

**EMC Minutes**  
**June 8, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom**

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**Attendance**

Member		Seat	Member		Seat
George Adams	P	Town of Danby	Regi Teasley	P	At-Large
Steve Bissen	E	Town of Dryden	Jeff Walker	A	Village of Cayuga Heights
Christine Collins	P	Town of Ulysses	Brad Will	E	At-Large
Tom Corey	P	Village of Dryden	David Wolfe	P	Town of Lansing
Cait Darfler	P	Village of Trumansburg	Ingrid Zabel	P	Town of Ithaca
Marc Devokaitis	A	At-Large	Anne Koreman	P	Legislative Liaison
Pegi Ficken	E	Town of Groton	Lindsay Dombroskie	A	Associate Member
Melanie Greaver Cordova	P	At-Large	Karen Edelstein	A	Associate Member
Brandon Hoak	E	At-Large	Jason Fenn	A	Associate Member
Rick Neville	A	Village of Groton	Joey Gates	P	Associate
Steve Nicholson	P	Town of Caroline	Thomas Hirasuna	P	Associate Member
Susan Riley	P	At-Large	David Weinstein	A	Associate Member
Larry Sallinger	P	At-Large	Robert Wesley	A	Associate Member
Lisa Strayer	P	At-Large	Darby Kiley	P	Tompkins Co. staff
Ron Szymanski	E	Village of Freeville	Kristin McCarthy	P	Tompkins Co. staff

5 **Guests:** Peter Penniman

6 **Call to Order** – Chair Cait Darfler called meeting to order at 4:02pm.

7 **Agenda Review/Public Comment** – Cait gave an overview of the agenda.

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9 **Approval of Minutes** – The draft May 2023 minutes (motion by Regi Teasley, second by Susan Riley)  
 10 were approved as submitted with one minor change to attendance chart. (David Wolfe was incorrectly  
 11 marked absent.)

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13 **Presentation/Discussion: Legal Aspects of a Circular Economy Business** – *Joey Diana Gates, Dish Truck*  
 14 Joey spent the first few minutes talking about her personal and professional background and how both  
 15 led to her founding the Dish Truck with the primary mission of reducing solid waste and other  
 16 environmental impacts at events. Her talk and subsequent discussion covered multiple topics related to  
 17 food and energy in a circular economy. These included water heating and treating, gray water and NYS  
 18 health regulations and other codes, composting regulations, energy loads, extended producer  
 19 responsibility policy recommendations for incentivizing a circular economy, financial modeling, and  
 20 more.

21 **Executive Committee Report** – BlocPower staffers will present at July EMC meeting. There will be no  
 22 meeting in August. Preparations continue for Conference on the Environment 2023 (Sept. 20-22). Cait  
 23 shared link to conference sponsorship spreadsheet and asked members to pass along recommendations  
 24 for organizations to contact. Members were reminded to submit environmental events and other items  
 25 of interest to Tompkins EMC Green Scene. Committee signed letter in support of Seneca Lake Guardians

26 request that DEC include the public in the triennial review of NYS water quality standards and adopt  
27 numeric water quality standards for PFOS and PFOAS. EMC 2024 budget requests need to be submitted  
28 this month.  
29

30 **Committee Updates** – Education & Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers to table at Just  
31 Transition/Get Your GreenBack celebration at Stewart Park on July 8. Consulting botanist Robert Wesley  
32 is wrapping up fieldwork for Unique Natural Areas and committee is pinning down budget details and  
33 outreach methods. Climate Adaptation Committee continues developing excessive heat and flooding  
34 education initiatives.  
35

36 **Municipal Update: Town of Danby** – George Adams

37 George provided an overview of the Town of Danby, highlighting key aspects of its history, topography,  
38 demographics, and current issues of concern to residents. His report focused on the town's efforts to  
39 preserve its rural character, enact tax rules for conservation easements, and plans to revise the current  
40 comprehensive plan and develop a wastewater study to plan required utilities for dense zones.  
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42 **Additional Municipal Reports (as needed)** – Tom shared Dryden Dairy Days is coming up this weekend.  
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44 **Staff Report (as needed)** – Committee budget requests for 2024 are due asap. Department is exploring  
45 NYS Consolidated Funding Application grant opportunities.  
46

47 **Member Announcements** – Natural Resources Defense Council will report on #SkipTheStuff legislation  
48 at the June 22 Planning, Energy, and Environmental Quality Committee meeting. In addition, there is a  
49 member-filed resolution in opposition of Seneca Meadows landfill expansion on the agenda. Joey  
50 announced that she'll be taking a break from EMC.

51 **Adjournment** – Chair Cait Darfler adjourned the meeting at 5:19pm.