



# Broome County Environmental Management Council

Debra A. Preston, County Executive

## Broome County Environmental Management Council (EMC) Notes from meeting held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 Exhibit Room, Broome County Public Library 185 Court Street Binghamton, NY 13901

### Present:

**Members at Large:** Bill Heaviside, Tony Lubzanski, Zack Smith, Erin Heard, Adam Flint, Marley Urdanik, Chris Burger

**CAC Reps:** Cindy Westermen, André LaClair

**Staff:** Beth Egitto, BC Planning

**Associate Members:** Julia Hoover

**Other:** Tom Evans (STERPDB) and Natalie Limbach

1. The meeting was **convened at 4:40pm**. Review of minutes, Andre made a motion to approve. Bill points out a typo in section 3 to be fixed. Julia seconds Andre's motion. All in favor. Motion approved.
2. **Privilege of the Floor/Announcements/Member Item of Interest**
  - Beth announced that the draft of the Susquehanna-Chemung Action Plan is complete. It was passed around for viewing. **Tom Evans** from Southern Tier East Regional Planning and Development Board spoke about the plan. It addresses 11 key issues relevant to watershed management. The data atlas/links can be found online as well as a discussion of data found and Implementation suggestions. Questions and a discussion followed about watershed issues; drainage, flood prevention/mitigation. The group discussed the importance of targeting areas that are at high flood risk/in the flood plain.
  - Cyndi announced that the Sierra Club will be holding a meeting on Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30pm at the Central United Methodist Church in Endicott. Mayor Matt Ryan will be there to speak about the City of Binghamton's moratorium on drilling.
  - Erin Heard spoke about Headwaters River Trail Group. It appears that funding will be available so that the group can apply for funds toward the development of a Headwaters River Trail Map and Guide. The project has been in the works for a while, however, funding was not available.
  - Chris Burger mentioned that if the group is interested he has a presentation prepared about reducing your carbon footprint, zero waste and energy efficiency. Beth mentioned that this could be part of a series regarding these topics. The group will consider plans to put this on the meeting schedule.
3. **Committee and CAC Reports**
  - Natural Resources Committee- There was seven people at the last meeting where Dylan Horvath from the BU nature preserve spoke about deer culling. Bill explained the goals

of the University and that committee members decided to wait for more information before taking action. Beth circulated information that Dylan sent providing more information about how they came up with the plan. The group agreed with the Committee's assessment.

- Vestal CAC- Cindy reported that the group met on January 19<sup>th</sup>. They discussed Parks issues and problems with drilling. She also discussed a presentation that was held at the Town regarding hydrofracking.
- Fenton CAC- Andre noted that the group met on September 7<sup>th</sup>. They have one new member who is an environmental engineer. The committee reviewed their annual report, open space plan and discussed the completion of forms for submittal of the Open Space Plan for 239 review.

#### 4. **Membership and Administrative Items**

- Beth gave updates about the Joyce K.L. Smith Environmental Photography Competition. The print shop will have posters and brochures completed soon. The entry deadline is set for April 4<sup>th</sup>. Opening reception will be May 16<sup>th</sup> in the exhibit room of the Broome County library. The group discussed the possibility of having an EMC member be a judge and also the possibility that the Chamber of Commerce could participate.
- March meeting planning- Marley and Adam will give a presentation regarding the Green Jobs Green New York program at the meeting (Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup>). Members had suggested holding an evening event along with a social hour to attract new members. Lost Dog's Violet room was brought up as a possible location. Tom Evans volunteered to find out more information about prices/catering. The social hour would be from 6pm-7pm and then the presentation would go from 7pm-8:30pm. [*Editor's note: The alternate location did not work out. Meeting was scheduled for 6pm at the Library*]
- 2012 Work Plan- Action items were added, all members like the work plan item. Under the speaker suggestions, Adam Flint suggested Pete Grill as a speaker from a local geothermal company called Meadowlands Geothermal.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm. **Next meeting:** Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup>, time and location TBA. [*Editor's note: Meeting was scheduled for 6pm at the Library in the Decker Room*]