

# Rosendale Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2026

Meeting Minutes, taken by Jenn Sturiale

## Present:

- Amie Worley, Chair
- Sean Nixon
- Penny Coleman
- Jenn Sturiale
- Darrell Hamlin, Vice Chair
- Rommia White
- Carrie Wykoff, Town Liaison
- **Guests:** Jean Strom, town resident & Elizabeth Holland (Rommia's friend)

- **Call to Order and Chair's Opening Remarks:**

- **Approval of Outstanding Minutes** *if quorum established:*

We moved this to the end of the agenda, to give Penny & Rommia time to show up for approval, but then didn't come back to it - oops.

- **Approval of Agenda:**

Sean requested to remove Tree Report for this month. Penny requested removing Community Solar for the month. Approved otherwise.

- **Membership updates & New member intro or proposals**

Jenn introduced Jean Strom, who may be interested in joining the EC.

- **Agenda item: Update from Carrie (Board liaison)**

- Carrie confirmed the process for using our EC funds. All items must be approved in advance by Jeanne Walsh. Submit a Purchase Order (PO) including items desired, vendor, and price to the town bookkeeper Taylor, who will send it on to Jeanne. Jenn outlined the process she did recently, to get approval for cakes for the Jane Goodall screening. Carrie stated all purchases need approval first, even ones we paid out of our own pocket and want to be reimbursed for.
- Carrie relayed the way we're having our film screening at the Rosendale Theatre, using credits from the "plastic" movie instead of paying directly, isn't "kosher" and cannot be repeated. This should have been discussed with Jeanne beforehand.
- Carrie relayed that if we ever want to send out emails, or have an email list, they must all be sent from [environmental@townofrosendale.gov](mailto:environmental@townofrosendale.gov). It's unclear if anyone on the REC currently has access to that email. Jill has offered to help if any information is needed - [info@townofrosendaleny.gov](mailto:info@townofrosendaleny.gov)
- Carrie relayed the REC cannot start its own Facebook or Instagram page. Instead, anything we want posted should be emailed to the town clerk, who will post it on the town social media pages.
- Carrie relayed a logo CAN be designed for the REC should we desire, but it would have to be approved by the town board before use, and the PO approved first.
- Carrie relayed any purchase over \$3000 must have 3 bids for competitive pricing.
- Carrie relayed info about upgrades in the Municipal building: NYSERDA gave us some funding, Rosendale & Marbletown got \$200k for electrical upgrades under NYPA. Ulster County gave

\$100k for solar, and \$100k for the High Falls water district for solar. And there will be a solar structure constructed in the parking lot, since the roof cannot support solar panels. The next phase will be adding mini splits in the building, trying to reduce furnace use.

- Carrie relayed that the REC is missing minutes on the town website for:  
2025: Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov  
2026: Jan, Feb, March
- Carrie invited us to the Kingston Earth Fair, which she's helping produce and will have great music.
- Carrie reminded us to us both of her email addresses when sending emails
- Carrie confirmed the annual REC budget is \$1k, it doesn't roll over. And the MS4 Funding is separate. MS4 funding to reporting and certification was just approved, but there was no mention of Theatre ads. Amie said they stopped running them during Covid, even though they were paid by the town. Amie said in 2020 or 2021, asked what the money was, and she clarified it was related to MS4. Amie confirmed this year, the theatre is running the ads to compensate for the year when the town last paid for the MS4 ads - as of March, the ads are running.
- Carrie stated Manna told her she wants to start coming to meetings. Jenn said she's been in contact, but Manna hasn't come yet. Carrie requested she be invited again.

**Action item: Jenn will invite Manna to the next meeting**

**NOTE: Carrie left the meeting at 6:30pm**

- **Membership update / New member proposal:**

- Darrells neighbor is not ready to join the EC
- Jean may be considering joining. She introduced herself as a lifelong proponent of renewable energy, organic gardner, veteran bookkeeper & admin person, she can do research for us.

**Action item: Jenn will send Jean a volunteer form**

- **Compost:**

- Jenn said she's still working on getting updated pricing & info to Jeanne, from Community Compost Company. As far as she knows, Jeanne is still moving towards getting a town-wide compost program set up at the transfer station, perhaps starting to work on it in June.

**Action item: Jenn is following up w Jeanne & Community Compost Company**

- **Rosendale Theatre Movie (Jane Goodall screening):**

- Amie relayed that the approval for screening the movie was for showing it on Jane's birthday, which didn't happen due to a communication conflict. She will get the info from Carrie, and see if she can move this forward. Jessie (theatre director) is willing to screen our movies on Fri nights at 4 or 5pm.
- Amie asked for other movie ideas for the future. Ideas floated: rotational grazing, Joel Salatin etc. Elizabeth Holland said she'd look into films about the Isledo Pueblo/rotational grazing. Agro-voltaics. Bird migration (The Listers on Netflix is an example).
- Amie reminded us many films are owned by big corporations (aka Netflix) and they're not for sale/available to the public. And there may be other films that are available, but too expensive for us to screen.

**Action item: Amie will investigate if we can still screen the Jane Goodall movie**

- **County Updates:**

- Penny has a meeting w Angelina (UCCRA) & Brendan Walsh (Department of the Environment). Meeting about how they can all collaborate to “green” fairs & festivals in Ulster County. The DotE has recently hired a zero waste coordinator.
  - Penny said the Ulster County Environment Management Council has been formed, to report on how the towns/communities are meeting their Climate Smart goals. Penny & Rommia are appointed to the council
- **Seed Swap report:**
    - Jenn reported it went very well, there were 70+ attendees.
- **New business, announcements, confirm next meeting date:**
    - Sean proposed a motion to endorse Bill Brook’s postcard history event, as it spreads information about the history of Rosendale
    - Amie said Darrell will start putting each of our "appointment dates" at the bottom of each agenda, so we all know when our term expires.
    - Rommia requested a discussion on zero waste initiatives in Rosendale, Darrell said he’ll put an agenda item for next month.
    - Next meeting May 14, 2026
- **Time meeting finished: 7:30pm**