

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Nicole Laible
Executive Director

Natalie Patasaw
Chair

Rockland County Environmental Management Council (EMC)

Carbon Reduction Working Group (CRWG)

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: March 8, 2022 / 5:30 pm

Location: Virtual meeting

Members present: Chana Friedenber, Darwin Keung, Glenn Sungela
Staff: Nicole Laible, Charlotte Ramsey

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm.
2. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.
3. Motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2021 CRWG meeting was made by Darwin, seconded by Chana, and passed unanimously at 5:37 pm.
4. New Business

The CRWG acknowledged the establishment of the Rockland County Building and Codes Department for the Village of Spring Valley, and noted the Department may qualify for High Impact Action (HIA) items Unified Solar Permit and Energy Code Enforcement Training in NYSEDA's Clean Energy Community (CEC) program. If so then completing one of these HIAs along with County-Sponsored Training, 100% renewable electricity, and PACE Financing would enable the County to be a designated CEC and eligible for a \$5,000 grant. The CRWG and staff agreed to contact Carla Castillo, Deputy Executive Director and Mid-Hudson Clean Energy Communities Manager, to confirm if the County Building and Codes Department qualifies.

Rockland County is offering four training opportunities in March and April, two of which - Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan, and Overview of the Model Solar Law - are courses in the CEC County-Sponsored Training HIA. Per Adam Carsen, Associate Planner in the Rockland County Department of Planning, these trainings are being offered so the County qualifies for the County-Sponsored HIA and earns points toward being eligible for points-based

grant money. A motion was made by Glenn, seconded by Darwin, and passed unanimously at 6:05pm to ask the EMC to send a communication to Supervisors and Mayors in the County encouraging them to send at least one staff member to the trainings. The communication would be done in coordination with the Planning Department and would include information about the EMC and membership opportunities.

The CRWG discussed how to make more progress on its 'asks' of the County, such as identifying the County's number of street lights and access to the County's 100% renewable electricity agreement. The CRWG discussed the County's plan to hire a Sustainability Consultant, if and how to influence the Consultant's roles and responsibilities, how the Consultant would interact with the EMC, and what the CRWG should continue to advise and advocate for ahead of the Consultant hiring. CRWG members agreed to reflect on the approaches it could take and solicit input from the full EMC at its next meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Chana, seconded by Darwin, and passed unanimously at 6:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn Sungela.