



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

**Attendance:**

<b>At-Large Members</b>	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi		X
Gail Beverly	X	
John DeGilio	X	
Shannon Fatum	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Marsha Leed	X	
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
Chuck May		X
<b>Ex Officio, CAC Members &amp; Others</b>		
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	
Sarah Womer Riverkeeper, Beacon CAC	X	
Sharon Kroeger Wassaic Historical Ag Crossroads	X	
Jeff Luoma, CCEDC	X	

The meeting was brought to order by Steve MacAvery at 7:05 p.m. Introductions around the table were made.

**Administrative Items:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 2016 meeting with changes by Vicky Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gail Beverly, all were in favor, none opposed. Changes include the addition of John DeGilio to the attendance list and the change in spelling of Shannon Fatum's name.

Draft changes to the enabling language for EMC is still with Legislature's attorney, no new update.

Website update – There were 85 hits in September, an uptick due to the Environmental Fair, many were made after the fair. There were 15 hits so far in October. Discussion ensued about tags used to elevate a search engine result to promote the website. Discussion included the relative importance of the purpose of the website as a means to enable public accountability and not necessarily to promote the EMC.

Correspondence –Jeff Luoma has a piece of mail received at CCEDC for EMC.

New EMC members- Shannon Fatum was welcomed to the EMC

Vice chair nominations – Vicky Kelly nominated Gail Beverly as vice chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve MacAvery, all were in favor, none opposed.

2015 Annual Report – A motion to approve the report was made by Lalita Malik, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shannon Fatum, all were in favor, none opposed. The report will be sent to the EMC/CAC listserve as well as the County Legislature.

John DeGilio gave a brief summary of Coast Guard Anchorage on the Hudson River issue. Sarah Womer of Riverkeeper added to the discussion. Riverkeeper is calling for a full environmental review of the program. Comments are being taken on Riverkeeper's and the Coast Guard's website. Discussion ensued about a position by the EMC, whether we should take a position and what it would be. John DeGilio will draft a letter from the EMC to be sent by November 15th to the Legislature. Comments and edits from members of the council will be due to John DeGilio by November 10<sup>th</sup>.

State of Environment Report – no new updates

### **Projects & subcommittee reports:**

Road Salt – Vicky Kelly reported that a chemical analysis of 4 different road salt samples was done via a grant to the Cary Institute. A report was recently received and a report is forthcoming.

Recycling – Vicky Kelly reported that she will attend the CCEDC workshop this Saturday and will report at the next meeting. Gail Beverly and Lalita Malik agreed to meet and develop suggestions for recycling programs in local schools.

Energy Conservation & Alternative Energy – Marsha Leed and Gail Beverly reported that they attended a Solarize meeting in Wappingers Falls, which was lightly attended by the public. Shannon Fatum reported that, in Beekman, a solar farm is being proposed and has planning board approval thus far.

Low Impact Development – Steve MacAvery proposed a list of green infrastructure techniques for municipalities with the goal of developing a report similar to the “Sustainability, Climate Change & Flood Resiliency Resources” report.

Environmental Fair – Joint EMC/Vassar Cooperative - Urban Wilderness Festival & Environmental Fair – Gail Beverly summarized the post-event analysis done by the committee, which included Jen Rubbo. Dale Borchert, Chairman of the Legislature attended the event and invited the EMC to present to the Legislature – a presentation on one or more of our projects. Jeff Luoma suggested we contact the Poughkeepsie festival organizers about an April 2017 festival. Steve MacAvery agreed to initiate this discussion.

### **Updates from Legislature, Ex Officios, CAC's, Municipalities:**

Joel Tyner made suggestions about next environmental fair, updated the committee about contamination of 3 public drinking water supplies by chromium 6, Central Hudson information about number of solar installations in each municipality in Dutchess County, making available on the EMC website the local laws list presented at the EMC/CAC roundtable each year in February, HudsonRiverAnchorages.org, funding for controversial projects by the Dutchess County government, suggestion for an Earth Day essay contest, funding for the EMC.

Sarah Womer reported that Riverkeeper is doing water quality testing using 300 volunteers, they are testing for bacteria that indicate fecal contamination, PPCP, microplastics, and more. There's a new testing initiative in the Sawkill and they are joining a study on Wappinger Creek & restoration of the creek. Riverkeeper Sweep will take place on May 7, 2017 – see [www.riverkeeper.org/sweep](http://www.riverkeeper.org/sweep) for more information.

**Other Business:**

Gail Beverly reported on an excellent pollinator landscaping at Rhinebeck Bank on Route 9. She asked if EMC would consider giving a reward to a business that does pollinator friendly landscaping.

Vicky Kelly updated the committee on the request by CAC's to advise them on forming & functioning of CAC's. The group discussed assembling a repository of information about the statutes that formed each CAC & overall guidelines for CAC's for the EMC's website.

The next regularly held meeting of the EMC will be held on December 7, 2016 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Farm & Home Center. John DeGilio requested production of a newsletter as an agenda item.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Lalita Malik.

Minutes were prepared by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.