

EMC Final Notes
May 8, 4:00 p.m.
EMC-CAC Annual Get-Together at Stewart Park

Attendance

| Member | | Seat | Member | | Seat |
|--------------------|---|------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Dan Antonioli | A | At-Large | Susan Riley | P | At-Large |
| Steve Bissen | E | Town of Dryden | Barry Siebe | A | Town of Groton |
| Christine Collins | P | Town of Ulysses | Elaine Tietjen | P | At-Large |
| Cait Darfler | P | At-Large | Brad Will | P | At-Large |
| Edward Dubovi | P | Town of Lansing | Ingrid Zabel | P | Town of Ithaca |
| Ace Dufresne | P | Student 1 | Jack Zinda | P | At-Large |
| Thomas Hirasuna | P | At-Large | <i>Brian Wendel</i> | P | <i>Associate</i> |
| Siobhan Hull | P | City of Ithaca | <i>Anne Koreman</i> | P | <i>Legislative Liaison</i> |
| Peter McDonald | P | Town of Danby | Darby Kiley | E | Tompkins Co. staff |
| Melissa Millsbaugh | P | Town of Enfield | Kristin McCarthy | | Tompkins Co. staff |
| Steve Nicholson | P | Town of Caroline | | | |

Guests: Lori Brewer, Nick Goldsmith, Guillermo Metz, Renee Owens Naomi Cator-Szymanski

EMC members, municipal conservation advisory board and commission members, and other guests convened for their annual exchange of ideas and updates. Following introductions, attendees shared initiatives currently being undertaken by their organizations. Key discussion topics included strategies for involving municipalities in prioritizing Unique Natural Areas for conservation, updates on the EMC's environmental directory, and public engagement opportunities. Legislator Annie Koreman recommended reviewing Chief Sustainability Officer Terry Carroll's recent County Legislature presentation on sustainability initiatives, and group discussed exploring potential collaborations with other organizations, including the Tompkins County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Fish & Wildlife Board, Sierra Club, and more. Additional topics covered the draft 2026 Tompkins County budget, Center of Government updates, a Verizon lawsuit against the Town of Ithaca regarding cell tower variance, and concerns about data centers.