



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2023**

This meeting was held in person and by Zoom

Attendance:

At-Large Members	Present	Absent
Pete Berasi		X
James Fredrickson	X (in person)	
Vicky Kelly	X (in person)	
Constance Kustas	X	
John Paraskeva		X
Nancy Severns	X	
Candis Sunderland	X	
Lora Schilling	X	
Keri Ann Wright		X
Ex Officio, CAC Members & Others		
Devin Rigolino, Dutchess County Dept. Planning & Development	X	
Kelsey West, CCEDC	X (in person)	

Welcome/Intro/Chairman’s comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the February 2023 meeting was made by Nancy Severns with a second by Lora Schilling; all were in favor.

Joining NYSACC: We are official members of NYSACC.

Correspondence: no correspondence

Website update: no update

Draft revised enabling legislation: Devin reported no new updates. Jim will contact the legislature's environment committee chair or another member of the committee regarding this.

Funds Update: no new updates.

Annual Report 2022: Nancy Severns has prepared all except the budget numbers for the annual report.

Earth Day Event April 29: Vicky updated the group on the event, which will take place Saturday, April 29, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Reports:

Natural Resource Inventory for Dutchess County (all): Devin informed the group that finalizing content for first 2 sections are almost done, and will go to OCIS for modelling / build-out of the website that will comprise the NRI. The first section is an overview and the 2nd is an overview of the county especially with respect to natural resources.

Road Salt (Vicky, Candis, Jim, John): no new updates, Jim will schedule a subcommittee meeting.

Environmental Advocacy Group Monitoring Updates (Candis):

Candis reported the following:

- Riverkeeper Sweep is happening May 6. There are several sites in Dutchess County looking for volunteers.
- Clearwater – Manna Jo Greene, Environmental Action Director is retiring from Clearwater at the end of May.
- Hudson River Watershed Alliance is offering a Breakfast Webinar: Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Thursday, May 11, 8:30-9:30 AM
- DEC's Annual Spring Seedling Sale is open through May 12, 2023. Order early, many species sell out quickly.

Green Infrastructure (Lora): Lora met Maribel Pregnall and wrote a grant with her that plans to lead students through soils & runoff management. Students will design and build a rain garden with an informational kiosk at Peach Hill Park. They should hear if they got the grant by mid-May. If they do, high school students will be recruited from Poughkeepsie and elsewhere. The students will be paid. The non-profit Friends of Peach Hill submitted the grant proposal. County Division of Youth Services is the County department the proposal went to.

Other Business:

Devin thanked Nancy for serving on the CSC task force. A standing agenda item will be added to future agendas for Nancy to provide updates.

Jim asked about the new gas line proposed in Dover. He will look into it.

Lora and Devin will attend the HR Watershed Alliance training Friday and 2 following Fridays and will report next month.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is May 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.