

Lake Erie Management Commission

Agenda

9:00 AM Monday, October 19, 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

- None

Public Expression

- None

Chairman's Comments

- None

Coordinator's Comments

- Treasurer's Report
 - Dave McCoy said that LEMC account balance was \$29,010. Anticipated expenditures include \$1,500 for the Chautauqua Rails to Trails Engineering Feasibility Study and the Leaf management Campaign (\$990 for WBKX PSAs and \$171.25 to print 500 brochures).

Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee
 - Fishing Brochure
 - Zen Olow stated that progress is being made; however, Niagara County has an issue with funding their share. Hopefully, the funding issue can be worked out. The group thought that both hard copy and digital versions should be produced. Zen will update the group at the next meeting.
 - Leaf Brochure
 - Dave McCoy noted that he and the CWC were reviewing last year's brochure and were planning to make only minor edits, if any, before going to print later this week. The PSAs are now being broadcast.

Member/Partner Reports

- Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance
 - Joanna Panasiewicz indicated that LEWPA is working to advance the 9-Element Watershed Management Plan and several tasks are being undertaken by the Project Advisory Committee, one of which is the development of a Atlas for all relevant planning documents. She will reach out to Chautauqua County to see what is available.
 - A discussion ensued concerning which streams would be good candidates for water quality monitoring. Candidate streams included: Walnut & Silver Creek, Canadaway Creek, Slippery Rock Creek, Chautauqua Creek and Crooked Brook.
- Lake Erie Beaches – Presentation by Jessica Wuerstle was deferred, potentially until the next meeting.
 - Bill Boria noted that the Chautauqua County DOH has developed a draft policy for sewer inspections, including an estimated 400 residences with 250' of Lake Erie. The program targets systems that are not permitted or never inspected, most of which are 30 years old. There are four possible outcomes from the inspections:
 - Failed or failing system with high public health risk will require compliance within 5 weeks;
 - Working system with risk to groundwater (less than 2' vertical separation from seasonal high groundwater level);
 - Working system, but not compliant with sanitary code (requires frequent inspections); and
 - Working system that is code compliant.
 - Bill also noted that communities that have upland reservoirs are being challenged by the NYS dam safety regulations. Those that have been inspected have compliance issues and are in need of maintenance.
- Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District
 - Dave Spann stated that the Chautauqua Creek fish passage project has been completed and that electro-fishing by the NYSDEC indicates that steelhead fingerlings and larger stocked fish were found above the structure.
 - Dave also noted that CCS&WCD is mobilizing to the Darby Switch Road to reconstruct a failed 2% streambank stabilization project in the Town of Pomfret.
- Sportfishing
 - Zen Olow the 2015 VIP Fishing Day was a success with good participation and is scheduled again for August 10, 2015. There were also several successful walleye fishing tournaments out of Dunkirk, but catches were generally less than 10lbs.
 - The Association of Great Lakes Outdoors Writers (AGLOW) will have a conference at Chautauqua Institution in September. Approximately 200 writers are expected to attend.

- Zen suggested reading the New York Outdoor News to get information on sportfishing. Recently, articles on perch fishing, walleye fishing in Chautauqua County were published in the NYON.

Old Business

- Dredging at Dunkirk and Hanover
 - Dave McCoy noted that the funding for the projects was in place; however the NYS DEC has not yet sent a State Assistance Contract to Chautauqua County. Locally, attorneys for the City of Dunkirk and Town of Hanover were negotiating with the contractor about start/completion dates, insurances and bonds.
- Local Watershed Redevelopment Plan
 - Dave McCoy noted that an application to fund Phase 2 of the LWRP had been submitted to the CFAs and awards would be made in November.
- Chautauqua Rails to Trails
 - Dave McCoy and Dave Spann updated the group concerning the recent stakeholders meeting. The concern is that if the culvert failed and impounded a significant volume of water, a breach could potentially have negative impacts to highway infrastructure (Town roads, NYS Routes 5 & 20, NYS Thruway and railroad infrastructure)

New Business

- Microbead Ban Enforcement
 - Chairman Borrello stated that Chautauqua County approved a ban of the sale of products containing microbeads, which will take effect in February 2016. The local law will be enforced by the County Department of weights & Measures. First offence will typically result in a warning letter, but up to a \$1,000 fine is possible. Second offence could result in a \$2,500 fine. A discussion ensued regarding other counties that are considering, or have passed similar legislation.

Summary of Actions Taken

- None

Schedule Next Meeting

- The LEMC meeting is scheduled for November 30th in Portland. The LEMC will forgo its December meeting.

Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.