

**Ulster County Environmental Management Council
Monthly Meeting, Howard C. St. John room, SUNY Ulster
October 26, 2011 6:30pm**

Attendance:

Chair: Steve Noble

Municipal Representatives:

Virginia Stark, Hurley
Joe Liuni, Rosendale

At-Large Members:

Cindy Lanzetta, Marlborough
Ann Brandt, At Large
William More, At Large

Ex-Officio Members:

Dennis Doyle, UC Planning

Guests:

Amanda LaValle, Dept. of the Environment
Rich Schiafo, City of Kingston Climate
Analyst

Call to Order and Welcome: Steve Noble called the meeting to order at 6:45pm.

Minutes:

Minutes were not approved and were held to next month.

Department of the Environment

DOE has a new Rain Garden, installed at 17 Pearl Street. It was installed in the Summer of 2011. It will be a great green infrastructure project in the City of Kingston. CCE of Ulster County will be discussing Rain Gardens: A tool for Municipal Stormwater Management. 11/3 from 9:30-11:30.

Tourism Dept is working with DOE to develop a card with online rec website.

11/4 – Biodiversity Roundtable – Laura Heady, Staatsburg (Near Norrie Point) – Environmental Communications is the topic. Free. All Day Event.

11/5 – Trail Conference at SUNY New Paltz. \$20 a Fee. Registration is required for the event.

Guest Speaker: Dennis Doyle

Cleaner Greener Sustainable Communities Grant Program

Regional Economic Development Plan – Assigned money to councils
Council developed plan for regional economic strategy. Their main goal is to create jobs

NYSERDA – CFA

9.6 Million Dollars Available. 10 Regions.

County was working with Dutchess, Ulster and Orange for HUD Sustainability Grant. The County Partnership was not successful and is similar to the current funding application available through NYSERDA.

Orange County and the Town of Greenberg are leading the application process. County Planning and DOE have pledged their support along with Mike Hein.

Public Staff can not be funded unless it's a new position. If the consortium is funded, they will have eight months to do a regional plan for seven counties. Baseline work will be a major part of the project.

Climate Smart Communities in Ulster are being asked to sign a letter. Both planners and implementers will need to be at the table and NYSERDA will hopefully allow for quick implementation. May be able to use Communities Baseline Data from Climate Smart Communities. Communities may be able to share model ordinances. Implementation is key and has become harder over time due to staffing issues. Inter-municipal collaborations

Municipal Govt's will most likely be serving on governance structure
Planning Team – Working Groups will most likely be set up. Will work with not for profits, etc.

Many are discussing Streams after recent floods. Questions raised include:

- a. What to do with Streams?
 - b. Leave them or disturb them?
- Funding available for Flood Buyout Program
 - Esopus Creek Flood Control Issues – Virginia asked questions
 - Wetland Seminar was held last week, approximately 80 people attended. Climate Adaptation was a question that planning board members had. Planning Seminar could be co-sponsored with DEC. What idea topics are there.
 - Policy guide for Sustainability – What should planning board's be looking for. – (Check with Kingston CAC on what they have...) Put on listserv requesting info.

Conference on the Environment Update:

Department of State Track
Climate Change Track

New Business

Topics for meetings

CRISP/DEC Forester EAB/Regional Plan
Wetland Information
Climate Adaptation/Climate Smart Communities
UCRRA – Solid Waste Management Plan
BioBlitz – with no money

November 30th at 17 Pearl Street for next meeting. No meeting in December.

Making the Rounds to CAC's in January and February of 2012 was suggested.

Woodstock: No report (no Rep)

Hurley: Meredith Taylor (Catskill Center for Conservation and Development) met with Town Board to get resolution supporting park request

Kathie Quick: Grant for Water Harvester looking good. "Chester"

Amanda: Grant from Hudson River Improvement Fund due in November (Education and Improvement)

Joe – Wetland Seminar was well attended

Bill - US DEA – Pharmaceutical Collections taking place around the county. New Paltz, Check website for updated locations. Ulster County Health Department are doing Lead Safe Training for Contractors.

Cindy Lanzetta – November 5th, NYS Greenway Trail Conference. Registration required. \$20 includes lunch. November 16th from 3-6 LWV Solid Waste Conference. Both at SUNY New Paltz.

Motion to adjourn by Joe, seconded by Steve.

Meeting adjourned 8:45