

**EMC Final Minutes**  
**Feb. 9, 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	P	Town of Dryden	Jeff Walker	E	Village of Cayuga Heights
Marley Bonacquist-Currin	P	At-Large	Brad Will	P	At-Large
Tom Corey	A	Village of Dryden	David Wolfe	P	Town of Lansing
Cait Darfler	P	Village of Trumansburg	Anne Koreman	E	Legislative Liaison
Marc Devokaitis	E	Town of Ulysses	Lindsay Dombroskie	P	Associate Member
Pegi Ficken	E	Town of Groton	Karen Edelstein	A	Associate Member
Melanie Greaver Cordova	P	At-Large	Jason Fenn	A	Associate Member
Brandon Hoak	P	At-Large	Joey Gates	E	Associate
Rick Neville	A	Village of Groton	Thomas Hirasuna	P	Associate Member
Steve Nicholson	P	Town of Caroline	David Weinstein	A	Associate Member
Stephanie Redmond	A	Town of Enfield	Robert Wesley	A	Associate Member
Susan Riley	P	At-Large	Darby Kiley	E	Tompkins Co. staff
Larry Sallinger	P	At-Large	Kristin McCarthy	P	Tompkins Co. staff
Ron Szymanski	A	Village of Freeville			

5 **Guests:** Abigail Conner, Agnes Guillo, Ingrid Zabel

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

7 **Agenda Review/Public Comment** – No changes to agenda. No public comment.

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9 **Approval of Minutes** – The draft January 2023 minutes were approved (motion by Regi Teasley, second  
 10 by Steve Bissen) as submitted.

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12 **Presentation/Discussion: Climate Reality Project** – Tom Hirasuna, Barbara Luka, Diane Stefani, Paula  
 13 Welling

14 Tom and his colleagues from the Climate Reality Project – Finger Lakes Chapter gave a talk on the Ithaca  
 15 Green New Deal Scorecard. Their presentation and subsequent discussion covered the roots of the  
 16 project, which began to grow via the Sunrise Movement at Ithaca College in 2019; its development  
 17 under the administration of former mayor Svante Myrick; foundational goals and timeline milestones;  
 18 partnerships with community organizations such as Ithaca 2030 District, Finger Lakes Climate Fund, and  
 19 others; scoring criteria and results auditing; and public outreach methods. Other topics included ways to  
 20 stay engaged and updated on scorecard progress, ways EMC can help get word out, district heating  
 21 systems, community choice aggregation, and continuity across elections.

22 **Executive Committee** – Cait Darfler

23 Cait reported on NYSAC conference planning, passage of resolution saluting former EMC chair Brian

24 Eden at County Legislature meeting, and outreach to municipal conservation advisory councils (CAC).  
25 Plans are in place to hold meeting at Stewart Park in May and invite CAC colleagues to attend.

26 **Committee Updates**

27 Climate Adaptation Committee is reviewing work from 2022 and developing goals for 2023. Flooding  
28 and excessive heat are two main areas of focus. Video from Fall 2022 outreach event has been edited.  
29 Education & Outreach Committee focused on supporting NYSAC conference planning, publishing and  
30 growing Tompkins Green Scene, and fostering public engagement, education, and outreach related to  
31 NYS legislation. UNA Committee making final boundary revisions and hopes to present revised inventory  
32 at NYSAC conference.

33 **Municipal Report: Village of Trumansburg** – *Cait Darfler*

34 Cait provided her EMC colleagues with a snapshot of the Village of Trumansburg and the various  
35 environmental issues that have historically been of concern to the community there and in many cases  
36 continue to be front of mind today. This included history of flooding, zoning revisions, land conservation,  
37 energy upgrades to municipal buildings and other infrastructure, water quality and conservation,  
38 wetlands protection, stormwater issues, responsible and sustainable development of village core, and  
39 more.

40 **Municipal Reports** – Municipal representatives shared news from their respective towns and villages.  
41 Items included Town of Lansing Open Space Index, as well as efforts by the town to improve  
42 communications with area farmers and public in general and among its various advisory boards, tax  
43 credits for conservation easements in Town of Danby, and Town of Ithaca’s planned garden tours and  
44 efforts to connect with local indigenous community members.

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46 **Staff Report** – Abigail updated group on FEMA flood insurance map process. Public meeting hosted by  
47 FEMA will likely take place later this spring. County is helping to coordinate, with FEMA taking lead.  
48 Department is hoping to receive BRIC grant funding by fall to support education and outreach efforts.  
49 She will keep EMC posted on ways they can help with messaging. Members asked questions related to  
50 content/style of FEMA meeting, getting word out to municipalities, complementary efforts by Climate  
51 Adaptation Committee, and more.

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53 **Member Announcements** – Members shared items of interest related to Earth Day events, Pollinator  
54 Pathways, Cayuga Lake Watershed Network’s Embrace the Lake initiative, glass recycling in the county,  
55 and more.

56 **Adjournment** – Chair Cait Darfler adjourned the meeting at 5:30pm.