

Lake Erie Management Commission

Meeting Minutes

9:00 AM Tuesday, March 23, 2015
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borrello at 9:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the February 17th meeting were approved.

Public Expression

- None

Chairman's Comments

- Chairman Borrello noted that the Chautauqua County Environmental Subcommittee had sent a letter to NYS Senator Cathy Young concerning non-enforcement of existing NYS stormwater regulations and to request a meeting with Region 9 NYSDEC to discuss the situation.

Coordinator's Comments

- Dave McCoy said that the Chautauqua County Lakes & Waterways Grant Program guidance is now available on the County's website and that applications are due on June 1. He encouraged the group to identify potential projects for this grant opportunity as well as the NYSDEC's WQIP program and the upcoming Consolidated Funding Application process.
- McCoy also informed the group that a second Chautauqua Lake Rally was scheduled for May 9th and hoped that the LEMC would consider participating in the event.

Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee
 - Dave McCoy indicated there was a need to make additional educational materials available and asked the group to consider preparing another tri-fold brochure. The group agreed that a fishing-related brochure for Lake Erie would be a good idea. McCoy will work with Zen Olow on the brochure.

Member/Partner Reports

- LEWPA

- Joanna Panasiewicz noted that the inter-municipal agreements for LEWPA have been signed by Erie, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties.
- Panasiewicz said that a kick-off meeting for the Lake Erie Watershed Management plan was tentatively scheduled for April.
- Panasiewicz also noted that she had received a number of requests to add candidate streams for participation in the NYSDEC RIBs program and that a public meeting for the program would be scheduled in May/June. Panasiewicz encouraged the group to reach out to stakeholders to identify additional candidates
- Lake Erie Beaches
 - No Report
- Sportfishing
 - The group agreed that sportfishing should be added to the Member/Partner Reports.
 - Zen Olow offered the following updates:
 - There will be a fishing clinic at the Conservation Club on June 6th. There will be a \$5 fee for participants.
 - He was working with the NYSDEC to grant fishing license exemptions for the fishing clinic and the June 13th Great Lakes Experience.
 - The Conservation Club is hosting a walleye derby during July 31st to August 2nd.
 - Former NHL player Rob Roy will oversee coordination of the Dunkirk Walleye Classic.

Old Business

- Dredging at Dunkirk and Hanover
 - Dave McCoy and George Borrello informed the group of Chautauqua County's efforts to seek public bids for the two projects.
 - Joanna Panasiewicz offered to have LEWPA provide a letter of support for the projects.
 - Zen Olow suggested that the County coordinate with him concerning sportfishing activities in the two harbors.
- Local Watershed Redevelopment Plan Discussion
 - Dave McCoy said that Chautauqua County Planning staff coordinated work sessions with most of the involved town and village boards as well as each municipality's planning boards

New Business

- None

Summary of Actions Taken

- None

Schedule Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 13th at the Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory in Portland, NY.

Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

DRAFT