit of Poughkeepsie High School. Pete will follow up with this.
4. Resiliency to Climate Change (Chris Robbins, Vicky Kelly): Chris Robbins reported that he spoke with Catskill Mountainkeeper and Sustainable Hudson Valley about producing a report from the resources document that he wrote. They each have their own lists of resources. He also spoke with the company for whom he works, AKRF, who is interested in producing the report. All agreed that this is appropriate.
5. Enviro Fair (John DeGilio, Vicky Kelly, Marsha Leed): CCEDC submitted a proposal to organize this fair. The group will wait to see if the County funds this project through CCEDC.
6. Low Impact Development (Steve MacAvery, Marsha Leed, Peter Berasi): A forum was held by CCEDC with collaboration by members of the EMC on March 19, 2015 on Reviewing Stormwater Management in Site Design. There were 46 in attendance and a guide was provided for planning board members.
7. Farmland Protection (Connie Kustas, Steve MacAvery): no report.

Updates from CACs/Municipalities/Ex-Officio Members/ DC Legislature/Planning Dept.

- Joel Tyner reported on activities in which he is involved including zero waste at Dutchess Stadium, community choice aggregation, community solar power purchase

agreements, landfill solar arrays, new economy coalition, genuine progress indicator, the new County farmland protection plan which has no provision for organic farming, and new appointments to the County Board of Health who support well testing mandates.

- Camille Marcotte informed the committee about 2 upcoming meetings: April 2, 2015 from 5:30 – 7 pm at Vassar College (The Aula): Casperkill Creek Watershed Alliance and Vassar Sustainability are hosting a presentation by Riverkeeper on Crude Oil Transport in the Hudson Valley. On April 23, 2015: 7:30 – 9 am at the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce Offices in Poughkeepsie – The Business Education Committee’s Living Green Subcommittee is hosting an event: “It IS easy being green – And It’s Smart Business.” Presenters will talk about green procurement, recycling, energy efficiency and solar options for businesses. Register here: <http://web.dcrcoc.org/events/Business-Education-Seminar-10473040/details>

Other Business:

1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC will be held April 22, 2015 7-8:30 pm at the Farm & Home Center.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned with a motion by John DeGilio.

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.