



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2017**

Attendance:

At-Large Members	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
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	
Ruth Moore, CCEDC	X	

Approval of minutes of April 2017 meeting - a motion was made by Peter Berasi, 2nd by Shannon Fatum, all were in favor.

Website update – John DeGilio requested statements or paragraphs for the ‘What’s New’ section of the website. Peter Berasi offered to send John an article comprised of 3 paragraphs regarding the upcoming reorganization of the Fishkill Creek Watershed Association.

Correspondence: no new correspondence

EMC members: Members who are up for reappointment starting July 1, 2017 Shannon, Marsha and Vicky requested reappointments. Steve will check with Chuck and Gail about their reappointment. Steve declined to be reappointed and informed the group that he will be stepping down to take up work on a more local level in the city of Poughkeepsie. He will be missed but

we wish him well in his future endeavors. The group will need to recommend a new chair and request the Legislature appointment of that person as chair.

State of the Environment Report – The group decided to postpone production of this report until after the road salt forum which is planned for this fall. Lalita and Shannon offered ideas about solar power as a new topic for the report under a potentially new topic of alternative energy and the need for town ordinances to address installation of solar panels and possibly car charging stations. Shannon will send an example ordinance being considered in the town of Beekman.

EMC newsletter & quarterly environmental initiatives – John requested material for a summer newsletter. Shannon offered to send information about the DEC Watershed Assessments by Volunteer Evaluators (WAVE) program for which she is an ambassador.

Environmental Recognition – the group decided to table this topic until further input from Gail.

Review of Action Items – the group discussed the anchorages on the Hudson River issue and our letter opposing the proposal for which we received a response. The group decided to remain abreast of developments on this issue.

Subcommittee reports:

Road Salt – Vicky updated the group on 3 publications in preparation and submitted for publication about road salt and a forum to follow in the fall.

Recycling Including Organics – The group discussed information to be provided about recycling at the Environmental Fairs. Ruth Moore updated the group on the CCEDC NYSERDA Cleaner Greener Communities Project and was encouraged to take advantage of the EMC to help with the project.

Energy conservation & alternative energy – The group discussed information to be provided about this issue at the Environmental Fairs. Electric cars and solar energy initiatives will be covered.

Low-impact development / water quality – Steve provided the checklist on green infrastructure for local planning boards. Vicky suggested an introductory paragraph describing the target audience and intended purpose, and correction of some typos.

Environmental Fair – Marsha offered to send the application for the Corn Festival on August 13 and the Pumpkin Festival October 15. Both festivals are at the Beacon Sloop Club. Pete discussed his plan to apply for a grant from IBM to support the Environmental Fair. He intends to request funding support for promotional materials and CCEDC staff time in support of the October 15th fair. Marsha will investigate Chico bags as a giveaway and printing a tablecloth or banner for a table.

Updates from Legislature / Ex Officios / CACs / Municipalities

Ruth Moore updated the group about a new CCEDC project funded by the DEC Hudson River Estuary Program to help municipalities to create or update a basic NRI. A short questionnaire about interest was distributed.

Joel Tyner updated the group about a resolution that passed the legislature on May 8 to identify fossil fuel reduction goals for Dutchess County; Dutchess Community College and improving energy efficiency in Taconic Hall and other buildings; Tompkins County road map for a 2020 energy strategy; encouraging Dutchess County communities to become DEC Climate Smart Communities, including Dutchess County; the San Diego Chamber of Commerce working with the mayor to make San Diego fossil-fuel-free; the potential for a plastic bag ban as they are the #1 contamination of recycled goods; moving toward zero waste and Lyme Disease insurance.

Other business:

Steve MacAvery announced 2 meetings: 1. Green Infrastructure Growing Green Cities on May 31, 2017 from 9:15-4:45 at the Newburgh Armory Unity Center and 2. Beacon: Renaissance of a Community Using Code Enforcement on May 31, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 pm at CCEDC in Millbrook.

Motion to adjourn was made by Peter Berasi.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.