

**Ulster County EMC Meeting
Minutes from April 30, 2014**

Attendance:

Steve Noble - At Large
Jim Littlefoot - Town of New Paltz
Manna Jo Greene - Guest, UC Legislator, District 19
John Sansalone - Gardiner
William More - At Large
Virginia Starke - Town of Hurley
Cindy Lanzetta - At Large
Catherine Quick - Town of Esopus
Henry Bartosik - Town of Wawarsing
Dennis Doyle - Ex Officio, UC Dept of Planning
Amanda LaValle - Guest, UC Dept of Environment
Emilie Hauser - City of Kingston

- **Call to Order:** Called to Order 6:30pm

- Minutes Approval: Hank Bartosik moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Cindy Lanzetta

- **Department of the Environment Update**
 - Stormwater Annual Report was distributed to members. The report covers the last year's stormwater efforts for Ulster County (March 2013-March 2014). County website will host draft annual report and comments are welcome and can be emailed or accepted in writing over the next month. Covers the six minimum control measures along with other measures defined by the Department of Environmental Conservation
 - Question was posed to see whether stormwater program actually improves water quality on a statewide level
 - Make sure to include County Wide Rain Barrel Distribution that took place in April of 2014 in next years annual report
- Grant Overview
 - Hudson River Estuary Grant is now available as well as Greenway and other. Documents will continue to be emailed out to members moving forward. Green Infrastructure Grants were announced today, as part of the CFA process.
- Environmental Notice Bulletin was distributed. Item of note includes NYS DEC SPDES Permit for the Catskill Influent Chamber. Public Scoping documents will be held at 3pm and 6pm at SUNY Ulster on May 12

- **Old Business**
 - Ulster County Legislature Presentation by EMC Chair

- Meeting went well, report was given to the UC Legislative members. Discussed cooperation and needed charter revision to change membership terms

- **New Business**

- June Roundtable in Cooperation with Ulster County Planning
 - Open Space based planning seminar regarding Green Infrastructure, CORES Data, New GIS Parcel Viewer, Transportation and Visuals - Monday, June 9th at 7pm-9:30pm at SUNY Ulster - Vanderlyn Hall.
 - Possible inclusion of another planning topic could be how to interpret data at a future session, maybe a connection to NRI. What data sets do CAC's have on a town by town basis. Is it digital, not digital. What type of data exists. Maybe a survey could be in order for Town CAC's

- Open Space Policy for Tax Sales

- Is there a mechanism to intercede in the property tax sales in the area of Open Space. Can we change the lens of what we look at when it comes to property. Currently its mostly a financial lens. Department's could of petitioned to acquire or address and never officially adopted. Another option was a community's interest and could lead to a transfer, but either way, county wants to made whole. Could we utilize open space plans in each town to identify parcels that could be included in future parcels?

- **Roundabout**

City of Kingston (Emilie Hauser) - May 13, Kingston will host a Habitat Presentation at Kingston City Hall with DEC and Hudsonia - Climate Cafe will be held at Kirkland. Energy Advocates program with Rupco will encourage people to use Energy Audits and looking to get 10% of Kingston households to participate. Kingston received a bronze certification in NYS's new Climate Smart Communities Certification in New York State. Hudson River Environmental Society will be hosting an all day workshop on May 7th at SUNY New Paltz. Question was asked regarding Tidal Waterfront Flooding Taskforce and next steps. Implementation will be shared by multiple departments and plans.

Town of New Paltz (Jim Littlefoot) - Riverkeeper gave a presentation and new testing will be done on pharmaceuticals and other items and red flag fecal sources. Rocking Horse Ranch wants to build a development on 299 in New Paltz. Work is being done on the Walkill. Town of New Paltz had the wetland law upheld.

Town of Gardiner (John Sansalone) - Gardiner is working on Wetlands/Watercourse law.

Town of Shawangunk - (Dave Haldeman) - Mentioned Rail to Trail Magazine had a Rail with trail article in the recent month.

Town of Hurley - (Virginia Starke) May 31st BioBlitz may occur. Ticks are horrendous this year.

Guest:

Manna Jo Greene, Town of Rosendale Legislator - Rondout Creek Watershed Council is meeting again. Rondout Creek Watershed Council has an interim watershed plan. Manna will chair Climate Smart Committee in Ulster County, with five voting members. May 10 is RiverSweep. June 20-21 is Hudson River Clearwater Revival. Where does energy live here in Ulster County is a question that was poised for a future meeting. PSC is reformulating an Energy Vision for New York and entails a state wide visioning process about Energy.

Dennis Doyle, capacity issues at state, local and counties around energy and climate change is a concern, especially around non-profits and the public sectors are lacking. PSC could help build capacity along with other state agencies.

Moved to adjourn at 8:45pm