



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2021**

This meeting was held by Zoom

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi	X	
James Fredrickson	X	
Vicky Kelly	X	
Constance Kustas		X
Sarka Leff	X	
John Paraskeva		X
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Colin Adkins, CCEDC	X	
Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Planning Dept	X	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman’s comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Jim will set up tours of the Beacon recycling facility and Recycle Depot.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the July 2021 meeting was made by Nancy Severns with a second by Candis Sunderland; all were in favor.

Correspondence: Received an email from Janet Irizarry, subject Announcing "The Hudson Valley Food Waste Challenge" a campaign to build public awareness on the issues of food waste and help the Hudson Valley reduce the amount of food we are sending to our landfills. They

would like to discuss the project with us. Jim contacted her and will set up a date for her to talk with us. Brad recommended that we set it for a date that Michelle Gluck can attend.

Website update: At Candis's request, added a link to DEC's Nontoxic Lawn Info & Plastic Free School Year.

Draft Revised EMC Enabling Legislation: Jim will contact Steve Caswell about this.

Subcommittee Reports & Updates: The group continued to discuss whether to continue with the existing committees. Collin suggested the guiding principle Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Anchored within a Time frame (SMART)

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring (Candis, Nancy): Candis reported that she revisited the Climate Action Council July meeting minutes, which she will send to the group. There are recommendations about energy production including concerns about using hydrogen as a fuel, which Danskammer will be using. There is a Forest Pests in the Catskills workshop tomorrow by Catskill Mountainkeeper. Nancy reported that the Sierra Club filed an intent to sue Danskammer because it doesn't meet requirements or goals of CLCPA. Hundreds of people showed up to a public comment period to oppose the Danskammer plant; the public comment period has been extended to mid-September.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (including Household Hazardous Waste) (Candis, Vicky, Sarka): Jim will set up a tour of the Beacon recycling facility and Recycle Depot in Poughkeepsie. Jim will follow up on a food waste reduction discussion. Links will be added to the EMC website.

Climate Change & Alternative Energy (Vicky, Jim): no new reports

Road Salt (Vicky, John, Jim): Vicky reported that NY Senator Harckham of Westchester County introduced a bill S657 that addresses the problem of road salt pollution. Apparently he introduced it last year as well. Senator Harckham is interested in gathering baseline data on groundwater salt concentrations. Here's a summary of the bill:

Requires the commissioner of the department of transportation, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of environmental conservation to create a road salt applicator training program, which shall include, but not be limited to training materials regarding the environmental and human health impacts of road salt and a plan of action for the reduction or elimination of sodium chloride pollution in environmentally sensitive areas. Jim reported that he contacted highway superintendent to find out what they are doing to reduce road salt including their new salt storage facility.

Green Infrastructure (Pete, Jim, Sarka, Nancy, Connie): Sarka reported that she received the table of zoning codes that address green infrastructure but is looking for information about roads. Brad suggested that the group look at the Cornell Local Roads Program <https://www.clrp.cornell.edu/>.

Other Business:

Peter Berasi discussed the IBM grant and reported that CCEDC needs to complete a form that is a compliance statement for use of the funds. The grant is for \$500. Vicky reported that CCEDC has undergone an upheaval in leadership, so some tasks have been postponed but will get done.

Pollinator Pathway: Candis sent an email with resources and information. CCEDC is planning a forum.

Central Hudson's Clean Energy Marketplace. Vicky asked if we should provide advice on clean energy marketing, knowing that it's a complicated issue and there are programs that may not be good. Collin Adkins explained that this is what he does as energy advisor, so we can send inquiries his way.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.