

**SCHENECTADY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**Date:**        **Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025**

**Time:**        **5:00 PM**

**Place:**        **Webex**

# SCEAC Agenda

## January 22nd, 2025

**In Attendance:** Portia Zwicker, Heather Ipsen, Khila Pecoraro, Charlie Davidson, Ryan Szepek, Amelia Keese, Josh Johnson, Sasha Malik, Donna Esposito, Jasenya McCauley, Alex Lykens, Chelsea Rattner, Shelby Bryson, Ashok Ramasubamanian

**Absent:** Bob Titus, Kathy Fisher, Jack Hagerty, Nick Klemczak

### Substantive/Topical Meeting Agenda

**Meeting begins at 5:05PM**

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|--|------------|
| <b>I. Privilege of the Floor</b> (Guests)  | 10 minutes |
| A. None  |            |
| <b>II. Agenda Additions or Modifications</b> (Council Members)   | 2 minutes  |
| A. None at this time; see additional item G below  |            |
| <b>III. Approval of last meeting's minutes</b>   |            |
| A. Portia: motion to approve: Josh: second; unanimous approval   |            |
| <b>IV. Project, Standing Committee, Commission, and Liaison Reports</b>  |            |
| <u>A. CSC Task Force Updates - Charlie Davidson</u>  | 5 minutes  |
| • Contract being set for building energy studies; quotes being received for electric vehicle fleet   |            |
| • EV charging stations: The county is looking to install 4 new stations at the DMV and Schenectady Business Center. LynkWell knows of possible funding sources for new stations. The county is also looking at installing DC Fast Charging Stations, however they may not be free due to their features. |            |
| • Sasha, Khila's intern, will begin to look into CSC actions that we can take moving forward   |            |
| <u>B. Pesticide subcommittee meeting - Charlie Davidson</u>  | 5 minutes  |
| • Charlie is working on setting a meeting with Steve Luciano   |            |
| <u>C. Natural Resources Inventory - Ashok Ramasubamanian</u>   | 5 minutes  |
| • Pro bono consult will be meeting with the sub-committee to discuss funding for such a project; Nick has found a possible funding opportunity for this  |            |
| <u>D. Restaurant Sustainability - Portia Zwicker/Heather Ipsen</u>   | 2 minutes  |
| • Next meeting is this upcoming Monday with Nancy and Discover Schenectady; a flyer has been designed to go to restaurants explaining the program; details are still being decided   |            |
| <u>E. Textile waste collection program - Jasenya McCauley</u>  | 5 minutes  |
| • Does textile recycling exist? Is it effective? Could we make jobs and money within the county? Jasenya will be continuing her research project to answer these questions and further develop effective programs in the county.   |            |
| • Goals for this program:  |            |
| ○ Identify the scope of textile waste in Schenectady County  |            |
| ○ Evaluate potential for textile recycling programs  |            |
| ○ Explore community awareness and education  |            |

- Examine economic and environmental benefits of this program
- Recommending actionable items for textile waste
- Jasenya will collect emails from those interested in talking more about this topic

F. Community Reuse Center - Jasenya McCauley 5 minutes

- February 11th 5:30-7:30PM at Schenectady County Public Library- McChesney Room
- This is the third of six meetings in the Capital Region to discuss the topic

G. Additional Item: Invasive Worms in Vale

- SCCC has used Vale park for research, now an invasive worm has pushed out native earthworms; Josh is in touch with Vale Cemetery

### **Administrative Agenda**

**I. Treasurer's Report** 5 minutes

- Welcome Josh Johnson, our new treasurer
  - Potential use of funds: holding public forum to increase awareness and participation from residents and/or local organizations

**II. Executive Committee**

- State of the Environment and Annual Report 5 minutes
  - Currently being worked on. Annual review is due in March
  - Portia is gathering data
- Open at-large positions- 4 available 5 minutes
  - If you know anyone who may be interested, send them to Portia and Heather
- Attendance policy (need to keep record of who's absent) 5 minutes

**III. Upcoming Meetings and Events of Interest**

- Feb 1 Repair Cafe at Electric City Barn 10AM-2PM
- Feb 6 Schenectady Environmental Education Summit at Union College
- Feb 8 Sycamore Collaborative Seed Share 12-3:30
- Feb 11 Community Reuse Center Meeting 5:30-7:30 Downtown Library Branch

Next SCEAC meeting is Feb 26th and will be hybrid

**XI. Adjourn - Meeting ends at 5:56**