



**Climate Smart Kingston Commission**  
420 Broadway  
Kingston, NY 12401  
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**Minutes to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission Meeting, August 30, 2017**  
**Kingston City Hall, Council Chambers 4:30-6:00 PM**

**Commission Members (Voting):** Elizabeth Broad, Pat Courtney Strong (not present), Michael D'Arcy (not present), Emilie Hauser, Nick Hvozda, Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Sarina Pepper, Karen Sullivan, John Wackman, Casey Schwarz

**Commission Members (Non-Voting):** Amanda LaValle (Ulster County Dept of the Environment; excused)

**Ex-Officio Members:** Suzanne Cahill (Kingston Planning Dept.; not present), Brenna Robinson (Kingston Community & Economic Development), Julie Noble (Kingston Parks & Recreation, Commission Chairperson), Bill Carey (City of Kingston Common Council- not present), NYS Assembly Member Kevin Cahill represented by Jillian Nodiak (not present), Kingston City Engineer (not present), Joe Chenier (Kingston Dept of Public Works; not present)

**Guests:** David Bruner, Ed Pollin, Kayzelle Pepper

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:41pm. No public comment at this time.
- II. Review and Approval July 2017 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Casey Schwarz and seconded by Commissioner Sarina Pepper, the voting commissioners presented unanimously approved the minutes to the July meeting.
- III. Old Business:** None
- V. New Business**
  - 1. 65-85 Rondout Landing (East Strand) Development Proposal Review:** An overview of the CAC comment process, which is advisory in nature, was provided by the Chairperson. Regarding this specific project, the CAC thought that CSK might wish to look at this development project. Commissioner Emilie Hauser is drafting a letter on behalf of the CAC. Project status at Planning Board and Heritage Area Commission was discussed. The developer's architect and engineer has presented to the board planning and the Heritage Area Commission. Two recommendations are (1) a hydraulic analysis regarding effect on adjacent properties and (2) including allowances for sea level rise in the elevation pursuant to the Tidal Rondout Sea Level Rise Task Force recommendations. Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Sarina Pepper and seconded by Commissioner Karen Sullivan, the Commissioners present approved that a joint letter from CAC and CSK as drafted by Commissioner Emile Hauser including the two recommendations above, as edited by the Commission, be sent to Planning.
  - 2. Social Media and Outreach Strategy:** The Commission Facebook page was discussed. There are presently 395 "Likes". Commissioner Sarina Pepper offered to be an administrator together with Commissioners Betta Broad, and Mike D'Arcy. A City representative, Megan Weiss-Rowe, will also be included as administrator. Procedure is that suggested posts can be sent to an administrator. It is hoped that one post per week can be made. Each post should have an image. Scope of posts includes matters covered by the Climate Action Plan but excluding advocacy. Posts from private vendors promoting sustainable products should require an endorsement disclaimer. City has information on the City website. Liz LoGuidice is developing a web presence resulting from the Sea Level Rise Learning Group process to create a web presence. Link to the page is: <https://www.facebook.com/climatesmartkingstonny/>

3. **Joint Energy Efficiency and Solarize Campaign:** Commissioner John Wackman provided a brief report but since Commissioner Mike D'Arcy is not present, asked discussion be tabled.

## VI. Announcements/Communications/Events/Updates

1. **Sustainability grants updates:** The NYSERDA grant covering City Hall upgrades was discussed. Electric Vehicle charging stations status and proposed locations were reported by the Chair. The Fleet manager status was also discussed. The Natural Resource Inventory/Open Space Index is winding down and the open space plan will be starting soon.
2. **Sustainable Saturday Planning Team:** Commissioner Betta Broad reported that the focus is on National Drive Electric Week and will be held on September 9 at the County Building parking lot. Commissioner John Wackman reported on electric vehicle promotions.
3. **Portfolio Manager Benchmarking and Energy Tracking:** Commissioner Nick Hvozda requested that the subject be tabled.
4. **Conference on the Environment Planning:** The event has been changed to November 17 & 18 at the Chateau (formerly Hillside Manor). Topics are expected to include clean transport and energy as well as conservation planning for economic development.
5. **Residential Energy Efficiency Campaign Working Group:** Brenna Robinson discussed possibility of grant funding with respect to energy efficiency improvements. The working group met recently including Commissioners Betta Broad, Karen Sullivan and Emilie Hauser. An event focusing on residential energy efficiency improvements for homeowners was discussed as well as coordination with Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission. An event may possibly be held late October.
6. **Mid-Hudson Street Light Consortium:** Matter was tabled.
7. **Ulster County Climate Smart Committee:** Commissioners Betta Broad reported on the last meeting held on August 28. Discussion with MannaJo Greene concerned a possible energy position at the County. New charging stations are to be installed in New Paltz.
8. **Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group:** Final meeting of the present series was held on August 29 at Long Dock in Beacon. Discussions concerned next steps with the same four communities (Kingston, Piermont, Stony Point and Catskill) and whether additional communities could be included.
9. **Sustainable Storefront:** Commissioner Betta Broad reported that the first screening, entitled "From the Ashes", was held on August 29. Events will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month. September 26 will be the next event with MannaJo Greene presenting.
10. **Solar Campaigns:** Commissioner John Wackman reported on campaigns and that the Public Service Commission is allowing solar credits regarding demand charges on commercial accounts, which will benefit commercial property owners.
11. **Flooding Webinar:** Commissioner Emilie Hauser reported that a DEC webinar entitled "Building Flood Resiliency at the Local Level" would be held September 14 at 10:30 to 12 noon.  
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/bulletins/1b40c88>
12. **Renewable Heat Technology:** Commissioner Betta Broad announced that an event regarding renewable heat technology is to be held September 12 at the Reformed Church of New Paltz on Huguenot St including geothermal presentation.
13. **Repair Café:** Commissioner John Wackman reported that the next Repair Café is to be held on September 2 at St. Gregory Church in Woodstock at 10:00 AM.

- ## VII. Adjournment:
- Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Casey Schwarz and seconded by Commissioner Sarina Pepper, the Commissioners present unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:13PM

*Vision: The City of Kingston will be a 'Model City' of energy, environmental and economic sustainability by 2020 within city government operations and throughout the community.*