



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2015**

Attendance:

| At-Large Members | Present | Absent |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Pete Berasi | 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 | | |
| Jeff Luoma, CCEDC | X | |
| Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature | X | |

Administrative Items:

- Minutes for the October 28, 2015 meeting were approved by a motion from John DeGilio, 2nd by Pete Berasi.
- Enabling legislation draft update - this along with the 3 vacancies on the EMC should be addressed by the Legislature in early 2016.
- Web site update - John DeGilio informed the committee that the metrics on the number of hits to the website indicate that there is active viewing of the website, especially the 'What's New' and meeting date pages. Payment for the website must go from CCEDC to the Planning Department and then from the Planning Department to John, who paid for it with personal funds. John will start the process of having the owner's name shifted from his name back to CCEDC.
- Correspondence - no new correspondence.
- EMC members - The 4 reappointments to the EMC passed through committee and should be approved at the December 13, 2015 meeting of the Legislature.
- Meeting dates for 2016 are:
 - January 26 (note Tuesday meeting)
 - February 24 (this meeting will be the annual CAC/EMC forum)
 - March 23
 - April 27
 - May 25
 - June 22
 - July 27

- no August meeting
- September 28
- October 26
- no November meeting
- December 7

Reports of EMC Subcommittees:

Road Salt - Vicky Kelly updated the group on work being done on this issue by Marist College interns for credit. The students are gathering and compiling data on salt use and NaCl concentrations in Dutchess County communities. The goal is to update the report, "Road Salt, Moving Toward the Solution."

Clean Energy - At the request of Marsha Leed, the group discussed the temporary moratorium on ground-mounted solar panels in the town of Wappinger. It was suggested that we look to Yorktown and the Yorktown school district for a solution as the community may have addressed this issue. Jeff Luoma discussed work by the CCEDC that is part of a Cleaner Greener Communities grant on the relative benefits of methane from anaerobic digestion as an energy source. The group discussed involvement of the EMC.

Recycling - The group discussed a program called "We Future Cycle", a nonprofit organization that teaches composting & recycling in Westchester schools. The group also discussed the merits of the CCEDC Master Gardener's educational program on composting & recycling.

Resiliency to Climate Change - no new reports

Earth Day Festival - Jeff Luoma updated the group on the possibility of soliciting funds from the County for this as part of an Agency Partnership Grant. The funding cycle would put the festival in spring 2017. The group discussed reconvening and trying to do this program on a smaller scale at a different venue than the Walkway over the Hudson park.

Low Impact Development - The subcommittee is working with Carolyn Klocker of CCEDC on another forum set to take place in March 2016.

Farmland Protection - This subcommittee will be removed from the agenda.

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

- Vicky Kelly updated the committee on a message she received from a CAC member that they are not receiving notices about the EMC meetings, which is something we need to address.
- Joel Tyner discussed many projects including labor for sustainability, County solar energy, microbeads, toxic toys, a genuine progress indicator for Dutchess County, farm to table County programs, and the Environmental Science Advisory Network (ESAN).
- Jeff Luoma updated the committee on several grant proposals that the CCEDC may pursue that include education of the community on climate change, seal level rise and homeowner septic systems.

Other Business:

1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC will be held Tuesday, January 26, 2016 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the Farm & Home Center.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Lalita Malik.

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.