

COUNTY OF ULSTER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

March 27, 2019 Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM

DRAFT Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Dave Haldeman, Shawangunk (Chair)
Mary O' Donnell, Saugerties
John Sansalone, Gardiner
Kristen Schara, Hurley

Virginia Starke, At Large
Mark Ellison, Esopus
Ken Panza, At Large

Members Absent:

William More, At Large
Margot Becker, At Large (Vice Chair)
Eric Stewart, Marbletown
Emilie Hauser, Kingston

Jim Mays, Olive
Jim Littlefoot, New Paltz
Sarah Underhill, Wawarsing

Guests: *Amanda Wolfson, UC Environment*
Lorraine Farina, Kingston CAC
Melissa Everett, Sustainable Hudson Valley, Presenter
Pari Ara Marquez, Sustainable Hudson Valley, Student Intern

1. **Called to Order- 6:35 pm;** no quorum was present
2. **February Minutes-** Minutes were tabled, no quorum
3. **Presentation** Melissa Everett from Sustainable Hudson Valley, *Charting the Course toward Drawdown: Projects & Possibilities* Melissa briefly spoke about refrigerant management being the #1 climate solutions according to *Drawdown* and how the phaseout and proper disposal of 'bad' refrigerants is not occurring. She also spoke about the local issues that are being addressed by Sustainable Hudson Valley including solarize, drive electric, heat source issues. She also spoke about the newer community based approach being more nimble than solarize and introduced the *Clean Power Guide*, an action oriented approach.
4. **Old Business**
 - I. Danskammer update
The EMC comments on the Danskammer project were submitted. The date for public comments was extended until March 29. Ken will resubmit EMC letter. The pre-application process commences on April 3.
 - II. UC Climate Action Plan
Dave, Mark, Emily, and Ken submitted comments on the UC Climate Action Plan.
Dave met with New York State Senators Metzger and Skoufis on the NYS Climate Action Plan.

5. New Business

- I. Election of Officers- *postponed, no quorum present*
- II. Plastic Bag Ban Related Event

Brief update on the progression of the Ulster County 'Bring Your Own Bag' (BYOB) Act and possible preemption from the proposed NY State bill.

- III. Presentation of Ulster County 2019 MS4 Annual Report.
An overview of the report was presented and summary shared with attending participants. Questions on what (and who) is an MS4 were answered.

6. Dept of the Environment Update

The UC Water Quality Coordinating Committee held its second meeting on March 25
2018 UC Green Fleet Report was submitted to the UC Legislature
UC has been granted funding through NYSERDA to conduct a "Transit Fleet Electrification Feasibility Study"

7. UC Legislature and Other Updates

No updates. No one present attended UC Legislative committee meetings.

8. Roundabout

Mary, Saugerties- Working on Climate Action plan; GoSmart GoGreen fair May 4; Solar array at landfill; converting all muni street lights to LED by mid-year.

John, Gardiner- Green fair in March was well attended; local wetlands law still being worked on.

Kristen, Hurley- looking into implementing a residential composting program similar to Saugerties; conducting a monthly Environmental movie night to try to renew interest in CAC.

Lorraine, Kingston- NRI open space project in draft review; looking to address air quality issues pertaining to wood and bio-mass burning.

Ken, Woodstock- Project Drawdown forum was held; working on town climate action plan; updated town carbon footprint; contracted with Natural Power Group to get 90% of energy including from Wappinger Falls hydro.

Mark, Esopus- Comprehensive plan completed; started Stormwater management and Climate Smart task forces; involved with Dyno-Nobel brownfield cleanup; Earth Day event April 27.

Dave, Shawangunk- Central Hudson working on street light conversion to LED.; Climate Smart Committee is in its infancy.

9. MOTION to adjourn, made by Mary O'Donnell, seconded by John Sansalone at 8:19 pm