



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2016**

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	
Brian Kehoe, Dutchess Planning Department (by phone)	X	

Administrative Items:

- Minutes for the December 2, 2015 meeting were approved by a motion from Pete Berasi, 2nd by Steve MacAvery.
- Enabling legislation draft update - Steve MacAvery will check with the Legislature after their February meeting.
- Web site update - Jeff Luoma confirmed that the CCEDC will take over payment for the hosting of the website. The website needs current member information updated.
- Correspondence - An email message was received from an individual who is interested in developing a website for the EMC. The group decided that, as the individual does not live in Dutchess County and the website is currently maintained by a member of the EMC, this service is not needed at this time. Vicky Kelly will communicate this to the correspondent. A backup for maintenance of the EMC website was discussed and the possibility of this being done by CCEDC was suggested.
- EMC members - Steve MacAvery will check with the Legislature after their February meeting and will remind them of the member appointments that will expire in June 2016.
- 2015 Annual Report - This report is due April 1, 2016. Connie Kustas has agreed to compile the report.
- US Fish & Wildlife Service proposal for a National Wildlife Refuge in Dover - Comments on the draft plan to form this National Wildlife Refuge are due March 4, 2016. The group discussed the EMC's role and whether to send comments about the proposal. Steve

MacAvery will send a link to the proposal to all EMC members and ask for specific comments.

- Scheduled meeting dates for 2016 are:
 - 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

EMC Subcommittee Reorganization:

The group discussed the organization and role of subcommittees. Ideas included having all members serve on all subcommittees, dividing the reports so that half of the subcommittees are discussed in March and half in April, and whether the subcommittees should produce a project or be information providers and advisors about environmental issues. It was decided that this discussion should be postponed until all members can contribute. An introduction to the discussion will be sent by Steve MacAvery via email.

Reports of EMC Subcommittees:

Road Salt - Vicky Kelly updated the group on work done by Marist College interns. The students gathered and compiled data on salt use and NaCl concentrations in Dutchess County communities. The information will be used to update the report, "Road Salt, Moving Toward the Solution." with best management practices.

Clean Energy - The group discussed future plans for this subcommittee.

Recycling - Vicky Kelly reported on a recycling initiative she is spearheading at the Cary Institute. Jeff Luoma reported on a the NYSERDA Cleaner Greener Communities grant work being done by CCEDC. A final report is expected in about 1 year.

Resiliency to Climate Change - no new reports.

Earth Day Festival - Jeff Luoma reported that the CCEDC requested support from the County via an Agency Partnership Grant to help the EMC host a small, trial festival to be held in fall 2016. He has not heard yet if the grant was funded. Jeff Luoma also reported on the Poughkeepsie Earth Day Festival, which is in the planning stages now. The CCEDC will have a presence at the festival. The EMC can potentially have a table or speak. Participation in the planning is encouraged.

Low Impact Development - The subcommittee is working with Carolyn Klocker of CCEDC on another forum set to take place in March 2016. The topic of the forum is enforcement and maintenance of green infrastructure.

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

- Joel Tyner discussed many projects including an Arlington High School student initiative called Endocrine Fighters, an awareness campaign about pharmaceuticals & personal care products in the environment, a request he made for \$10,000 for the EMC to host an earth day festival, the County's solar initiatives, the opportunity for Power Purchase Agreements for solar installations, climate change, organics recycling, immunocontraception for deer control, family farms, and a farm to table program.
- The EMC offered to help in the organization of the EMC/CAC roundtable forum and discussed the EMC's presentation at the forum. Steve MacAvery will present the EMC's achievements for 2015 & goals for 2016.

Other Business:

1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC will be held Wednesday, February 24, 2016 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the Farm & Home Center. This meeting will be the annual EMC/CAC Roundtable Forum.

Adjournment:

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

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.