

**TOMPKINS COUNTY Climate and Sustainable Energy Advisory Board**  
**Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 4:00-6:00PM**  
**Final Minutes**  
**Meeting Facilitator: Danielle Eiseman**

**Attendance**

Member	Member	Staff
Andrea Aguirre	P Evan Hallas	P Terry Carroll P
Sara Culotta	P Tony Ingraffea (associate)*	A Hailley Delisle P
Veronica Pillar*	P Guillermo Metz	P Kristin McCarthy P
Brian Eden	P Alex Rakow (associate)*	P
Danielle Eiseman	P Sarah Schnabel	P
Rebecca Evans	P Irene Weiser	

\*Non-voting member

**Guests:** Peter Bardaglio, Gina Cassidy, Cait Darfler, Sara Hess, Anne Koreman, Gay Nicholson, Martha Robertson

**1. Call to Order/Agenda Review** – Moderator Danielle Eiseman called the meeting to order at 4:03pm and provided an overview of the agenda.

**2. Approval of Minutes** – The draft April 2023 minutes were approved (motion by Sara Culotta, second by Brian Eden) as submitted. Motion carried.

**3. Public Comment** – Cait Darfler, chair of the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council (EMC), spoke to the group about planning for the 2023 New York State Conference on the Environment. The Tompkins EMC will host the conference in Ithaca this coming September. Cait shared information regarding proposed conference tracks, speakers and presentations, field trips, social events, venues, sponsorships, and more. Board members and other attendees offered various recommendations.

**4. Member Updates** – Members reported on NYS legislation and budget, highlighting bills such as EmPowerPlus, which involves energy affordability, Building Public Renewables, and the NY Heat Act. Updates were also given on NYSEG rate case, the New York Geothermal Energy Organization’s annual conference, and the resolution urging New York State to pass a strong packaging reduction and recycling infrastructure act and expand the bottle bill.

**5. Report/Discussion: Mobile and Manufactured Housing Working Group Updates and Ongoing Work**  
 – Danielle Eiseman

Danielle updated the group on the mobile and manufactured housing working group, which first started gathering last fall. The group’s scope has broadened since its inception to explore not just improving energy efficiency and affordability for manufactured housing residents but other compounding issues of concern, such as flood risk and access to food, health services, medication, and transportation. Her report and the Q&A segment covered FEMA flood maps, options for low-cost flood insurance, model case studies, student-led efforts to gather risk and vulnerability data county-wide and analyze existing policies, legislator involvement, and next steps.

**6. Discussion: Submitting Public Comments on 10-year Update of NYS Solid Waste Management Plan**  
 – Brian Eden

Brian canvassed members to assess whether there was interest in submitting public comments on the 10-year update to the NYS Solid Waste Management Plan. Danielle offered to connect with him after the meeting about possible collaboration with Cornell Master of Public Administration students.

**7. Report/Discussion: Member Recruitment** – *Nominating Committee*

Nominating committee members updated group on developments since April CaSE meeting. Andrea, Sarah, and Irene met a couple of weeks prior to discuss board recruitment and outreach and identified six potential nominees. They framed conversation in terms of addressing immediate needs (filling vacant seats) and big-picture strategizing (mission, objective, missing areas of expertise among membership). The report and discussion covered desired member expertise and professional backgrounds, duties and expectations, engagement with legislature and county staff, developing recruitment materials, networking opportunities and more.

**8. Report/Discussion: Clean Energy Communities Grant Proposal: Induction Cooktops for Disadvantaged Communities** – *Hailley Delisle*

Hailley reported on a Clean Energy Communities grant proposal, “Improving Health with Portable Induction Cooktops,” which the Planning & Sustainability Department is developing collaboratively with the County Office for the Aging and Whole Health (specifically the Healthy Neighborhoods program) departments. The grant application as well as a request to authorize a letter of commitment from the “chief elected official” is scheduled for review and approval by PEEQ and the full Legislature. Hailley’s report and the subsequent discussion touched on application process, project development, target audience, collaboration with community partners, community outreach, NYSERDA funding, and more.

**9. Discussion: Request for 2024 County Budget (due by June 14 meeting)**

Group discussed possible asks for 2024 budget and County budget process in general. Covered topics included over target requests, expanded budget committee meeting timeline, and requesting resources for community outreach initiatives.

**10. Staff Report (as needed)**

No report.

**11. Meeting Wrap-up**

Guillermo will facilitate the June meeting. He will look into hosting it at Cooperative Extension.

**12. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm.