



**Dutchess County
Environmental Management Council (DCEMC)
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2023**

This meeting was held by Zoom

Attendance:

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

Welcome/Intro/Chairman’s comments: Jim Fredrickson welcomed all to the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

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

Correspondence: updates and info from NYSACC.

Website update: We put Lora’s Peach Hill notice on the website. Updates with minutes & agendas ongoing.

Draft revised enabling legislation: no new updates, the group decided to table this until the next year.

Funds Update: no changes. Devin discussed using remaining funds allocated to us from the County to do an EMC sponsored training for CAC members in the spring. The Planning Department would purchase materials now and hold them until spring. Devin, Carolyn & Kelsey would work together on the training. Jim made a motion to approve the funding not to exceed the amount of funds from the County in our account, Pete seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Climate Smart Communities Update (Nancy): Devin updated the group on the work of the group. He is working on a report that updates all the climate actions that have been done thus far. Oct. 23 is the next task force meeting. The government GHG inventory report is nearly done and will include recommendations for reducing GHG emissions. Our October meeting will include a longer update about the GHG inventory.

EMC Members: no new updates

NYSACC Meeting: no new updates

Fishkill Creek Watershed Alliance (Jim, Lora, Pete): Jim updated the group that there was a 2nd organizational meeting and some subcommittee meetings. Jim met with the Lagrange town supervisor who is committed to supporting the effort.

Solid Waste Management Plan: The group discussed reviewing the plan and commenting, especially with regard to how the County can reach its recycling and waste reduction goals. One of the things we could do is develop a report that lists the town zoning laws that restrict development of community composting or organics recycling.

Reports:

Natural Resource Inventory for Dutchess County (all): Devin would like time in the October meeting to display the mapper and to receive feedback.

Road Salt (Vicky, Jim, John): no new updates. The group discussed postponing a highway superintendents meeting until after the election.

Peach Hill Green Infrastructure Project (Lora): Lora and Maribel presented to Arlington HS. They have 10 students so far from Arlington, Spackenkill & Poughkeepsie. The project will start Oct. 14. They are looking for 4-5 more students. The students will meet every Saturday in the fall & spring to design and then build a rain garden to reduce the runoff from the pavilion. The program is a pilot program that will hopefully be used in different communities.

Other Business:

Jim discussed a meeting with the Lagrange town supervisor who didn't know the EMC exists. Jim suggested inviting the chair of the environment committee of the legislature to one of our meetings, after the election.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Severns. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EMC is October 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicky Kelly, Recording Secretary.