



**Meeting Minutes**  
9:00 AM Monday, May 21, 2018  
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory  
Portland, NY 14769

**Attendees:** Z. Olow, D. McCoy, D. Richmond, B. Bankoski, M. Bills, L. Ehrhardt, J. Panasiewicz, C. Quadri, J. Galoti and C. Brower

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Zen Olow at 9:05 am.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Olow asked for a motion to approve the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. The motion was made by Doug Richmond and seconded by Lance Ehrhardt. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Public Expression:** None

**Chairman's Comments:** Chairman Olow expressed his concerns regarding the proposed improvements to the Dunkirk Pier and noted that he plans to attend the upcoming public meeting. His concerns were echoed by Lance Ehrhardt. Olow also noted that there were a lot of Lake Erie-related events scheduled this spring, including a safe boating course at the Northern Chautauqua County Conservation Club.

**Coordinator's Comments**

- 2% Program update. Dave McCoy noted that there were 8 projects recommended for funding and that 4 will be in the Lake Erie watershed.
- Treasurer's Report. The unobligated balance of the LEMC account is currently \$72,292.
- NEXUS. McCoy noted that NEXUS was currently exploring USACE Section 105 to fund the Silver Creek and Sunset Bay Flood Mitigation Studies.
- McCoy summarized the planning for 2018 Lake Erie Rally June 16 at the Northern Chautauqua County Conservation Club. Jim Nichols will be awarded the "Rusty Wrench" award. Olow offered to coordinate with his family. McCoy also commented that with all of the Lake Erie oriented events in the spring, the LEMC's messaging may be more efficient in the future by dropping the Lake Rally event and participating in the Great Lakes Experience and the Observer's Outdoor Show.
- McCoy will represent the LEMC/County DPD at the Great Lakes Experience on June 9 in Dunkirk and that a donation to support the event had been requested by the City of Dunkirk. Chairman Olow asked for a resolution to provide \$500 for the event. The motion was made by Martha Bills and seconded by Doug Richmond. The motion was approved unanimously.



- McCoy summarized the outcome of meetings with NYS Parks and the City of Dunkirk. Parks confirmed their 41% cost-share commitment for O&M work in Cattaraugus Creek Harbor. Also, Parks and the City of Dunkirk will work together to reopen the comfort facilities and improve the fishing access on the breakwater in Dunkirk Harbor. Hopefully the comfort facility will be open before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and upgraded in time for the August boat race event.
- Dredging is scheduled to begin in Dunkirk Harbor in July.
- McCoy gave the Commission an update regarding the Great Lakes One Water initiative.

### **Committee Reports**

- Education Sub-Committee :
  - Yard Waste Management Campaign (Completed Fall 2017)
  - Riparian Buffers Campaign (Spring 2018)
  - Plastics & Microplastics Brochure (done)
  - Pharmaceuticals Disposal Brochure (in progress)
  - Septic Systems Brochure (in progress)
  - Stream Process (Don't throw logs & trees in the creek)

### **Member/Partner Reports**

- Joanna Panasiewicz said the Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance had approved Chautauqua County's appointments. They are Dave Spann (Cassie Brower as Alternate), Dave Wilson (Rebecca Yanus as Alternate) and Zen Olow (George Borrello as Alternate). She distributed the LEWPA Annual Report to the Commission and updated the Commission on the status of the 9 Element Watershed Plan. Panasiewicz also noted the LEWPA traveling display was available for set up in Chautauqua County this summer.
- Lake Erie Beaches - None
- Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District – Cassy Brower said the District continues to work on a stormwater project that will improve water quality at the beach and a streambank stabilization on Crooked Brook. S&W is also planning several CFA applications for Lake Erie watershed projects, including a Climate Resiliency grant for agricultural interests. The Silver Creek Dam removal project is moving ahead, but will require additional hydrology & hydraulic engineering.
- Lance Ehrhardt gave the Sportfishing update by noting there was a busy tournament season ahead and the fishing for steelhead was good near Chautauqua Creek. He also asked about the Trees for Tribes Program.
- Claire Quadry offered that the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy participated in a successful "birding" event on the Dunkirk Pier and that the Conservancy's Chautauqua Creek Preserve was an excellent place to fish for steelhead.



### **Old Business**

- There was no further discussion regarding the LEMC's role in administering the NCC LWRP
- Dave McCoy noted that the committee for the City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan will meet on June 21.
- Dave McCoy and Nate Aldrich will collaborate to submit a second CFA application to fund the proposed Economic Impact Analysis of North County Harbors.
- Dave McCoy said the Dunkirk Harbor Dredging is scheduled to begin in July. Any additional recreational dredging opportunities will need to obtain permits.

### **New Business**

- The Commission discussed composting yard waste and the Ellery Landfill's disposal/composting of yard waste. Dave McCoy will check into the landfill's policies and fees and draft a municipal advisory concerning the importance of composting.

### **Summary of Actions Taken**

- Chairman Olow asked for a resolution to provide \$500 for the event. The motion was made by Martha Bills and seconded by Doug Richmond. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Schedule Next Meeting**

- July 16th (3rd Monday) would be the next meeting date at the SUNY Fredonia Incubator in Dunkirk, NY.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Olow asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Martha Bills and seconded by Claire Quadry. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 10.45 am.