



Meeting Minutes
9:00 AM Monday, January 8, 2018
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Attendees: G. Borrello, Z. Olow, D. McCoy, B. Boria, D. Richmond, B. Bankoski, K. Muldowney, M. Bills, J. Joy, C. L. Ehrhardt, B. Boria, J. Panasiewicz, C. Quadri

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Borrello at 9:17 am.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Borrello called for a motion to approve the December meeting minutes. The motion was made by Bob Bankoski, seconded by Doug Richmond and unanimously approved.

Public Expression: None

Chairman's Comments:

- Chairman Borrello noted that since he was elected as County Executive, the LEMC must select a new Chairperson and that Zen Olow had expressed an interest in the position as well as Cassie Brower, who was nominated at the previous meeting by Dave Spann of SWCD. With exception of Zen Olow who abstained, the Commission voted unanimously to select Zen Olow as Chairman.
- After a discussion, the LEMC decided to consider Ex Officio status to Cassie Brower. Martha Bills offered a motion, Bob Bankoski seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Coordinator's Comments

- Dave McCoy noted that he had emailed the LEMC Policy Statement for LWRP & Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan to the Commission and had received one positive comment and no requests for edits.
- The 2% Occupancy Tax Lakes & Waterways Grant Program for 2019 will open on February 1.
- As of January 1, there is \$80,907 in the LEMC treasury.
- The contract for NEXUS is being extended through 2018. Nexus is coordinating with the County on appropriations requests and the 2018 WRDA Bill, which is earlier than usual.
- The Commission discussed planning for 2018 Lake Erie Rally. Chairman Olow will talk with the Conservation Club to secure a date, with June 16 being preferred and June 9 being the second choice. The commission discussed ways to boost the attendance, including more advertising and giveaways. A rain barrel, weather radio, hammock and



other suggestions were discussed. Kevin Muldowney suggested that a “garden walk” event would reach a lot of stakeholders.

Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee :
 - Dave McCoy said the Yard Waste Management Campaign was complete with exception of invoicing for the Facebook boost.
 - Riparian Buffers Campaign will be launched this spring. The brochures are ready and the PSAs will mirror the Yard Waste Campaign.
 - Plastics & Microplastics Brochure (done)
 - Pharmaceuticals Disposal Brochure (in progress)
 - Septic Systems Brochure (in progress)
 - Stream Process (Don't throw logs & trees in the creek)
 - Media outlets – Dunkirk Local Access, college radio
 - Professional production for videos and PSAs. Dave McCoy shared information provided by Nate Aldrich on Venture Productions, a Dunkirk Area production company.

Member/Partner Reports

- Joanna Panasiewicz said the Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance was continuing to complete their 9 element watershed management plan and was working on the sampling plan. The next meeting is in February.
- Lake Erie Beaches – No update
- Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District – No update
- The Sportfishing update was given by Zen Olow and Lance Earhardt. They noted that the Greater Niagara Fishing and Outdoor Show would be held in Niagara Falls on January 19 & 21. Olow said he was working on a list of tournaments and that the NYSDEC had announced a drug “take back” program that three local pharmacies were participating in. George Borrello suggested that the LEMC should re-send the announcement to County Mayors & Supervisors. Dave McCoy agreed to do that.
- Claire Quadri said the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy is pleased to be working with the County and LEMC on the Yard Waste and Riparian Buffers Campaigns. She also noted the CWC is considering several property donations in this watershed.

Old Business

- Local Watershed Redevelopment Plan – No update
- Dave McCoy said the City of Dunkirk steering committee would be meeting in January to kick off the Comprehensive Plan.
- Dave McCoy said that he and Nate Aldrich were investigating alternative funding for the Economic Impact Analysis of North County Harbors



- George Borrello noted that the Dunkirk Harbor Dredging project is on track to begin this summer.

New Business

- Martha Bills mentioned the Governor's proposal for Hazardous Algal Blooms (HABs) was announced recently and included Chautauqua Lake as a priority lake. She also mentioned the upcoming Small Harbors meeting and said she would share the date with LEMC members.

Summary of Actions Taken

- Chairman Borrello called for a motion to approve the December meeting minutes. The motion was made by Bob Bankoski, seconded by Doug Richmond and unanimously approved.
- The LEMC selected Zen Olow as its new Chairperson by unanimous vote.
- The LEMC decided to offer Ex Officio status to Cassie Brower. Martha Bills offered a motion, Bob Bankoski seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Schedule Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on March 19th (3rd Monday) at the Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory, Portland, NY

Adjourn –The Commission thanked George Borrello for his service as Chairman and adjourned at 10:45 am.