

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Nicole Laible, *Executive Director*
Natalie Patasaw, Chairperson
Glenn Sungela, Vice-Chairperson
Chana Friedenber, Recording Secretary
Darwin Keung, Corresponding Secretary

Joanna Galdone
Gillian Ballard
Ryan Goolic
Bill Herguth
Catherine Mazzocchi

Environmental Management Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 23, 2022

Time: 5:00pm

Location: Virtual meeting

A virtual meeting of the Rockland County Environmental Management Council (EMC) was held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. Video and audio portions of the meeting were recorded.

Members Present: Chana Friedenber, Joanna Galdone, Natalie Patasaw, Catherine Mazzocchi, Glenn Sungela, Gillian Ballard, Darwin Keung

Members Excused:

Staff: Nicole Laible, Principal Assistant County Attorney Charlotte Ramsey

Public: James Kraus

Members Absent: Bill Herguth

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm. Roll call was conducted, no quorum at the time. Quorum was met at 5:05pm.
2. Motion to approve the minutes from January 2022 made by Glenn, seconded by Catherine, and unanimous vote.
3. Chairperson's Report:
 - a. PFAS in water coalition
 - i. Working on legislation to ban PFAS in manufactured products; to identify PFAS chemicals; ban incineration
 - b. 100 % renewable energy – EMC to weigh in to support municipalities contracting for opt-out
 - c. Spring clean ups with students and Keep Rockland Beautiful
 - d. Rockland Water Study Committee to create informational forum on public ownership of Rockland Water
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- a. Earth Day tabling on behalf of EMC & Haverstraw event both on 4/23
 - b. Conservation field days
 - c. Creative Arts contest – taking location and date requests
5. Working Group & Special Project Updates:
- a. Native / Invasive Working Group
 - i. Propose changes to online content – motion to approve changes to invasive species information by Glenn, second by Catherine, unanimous vote.
 - b. Carbon Reduction Working Group
 - i. Trainings for planning board members will help County quality for CEC points. EMC can help via CRWG to circulate the event information to boost attendance. Motion to support letter written by EMC correspondence secretary by Glenn, second by Catherine, unanimous vote.
 - c. Communications Working Group
 - i. Creative Arts Contest outreach flier and topic refinement
 - ii. Motion to accept flier with correction made by Gillian, second by Joanna, unanimous vote.
6. New Business
7. Member Updates:
- a. Joanna: baby oysters were found during a visit to the Hudson River which is nice to see the biodiversity back and is a showcase of improved water quality.
 - b. Gillian: piece of woodland up for development in New City, open space location will be approved for development.
8. Public Presentations: None
9. Next Meeting Date – April 27th, 2022.
10. Meeting closed at 6:14 pm. Natalie left at 5:51pm and ended quorum then.

Respectfully submitted,

Chana Friedenbergl, EMC Recording Secretary