



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2018**

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
Gail Beverly	resigned	X
John DeGilio	X	
Brian Difeo		X
Shannon Fatum	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Marsha Leed	X	
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
Yvette Valdes Smith	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	
Carolyn Klocker, CCEDC	X	

Chairman’s comments: Steve MacAvery welcomed all to the meeting with no comments.

Minutes of January 2018 meeting: a motion was made by Lalita Malik to approve the minutes, 2nd by Pete Berasi, all others present were in favor.

Correspondence: An email from Chris Nack, a scientist with O’Brien and Gere (OBG) Engineers Inc., regarding a feasibility study on dam removal/enhancement on the lower Fishkill Creek; they would like to speak with the EMC. Steve will respond.

Budget requests to County: no new updates, submissions should be in by July/August. The group discussed adding our budget request to the annual report.

CAC/EMC Roundtable Summary: The Roundtable was held in February and was well attended with >35 people, representing 11-12 municipalities including representatives from 3 municipalities that are considering forming a CAC. Staff from CCEDC is in the process of writing a summary of the meeting. Shannon Fatum has reached out to 4 CAC's thus far to set up a meeting to identify the issues in their towns for the state of the environment report and to be a liaison between the CAC & EMC.

2017 Annual Report: Steve MacAvery circulated a draft of the annual report and requested input. The report is due April 1, 2018. When the report is complete, Steve will ask for a spot on the Legislature's agenda to report.

State of the Environment Report: Vicky Kelly will meet with Carolyn Klocker and Michelle Gluck on March 30, 2018 to discuss the particulars of the CCEDC participation.

Website update: John DeGilio reported that the website gets about 2400 hits per year. CCEDC made the payment to 1&1 for 6 months. The funds came out of the County support for EMC. The group discussed upgrading to the latest version of Wordpress. Lalita Malik suggested adding a few sentences about other environmental topics to go along with a link for further information. In addition, Lalita will send John some information on banning straws.

Membership update: Gail Beverly resigned as of February 2018 and Brian DiFeo will not renew his term in June 2018.

Riversweep participation: Yvette Valdes has identified sites that the EMC can help clean up. The sites Yvette considered are:

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Poughkeepsie: Fall Kill Creek Cleanup

Poughkeepsie: Waryas Park Shoreline Cleanup

Poughkeepsie: Kaal Rock Park

Red Hook: Tivoli Landing Hudson River Cleanup

Beacon: Denning's Point Cleanup

Beacon: Waterfront Cleanup with the Beacon Sloop Club

Wappingers Falls: Lower Wappinger Creek Cleanup by Kayak & Canoe

Wappingers Falls: Wappingers Creek by Land-Registration Closed

Signup begins April 1, 2018 at www.Riverkeeper.org/sweep. The event is on May 5, 2018. T-shirts will be available with EMC logo on the front and 'Ask me about EMC' on the back.

Connie Kustas will place the order. CCEDC will pay the invoice from our IBM grant funds.

Each member will register separately for the site of their choice.

IBM grant discussion: Pete Berasi briefed the group regarding the requirements that are needed to apply for a grant this year. IBM again offers a \$2,000 grant to an IBM retiree. Pete is a retiree and is willing to submit the proposal for this grant again this year. Here is a brief overview of the requirements:

1. The IBM sponsor is required to provide a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer support to the organization. By the end of March, Pete will have about 60 hours of support completed and 100 hours by the end of May. This item will be taken care of by Pete Berasi.

2. We need to complete an IBM Activity Kit as a team. This entails viewing an IBM power point presentation on a topic of our choice. Last year we viewed “Measuring Success with Outcomes”. We need to select a new topic from the list of available modules. There are 4 or 5 which are appropriate to EMC. The group reviewed the topics and chose 4, which Pete will investigate and report next month.

3. We need to pick an activity to sponsor as a group and to provide a volunteer support opportunity for IBM participation. Last year we sponsored a table at the Pumpkin Festival in Beacon. We need to decide what we will choose to do this year. The requirement is only to offer a voluntary opportunity to IBM’ers; we will still qualify for the grant even if no IBM’ers respond.

Subcommittee reports:

Fossil Fuel Reduction: Steve MacAvery reported that he made a presentation to the Environment committee of the legislature, which was well-received. The subcommittee will meet again in April to plan next steps.

Environmental Fair: Lalita Malik reported that she received an email from Jen Rubbo regarding the Earth Day Festival in Poughkeepsie. The group decided there isn’t enough time to plan for participation in this event. The group will participate in either the Strawberry or Pumpkin festival in Beacon as part of the IBM grant. Yvette Valdes will look into these events.

Road Salt: Vicky Kelly reported that the research paper on the distribution of road salt in the groundwater in the town of East Fishkill was published in the Journal of Environmental Quality. Several scientists from RPI have commented on it. Vicky Kelly and Pete Berasi will bring the publication to the attention of the Town of East Fishkill supervisor and CAC.

Recycling Including Organics: Lalita Malik suggested adding information to our website that emphasizes reducing and then recycling.

Low-impact development / green infrastructure / water quality: CCEDC is planning a LID forum in partnership with the Planning Federation.

Updates from Legislature / Ex Officios / CACs / Municipalities:

Carolyn Klocker informed the group the CCEDC will hold a GIS forum on May 5, 2018 for municipal officials. The event is in partnership with Dutchess Land Conservancy and the County Planning Department.

Joel Tyner discussed 3 proposed resolutions 1. Adoption of a Climate Smart Communities Pledge, 2. Increase in the number of household hazardous waste events in Dutchess County, and 3. Creation of a green energy loan fund. These resolutions may be on the Legislature’s April 5 agenda.

Other business: none

A motion to adjourn was made by Lalita Malik. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is April 25, 2018 7:00-8:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.