



Meeting Minutes
9:00 AM Monday, June 19, 2017
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Attendees: G. Borrello, D. McCoy, J. Galoti, B. Boria, C. Brower, M. Bills, L. Erhardt, Z. Olow, J. Joy and Rebecca Yanus

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Borrello at 9:05 am

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Borrello called for a motion to approve the minutes for the April meeting. The motion was made by Bill Boria and seconded by Zen Olow. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Expression: Rebecca Yanus, Development Director for the City of Jamestown said that the City had been awarded \$35k from the New York State Department of State (NYS DOS) to update its Comprehensive Plan, which was last updated in 1976. She asked the LEMC for a \$10k contribution in support of the effort and offered the LEMC an opportunity to participate in the Steering Committee.

Chairman's Comments:

- Chairman Borrello shared the good news about \$2 million from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the dredging of Barcelona and Dunkirk Harbors.
- Borrello also summarized the 5/25 meeting with the USACE at Dunkirk Harbor to discuss the wave reflection concerns in the inner harbor.

Coordinator's Comments

- Dave McCoy said that 2% Occupancy Tax Lakes & Waterways Grant Program projects had been scored and six projects had been recommended for inclusion in the 2018 budget, two of which are in the Lake Erie Watershed.
- Treasurer's Report – There is currently a total of \$62,407 unobligated in the LEMC account.
- NEXUS Activities – McCoy noted that we had generally achieved our goals for 2017 and that the County intended to have a planning session in August to refine our objectives for 2018.



Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee :
 - Dave McCoy noted that a Plastics Brochure was prepared by Erie County/LEWPA and shared with the LEMC.
 - Plan to advance the Riparian Buffers Initiative and Sewer Systems Initiative this fall/winter.
 - The Lake Erie Rally Event was held at the Northern Chautauqua Conservation Club on May 13. Although the attendance was limited to about 40 people, the event was considered successful with good press coverage.
 - The LEMC participated in the June 17 Great Lakes Experience. Dave McCoy, Pat Gooch and George Borrello staffed the LEMC exhibit table. There were several hundred people that stopped by the LEMC table. Also participating in the event were the County Health Department (Jessica Wuerstle), LEWPA (Joanna Panasiewicz), Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District (Cassie Brower).
 - The Yard Waste Management campaign in association with the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy has been a success during the 2015 and 2016. It would be worthwhile for the LEMC to consider \$1,500 to continue the event in 2017.

Member/Partner Reports

- Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance – the Next LEWPA meeting will be at Sunset Bay, Cabana Sam's on 8/24.
- Lake Erie Beaches – Bill Boria said that water quality has been good; however, the water is quite high and is causing some problems at Wright Park Beach.
- Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District:
 - Casie Brower said the District is hoping to locate a full-time boat steward in Dunkirk Harbor this summer.
 - The District is ramping up its hydroseeding program, which assists highway departments with their drainage improvements and maintenance.
 - The NYSDEC will perform quality sampling, which was formerly included in the LEWPA budget for the Watershed Management Plan.
 - As many as four new stream gages may be installed in connection with the Watershed Management Plan.
- Sportfishing:
 - Zen Olow said that the Fishing Essay contest was almost complete and thanked the LEMC for its \$500 contribution.
 - There are lots of fishing tournaments coming up and he hopes to have a list of them soon.
 - The Dunkirk Harbor Commission meets this Wednesday evening.



- There will be a good Education & Outreach event at Woodlawn Beach on 6/27.
- Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy- None

Old Business

- Local Watershed Redevelopment Plan – George Borrello said that there will be public meetings in July.

New Business: Economic Impact Analysis of North County Harbors – Dave McCoy informed the group of the collaborative effort to apply through the CFAs for NYSDOS for LWRP implementation funding to complete an economic impact analysis of the three north county harbors. The effort involves the County, City of Dunkirk, Towns of Westfield and Hanover and the Northern Chautauqua Region Foundation Local Economic Development Group. Lance Erhardt shared economic data concerning sportfishing.

Summary of Actions Taken

- Chairman Borrello called for a motion to continue the Yard Waste Management campaign in 2017 with \$1,500 from the LEMC for printing and media costs. The motion was made by Zen Olow and seconded by Bill Boria. The motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.
- Chairman Borrello called for a motion to support the City of Dunkirk's effort to complete its Comprehensive Plan with a contribution of \$10k. A discussion ensued concerning assurance that the funding would be used wisely. The motion was made by Zen Olow to provide \$10k with the caveat that the LEMC would participate as a voting member of the Steering Committee. The motion was seconded by Joe Galoti and was approved unanimously by the Commission.

Schedule Next Meeting

- August 21st (3rd Monday) would be the next meeting date at the Incubator in Dunkirk, NY

Adjourn – Chairman Borrello called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Joe Galoti and seconded by Zen Olow. The motion was approved unanimously.