



**Dutchess County  
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)  
Meeting Minutes  
June 24, 2015**

**Attendance:**

<b>At-Large Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Pete Berasi	X	
John DeGilio	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Marsha Leed	X	
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik		X
Chris Robbins		X
<b>Ex Officio, CAC Members &amp; Others</b>		
Jeff Luoma, CCEDC	X	
Sean Carroll, CCEDC	X	
John Bickford, Town of Hyde Park	X	
Adriana Beltrani, interested citizen	X	
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	

**Administrative Items:**

- Minutes for the May 20, 2015 meeting were approved with a motion by Steve MacAvery, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pete Berasi.
- Enabling legislation draft - Steve MacAvery reported that the draft changes are on the agenda for the August 10, 2015 meeting of the County Legislature.
- Web site update - John DeGilio reported that the site gets approximately 12 hits per month. Jeff Luoma requested that the contact information for the EMC be updated with the State Organization of EMC's. The invoice for the hosting of the EMC website was forwarded to Ruth Moore of CCEDC and Eoin Wrafter, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Planning Department.
- Correspondence – No correspondence
- EMC members -Steve MacAvery reported that there are currently 3 vacancies and 4 appointments that expire on June 30, 2015 for the EMC. The resolution to make the appointments will be combined with the enabling language changes on the Legislature's August meeting agenda. The meeting will be held Monday, August 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

- 2014 Annual Report. Steve MacAvery contacted the Legislature's Environment Committee to request a meeting to present the 2014 Annual report and to discuss goals and membership. The committee chair did not reply to his communication. Steve will pursue this with other members of the Legislature.
- The next regularly scheduled meetings are on:
  - July 22 - this meeting will be cancelled if there are no action items in light of the lapse in appointments of 4 members as of June 30, 2015
  - 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 Kelly reported that the work with Dr. Mary Ann Cunningham of Vassar College and Dr. Stuart Findlay of the Cary Institute on a GIS analysis of salt in groundwater in the town of East Fishkill is ongoing. Vicky also reported on a project to compare the contaminant chemistry of rock salt with brines from oil and gas wells. This work will inform the discussion of using brines for snow and ice control.
2. Clean Energy (Lalita Malik, Marsha Leed, Connie Kustas): Marsha Leed will send an article from [www.nytowns.org](http://www.nytowns.org) about working with town associations and boards to promote and engage in clean energy use. Steve MacAvery has made inquiries about the feasibility study for solar on County buildings. Solar panels are being installed at a wastewater treatment plant in Poughkeepsie. The group discussed investigating success stories from other municipalities, specifically with respect to cost savings. Adriana Beltrani commented on the Planning Department's Solarize Dutchess program, which was recently approved. The group discussed a possible forum to be done jointly with CCEDC, which would include Solarize Dutchess, Solarize Hudson Valley, Energize NY and other solar or clean energy organizations.
3. Recycling (Lalita Malik, Pete Berasi, Vicky Kelly): Vicky Kelly reported that she will serve on a steering committee for CCEDC for a Cleaner Greener Communities organics recycling project. Pete Berasi updated the committee about a trash audit being conducted as part of a recycling program by Carolyn Klocker of CCEDC at Poughkeepsie High School. The group discussed the resolution introduced by Joel Tyner to the County Legislature to ban plastic shopping bags in Dutchess County. The EMC will consider endorsing the resolution via an email vote.
4. Resiliency to Climate Change (Chris Robbins, Vicky Kelly): No report
5. Enviro Fair - renamed Earth Day Festival (John DeGilio, Vicky Kelly, Marsha Leed): Vicky Kelly reported that a joint CCEDC/EMC proposal was submitted to the County Planning Department. If funding is denied, the group will consider submitting the proposal to a private funding agency.
6. Low Impact Development (Steve MacAvery, Marsha Leed, Peter Berasi): Carolyn Klocker has developed an outline for a proposed environmental display at the County Fair on green infrastructure. The display would potentially include permeable pavers and a rain garden. It would be good to have EMC participation in construction, design, donations of pavers and other materials. Jeff Luoma will look into this.

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

- Jeff Luoma thanked Vicky Kelly and Pete Berasi for cleaning file cabinets of old EMC files and requested help with boxes of old photos. For future meetings, Jeff will develop a webex or video conferencing connection for participants who need to call into a meeting.
- Joel Tyner discussed many projects including toxic free toys bills, organic farms, solar on landfills, plug-ins on County buildings for hybrid/electric vehicles, community choice aggregation, road salt, banning fracking brine and VOC's in groundwater. He requested that the EMC provide solar case studies and links about solar energy on the EMC website.

**Other Business:**

1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC will be held September 23, 2015 7-8:30 pm at the Farm & Home Center.

**Adjournment:**

- The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Pete Berasi.

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.