



## **Meeting Minutes**

9:00 AM Monday, July 16, 2018  
SUNY Fredonia Technology Incubator,  
214 Central Ave. Dunkirk, NY 14048

**Attendees:** M. Bills, D. Richmond, B. Bankoski, D. McCoy, J. Panasiewicz, C. Brower, J. Wuerstle, C. Quadri and J. Joy

**Call to Order:** Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator Dave McCoy called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the absence of Chairman Zen Olow.

**Public Expression:** None

**Chairman's Comments:** Dave McCoy noted that Chairman Zen Olow was unable to attend today's meeting due to another commitment. He circulated a letter from County Executive Borrello thanking the Commission for their \$500 contribution to the Chautauqua County Sports Fisheries Advisory Board 2018 Fishing Essay Contest.

### **Coordinator's Comments**

- 2% Program update. Dave McCoy informed the Commission that the outcome of the New York State Environmental Review process (SEQR) would be considered for the 2019 Occupancy Tax projects during the July meeting of the Chautauqua County Legislature. Seven of the eight projects were Unlisted Actions with no anticipated adverse environmental impact. One of the projects (County-Wide Boat Steward Program) was a Type 2 Action and not actionable under the SEQR regulations.
- Treasurer's Report. There is currently an unobligated balance of \$71,792 in the LEMC account.
- The 2018 Lake Erie on June 16 was lightly attended. The Commission discussed discontinuing the event in favor of participating in the Great Lakes Experience Festival and in the Dunkirk Observer's Sportsman's Show, both of which take place in the early summer. The Commission also discussed the possibility of having an event in the fall and planned to further discuss the event at the next meeting.
- The LEMC participated in the Great Lakes Experience on June 9. The event was thought to be smaller than the 2017 event. Dave McCoy noted the LEMC table had good traffic and quite a few brochures were distributed. Joanna Panasiewicz (Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance) and Cassie Brower (Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District) also staffed exhibits. Both indicated that they had good traffic at their tables.
- Dave McCoy said that dredging had begun in Dunkirk Harbor and that 100,000 cubic yards of sediment would be removed from the Federal Navigation Channels.



- Dave McCoy summarized the Great Lakes One Water initiative meeting which took place in Cleveland on June 21. Additional committee meetings and teleconferences are being scheduled throughout the summer.
- Dave McCoy asked the LEMC to bring forth a motion to obligate \$5,000 for an Economic Impact Analysis of the North County Harbors and Waterfront. He noted that the Chautauqua County Legislature would also consider obligating \$5,000 at their July meeting. Martha Bills made the motion, which was seconded by Bob Bankoski. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

- Education Sub-Committee :
  - Yard Waste Management Campaign (Completed Fall 2017)
  - Riparian Buffers Campaign (Completed Spring 2018)
  - Plastics & Microplastics Brochure (done)
  - Pharmaceuticals Disposal Brochure (in progress)
  - Septic Systems Brochure (in progress)
  - Stream Process (in progress)
  - A discussion ensued about developing a composting brochure and the benefits of lawn mowers that turn clippings into mulch. Dave McCoy described his recent visit to the Timberfish facility in Westfield, where waste from brewing and distilling is being managed with a biological process and eventually used as soil amendments in a local vineyard. Jim Joy added that grape processing also generates a lot of organic waste that is a challenge for the Grape Cooperative to manage. Dave McCoy said that he had talked with TJ Pierce at the Chautauqua County Landfill about disposal of yard waste. The Ellery Landfill accepts yard waste and other compostable materials for a fee of \$1.00/bag or \$5.00/cubic yard. The material is stockpiled and turned occasionally to help the composting process; however, there is no public demand for compost. Due to the lack of demand for compost, only a few Chautauqua County municipalities have yard waste/composting programs and all have difficulties with recycling the composed materials. Pierce was interested in working with the LEMC to develop education and outreach programs for yard waste management and household hazardous waste collection.

### **Member/Partner Reports**

- Joanna Panasiewicz noted that the Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance planned to apply for Phase 3 Implementation through the consolidated Funding Application, involving 300 miles of stream visual assessments in 9 sub-watersheds as well as to conduct public and municipal outreach. LEWPA also submitted an application to EPA



for funds to implement green infrastructure at Lake Erie Beach in Evans and Point Gratiot Park Beach in Dunkirk

- Jessica Wuerstle credited the good weather for the excellent condition of the Lake Erie Beaches.
- Cassy Brower said the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District planned to submit grant applications for projects in Fredonia, Forestville and for hydroseeding.
- Sportfishing update - None
- Claire Quadry gave a summary of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy's efforts in the Yard Waste Management and Riparian Buffers Campaigns. Doug Richmond noted the Quadri's recent presentation at the Rotary Club was well received.

### **Old Business**

- LEMC's role in administering the NCC LWRP – (Tabled)
- Dave McCoy said that he attended the Steering Committee meeting for City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan where the public survey was discussed. Public outreach meetings are scheduled for later in July.
- Doug Richmond asked if there had been any further discussion of the proposed changes to the City of Dunkirk pier. Bob Bankoski said that he attended the public meeting where some expressed concerns about the proposed designs.

### **New Business**

- Dave McCoy said the he and TJ Pierce planned to further discuss ways to share resources with the Chautauqua County Landfill for education & outreach on topics such as yard waste management and household hazardous waste collection & disposal.

### **Summary of Actions Taken**

- Martha Bills motioned for the LEMC to join with Chautauqua County and obligate \$5,000 for a CFA grant application to fund Economic Impact Analysis of North County Harbors. The motion was seconded by Bob Bankoski and approved unanimously by the Commission.

### **Schedule Next Meeting**

- September 24 (4th Monday) would be the next meeting date at the Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory, Portland, NY 14769

**Adjourn:** Bob Bankoski motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Doug Richmond and approved unanimously by the Commission.