



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2018**

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
John DeGilio		
Shannon Fatum	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas	X	
Marsha Leed	X	
Stephen MacAvery		X
Lalita Malik	X	
John Paraskeva	X	
Yvette Valdes Smith		X
Candis Sunderland	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Joel Tyner, Dutchess County Legislature	X	
Michelle Gluck, CCEDC	X	
Simone Gleicher, Pleasant Valley resident	X	
Susan Karnes Hecht Town of Poughkeepsie CAC	X	
Margaret Slomin, Town of Poughkeepsie CAC	X	

Chairman’s comments: In EMC chair Steve MacAvery’s absence, vice chair Shannon Fatum welcomed all to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

Minutes of October 2018 meeting: a motion was made by Marsha Leed to approve the minutes, 2nd by Candis Sunderland, all present were in favor, Lalita Malik abstained.

The following meeting dates were set for 2019. Vicky Kelly will convey this to CCEDC to secure the meeting room.

- January 23
- February 27 (CAC EMC Roundtable)
- March 27
- April 24
- May 22

June 26

July 24

No meeting in August – all are encouraged to participate in the County Fair

September 25

October 23

December 4 (November & December meetings are combined and in early December to accommodate holidays)

Membership update: John DeGilio submitted his resignation as he is moving to Ulster County. John has been a long-standing and committed member of the council and will be sorely missed. All wished him well with his move and future endeavors.

Correspondence: An email message was received from a citizen expressing support for funding for the EMC from the County and expressing concern about climate change. Steve MacAvery responded with information about funding for the EMC and the County's participation in the DEC's Climate Smart Community program.

Budget requests to County: Steve MacAvery communicated by email that the EMC has been allocated \$925 in the 2019 tentative budget. This includes \$100 for a website, \$75 for membership in the NY State Association for Conservation Commissions (NYSACC) and \$750 for 2 people to participate in the NYSACC annual conference. Shannon Fatum will inquire about NYSACC. We also have \$3210 in IBM grant funds remaining. Because the funds are administered by CCEDC, Michelle Gluck will report on funds at meetings.

State of the Environment Report: Vicky Kelly reported that the report is written and formatting is being finalized by CCEDC staff. It is a stellar report with excellent contributions by authors in and outside of the EMC. Presentation to the Legislature and publication as a series in the Poughkeepsie Journal will be pursued.

Website update: With John DeGilio's resignation a new website manager is needed. John graciously offered to continue as manager until a new person can be appointed. Vicky Kelly will assume administration of the website, Candis Sunderland and Shannon Fatum will be back up administrators.

CAC liaison: Shannon Fatum reported a few email exchanges with CAC's but no new attendance at meetings.

Proposed EMC Enabling Legislation: no new updates, discussion was tabled until Steve MacAvery returns.

Household hazardous waste letter: Vicky Kelly reported that she sent a letter urging the County to add collection dates. No response was received.

Plastic Straws: Steve MacAvery suggested the EMC consider forming a small subcommittee (approximately 3 people similar to Plastic Bag Ban group) to look into plastic straw ban options to recommend to the legislature. The topic was tabled until the EMC reorganizes.

Subcommittee reports:

Plastic Bag Ban: Steve MacAvery reported via email that the Legislature is considering two measures to address plastic bag pollution. Two proposals were introduced, the first, a ban on plastic bags with a fee on other bags, which was recommended by the EMC, and is the more common legislation and is supported by abundant evidence that it is effective. This proposal was defeated. A second proposal introduced is a ban on plastic bags with no fee on alternative bags. This measure passed committee approval and will be voted on at the meeting of the full legislature on December 6, 2018. Steve MacAvery circulated a request for council members to select options to recommend to the legislature. Six members opted to support both resolutions but prefer the ban & fee option over the ban only option. Steve conveyed this in a message to the legislature.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: no new reports

Fossil Fuel Reduction: The group discussed Climate Smart Communities programs at the local municipality and County level. The County CSC task force, which will meet on December 12, 2018.

Environmental Fair: The group discussed continuing participation in environmental fairs.

Road Salt: Vicky Kelly reported that the update to the Road Salt, Moving Toward the Solution report, is nearing completion.

Low-impact development / green infrastructure / water quality: CCEDC held a forum in October which was well attended. The forum was recorded and will be available on the CCEDC website.

Updates from Legislature / Ex Officios / CACs / Municipalities: Joel Tyner discussed sewage input to the Hudson River, the County budget vote scheduled for 6:00 p.m. December 6, 2018, County bonds for solar, low-impact development, recycling, composting, zero waste, air pollution, and a goal of fossil fuel free status for the County.

Other business: none

A motion to adjourn was made by Lalita Malik. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is January 23, 2019, 7:00-8:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.