



SCHENECTADY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, October 24th, 2023

Time: 5:00 PM

Place:

Meeting Information:

SCEAC Meeting
Tuesday, October 24th • 5:00 – 6:00 PM

SCEAC Members Please email Heather Ipsen (ipsenh93@gmail.com) or Portia Zwicker (zwickerp@gmail.com) as soon as you determine your availability.

SCEAC Minutes

October 24th 2023

Present:

Portia Zwicker

Heather Ipsen

Leg. Pratt

Leg. Ruzzo

Charlie Davidson

Grace Stearns (Guest)

Substantive/Topical Meeting Agenda

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------------|
| I. | Privilege of the Floor (Guests) | 10 minutes |
| II. | Agenda Additions or Modifications (Council Members) | 2 minutes |
| III. | Project, Standing Committee, Commission, and Liaison Reports | |
| A. | Glenville Wolf Hollow Project - Charlie Story | 5 Minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trail is open, there's a sign (made by Nick) to show where it is.Kudos to all who were/are involved | |
| B. | CSC Task Force Updates - Charlie Davidson | 5 Minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural Resource Inventory info still hasn't been sent out, but it's in the works<ul style="list-style-type: none">Town of Nisky received a grant from DEC to do this at the town level. Ashok is willing to help with the countywide project.Subcommittee will be formed soonBuilding energy audits to come - the audits may be free, even if the work is notTracking goals - looking over the current ones, a lot of them will be related to tracking emissions, so we won't know much about how on track we are until the data is entered in Energy Star. | |
| C. | Pesticide Policy Update | 2 Minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution was passed at the last meeting.Charlie brought this forward at the County Manager meetings with department heads, so it should be going before Committee Nov 8th. This will be the official vote.Formation on a subcommittee on pesticides? Need to verify process for formation of subcommittees... | |
| D. | Follow up on Skip the Stuff (STS) Campaign - Portia Zwicker | 2 Minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Portia is in touch with Nancy, who met with Legislator OstrellichFeedback (via Leg. Pratt): the idea of imposing fines on businesses isn't of interest because it would be a drain on DOH resources and generally is viewed as a negative impact on businesses; however, it would be great to have an educational component and/or positive reinforcement. We could provide swag (e.g. label, sticker, etc.) to climate-friendly restaurants of Schenectady who set the standard.Subcommittee could help with positive reinforcement and involve other | |

organizations like Discover Schenectady

Administrative Agenda

- I. Secretary's Report** 2 Minutes
- II. Treasurer's Report** 1 Minute
 - T-shirt coordination - email Kathy Fisher, Charlie Davidson, and Tom Bellick
- III. Executive Committee**
 - A. Orientation to SCEAC Review 3 Minutes
 - a. Thanks Alex! Slides are available if folks are interested.
 - B. Meet Grace Stearns 5 Minutes
 - a. Welcome Grace!
 - b. Senior at Union, Political Sci & Sociology, coursework in Environmental Science
 - c. Invasive species committee experience, involved in Union's sustainability work/groups as well, extensive advocacy work,
 - d. Vote TBD, but Portia has her resume.
 - C. Next projects? 5 Minutes
 - Upper Union St - yard waste pickup trucks idling. Is there a Schenectady County idling policy?
 - Note that diesel trucks "idle clean" - Leg, Pratt recommends reaching out to Paul S. from the County to start a conversation on this
 - Larger scale education on idling might be a good idea too
- VII. Upcoming Meetings and Events of Interest** 5 Minutes
 - A. Pumpkin Smash - 11/4 Schenectady High School 10am-noon
 - B. Household Hazardous Waste - SCCC 11/11 8:30-11:30am
 - C. Next meeting 11/21 at 5pm
- XI. Adjourn**