



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2019**

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
Shannon Fatum	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas		X
Stephen MacAvery	X	
Lalita Malik	X	
John Paraskeva	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Ed Hogarty, EMC Webmaster	X	
Michelle Gluck, CCEDC	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman’s comments: Steve MacAvery welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of the May 2019 meeting: a motion was made by Pete Berasi to approve the minutes, 2nd by Candis Sunderland, all present were in favor.

Website update: Steve MacAvery reminded the group that social media was discussed at the last meeting. Vicky Kelly discussed the education & public outreach efforts of the County Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Task Force. Actions to gain points toward certification as a CSC certified community is an active website and social media account. Ed Hogarty discussed the mechanics of starting a social media and placing plug-ins on the website, which would allow users to be notified when an event is posted. The group discussed the EMC being the vehicle for a social media and web presence for climate action. The question of whether EMC performing this function would fulfill the requirements for CSC needs to be answered. Shannon Fatum made a motion to allow the EMC to be the vehicle for social media and website for the CSC task force. The motion was amended by Lalita Malik to allow the EMC to be the vehicle for community

outreach, social media, website and publicity for the CSC Task Force, Pete Berasi seconded the motion, all were in favor. Vicky Kelly will convey this to the Education & Public Outreach subcommittee of the CSC Task Force and investigate whether this will fulfill the requirements for points toward CSC certification for the County.

Membership update: Steve MacAvery informed the committee that Yvette Valdes Smith has resigned, bringing the number of vacancies on the EMC to 3. The Legislature posted the listing for membership on the EMC on its website in June. Reappointments are on the Legislature's agenda for July.

Correspondence:

Vicky Kelly, Simone Gleicher & Steve MacAvery researched the issue and Steve responded to an email from Nick Joseph, assistant to the chair of the legislature who requested information about air quality compliance and gasoline prices.

Steve MacAvery will circulate the certified letter that solicits comments on a proposal to develop a micro hydro project, including a retrofit and repair of a dam at Bard College. Comments are due by July 22, 2019. Vicky Kelly made a motion to contact the Legislature to convey that we are in favor of this project and would like to respond favorably to the proposal, John Paraskeva seconded the motion, all were in favor.

EMC CCE funds: Michelle Gluck reported that the EMC has \$2981.85 remaining in IBM grant funds in a CCEDC account.

Liaison to CAC's: Shannon Fatum reported that the Beekman CAC is considering developing a Natural Resources Inventory.

NYSACC membership: Shannon Fatum reported that the application for membership is complete and that payment requires CCEDC. Michelle Gluck will follow up on this.

Project & Subcommittee Reports:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – (Vicky Kelly, Candis Sunderland, Steve MacAvery, Pete Berasi). Candis Sunderland circulated a draft resolution developed by Nick Page, Legislator from Beacon, which is a partial ban on plastic serve ware, i.e., plastic forks, plates, cups, etc. The goal is to encourage compostable and reusable serve ware by food service establishments and the County government. He's looking for edits to the text of the resolution. Steve MacAvery will recirculate the proposed resolution to the EMC.

Vicky Kelly will contact Lindsay Carille or Carrie Russell to ask if they could attend a meeting to talk about recycling in the County. The CAC's would specifically be invited if this can be arranged.

Steve MacAvery reminded the group that Pleasant Valley takes electronics for recycling. Michelle Gluck informed the group that the Pollution Prevention Institute grant to DEC on single use plastic pollution reduction was successfully submitted. Results will be received end of July. Several good letters of support were received.

Climate Change & Alternative Energy – (Vicky Kelly, Susan Hecht, Candis Sunderland, Connie Kustas) Vicky Kelly & Steve MacAvery reported on the activities of the Dutchess County Climate Smart Communities Task Force on which Steve is a co-chair and Vicky chairs the Outreach & Education subcommittee. Vicky also sits on the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory & Climate Action Plan subcommittee and Other Government Actions subcommittee. Steve is an ex officio on all subcommittees. Michelle Gluck is on 2 subcommittees. Vicky, Steve & Michelle reported that the task force has 5 subcommittees, each of which met prior to a meeting of the CSC task force held on Monday, June 24, 2019. The subcommittees reported and there is good progress gathering information to submit for CSC certification.

Public Outreach – (TBD) Vicky Kelly referenced discussion above about developing web-based materials and social media content for the County’s CSC Task Force.

Road Salt – (Vicky Kelly, John Paraskeva) Vicky Kelly informed the group of legislation sponsored by 2 state legislature members from Westchester County addressing the issue of road salt pollution. Vicky will circulate the proposed legislation.

Green Infrastructure – (Steve MacAvery, Pete Berasi, Connie Kustas) Michelle Gluck informed the group that Sean Carroll of CCEDC is planning a forum for fall 2019.

Updates from Legislature/Ex-Officios/CACs/Municipalities:

Michelle Gluck discussed a climate art travelling exhibit and asked the EMC to circulate a flyer about it.

Other Business: none

A motion to adjourn was made by Pete Berasi. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is July 24, 2019, 7:00-8:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.