



SCHENECTADY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: Webex

SCEAC Agenda

December 3rd, 2024

In Attendance: Portia Zwicker, Heather Ipsen, Josh Johnson, Donna Esposito, Joe P., Amelia Keese, Bob Titus, Jasenya McCauley, Khila Pecoraro, Charlie Davidson, Ryan Szepek, Alex Lykins

Absent: Dan Carrigan, Sharon Carter, Jack Hagerty, Shaine Hogan, Rhonda O'Brien, Ashok Ramasubram, Kathy Fisher, Chelsea Rattner

Meeting called to order at 5:03PM

Substantive/Topical Meeting Agenda

- | | |
|---|------------|
| I. Privilege of the Floor (Guests) | 10 minutes |
| None | |
| II. Agenda Additions or Modifications (Council Members) | 2 minutes |
| None | |
| III. Approval of last meeting's minutes | |
| ○ Modifications: None | |
| ○ Motion to Approve: Portia; Second by Bob | |
| ○ Minutes approved | |
| IV. Project, Standing Committee, Commission, and Liaison Reports | |
| A. CSC Task Force Updates - Charlie Davidson | 5 minutes |
| ○ Approved for Flex Tech allocations for energy study on courthouse building | |
| ○ Grants for electric vehicles for 2026-27: waiting on quotes from the person who oversees fleet from the dealership; NYSERDA may be able to supplement some of the funding | |
| ○ EPA grant submitted to fund upgrades to composting facility so it can take food scraps along with yard waste | |
| B. Natural Resources Inventory - Nick Klemczak | 5 minutes |
| ● No updates provided | |
| C. Pesticide subcommittee meeting - Charlie Davidson | 5 minutes |
| ○ Had a meeting scheduled with Steve Luciano to discuss, but meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled in the near future | |
| D. Restaurant Sustainability - Portia Zwicker/Heather Ipsen | 2 minutes |
| ● Heather and Portia are working with Nancy Tudor and Discover Schenectady | |
| ○ The original idea was to create a list of achievements for restaurants to receive a certification, like Climate Smart Communities but geared toward restaurant sustainability | |
| ○ The group ended up simplifying the idea to three main areas for restaurants to check off to get certified: (1) plastic wear by request only, | |

(2) bring your own cup/mug, and (3) provide reusable dishware/silverware/cups for customers dining in

- Discover Schenectady will put it on their website to feature sustainable restaurants
- Hoping to get the process rolling in the new year; met with Todd from Discover Schenectady and have a draft, working to submit to restaurants

Administrative Agenda

- I. Treasurer's Report** 5 minutes
- T-shirt update - SCEAC logos, potential vote
 - SCEAC logo: small changes requested
 - Jasenya sent an updated version mid-meeting
 - Portia moved to adopt the logo; second from Ryan
 - Vote: unanimous yes to adopt
 - Need to fill Treasurer role - volunteers/nominations 2 minutes
 - Alex willing to train someone
 - Taking volunteers for the role; will need to write up an internal resolution
 - Charlie will find out which roles can be filled by whom, depending on how long their appointments are
- II. Executive Committee**
- Open Meetings Law 5 minutes
 - Alex: ensuring meeting times, recordings, and minutes are posted in a timely manner
 - Minutes will be posted pre-approval, then re-uploaded if changes need to be made
 - State of the Environment and Annual Report 5 minutes
 - State of the Environment hasn't been completed in a few years, goal is to complete this upcoming year
 - Annual Report due March 1st
 - Other positions on the Exec Committee 5 minutes
 - Room for issue leaders if there is a desire, otherwise can maintain current sub-committees as they are
- III. Upcoming Meetings and Events of Interest** 5 minutes
- Decide on new meeting cadence 5 minutes
 - Portia and Heather will send out poll to check which days/times work best
 - Attendance policy (need to keep record of who's absent)
 - Need to ensure members are attending and staying active
 - Heather: Your participation is valued and we appreciate everyone's input; we want to make sure everyone is at these meetings
 - May pass a resolution soon to ensure there is a plan in place for numerous absences
 - Capital District ReUse Center Public Info Session, 12/11 at 7pm, Albany Unitarian Universalist Society 5 minutes
 - Next meeting would be January 28th if we maintain current meeting cadence
- XI. Adjourn at 5:59**