



Meeting Minutes
9:00 AM Monday, September 24, 2018
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Attendees: Z. Olow, D. McCoy, C. Brower, C. Quadri, J. Galati, J. Panasiewicz, B. Boria

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Olow at 9:00 am. Chairman Olow made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 16th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cassie Brower and carried unanimously.

Public Expression: None

Chairman's Comments: Chairman Olow summarized VIP Fishing Day event and commented on the good publicity the event received. He also noted that the fishing on Lake Erie has been very good this summer.

Coordinator's Comments

- 2% Program update - Dave McCoy said that eight projects have been recommended for funding in 2018, four of which are in the Lake Erie Watershed. He also noted that the grant application form and the scoring criteria was improved by the Waterways Panel.
- Treasurer's Report. - There is currently an unobligated balance of \$66,792 in the LEMC account
- Dunkirk Harbor dredging - The work has been on-going since July and should be complete soon.
- Great Lakes One Water initiative – McCoy said the GLOW initiative is continuing to take shape and that he is on the Infrastructure Financing Committee and attended a meeting in Elyria, Ohio on 9/17.
- Grant Applications – McCoy noted that he had been collaborating with Claire Quadri for a grant application to the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I). Quadri explained that the grant application was joint effort with Chautauqua County, the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District (Soil & Water) and the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (CWC) to support stormwater education and outreach in the Lake Erie Communities. Chautauqua County and Soil & Water were each contributing \$2500 of in-kind services and asked the LEMC if it would consider obligating \$10,000 for the application. The request from NYSP2I was for \$15,000 in funding assistance. The total budget for the grant would be \$30,000 for the production of an educational video, marking storm drains, social media and outreach events.



Committee Reports

- Education Sub-Committee: Dave McCoy said there had been no significant change in the production of brochures or outreach activities since the July meeting. Chairman Olow raised a concern about potential discharges of pharmaceuticals from the new Athenex facility in Dunkirk. Bill Boria volunteered to find out what, if anything, would be discharged from the facility into the City of Dunkirk wastewater collection & treatment system.
 - Yard Waste Management Campaign (Completed Fall 2017)
 - Riparian Buffers Campaign (Completed Spring 2018)
 - Plastics & Microplastics Brochure (available)
 - Pharmaceuticals Disposal Brochure (in progress)
 - Septic Systems Brochure (in progress)
 - Stream Process (in progress)
 - Working cooperatively with the Chautauqua County Landfill to develop education and outreach programs for yard waste management and household hazardous waste collection.

Member/Partner Reports

- Joanna Panasiewicz said the Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance was sampling ditches in Erie County. They had also submitted a CFA application for funding to continue work on the Nine Element Watershed Plan. As a part of this effort, LEWPA had submitted their sampling plan to the NYSDEC for approval.
- Bill Boria said that it had been a good summer for Lake Erie Beaches; however, the high Lake Erie water levels was causing a lot of erosion of the County's beaches.
- Cassie Brower said the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District was working to advance the Silver Creek Dam removal project and was working to complete the engineering for the project. She noted the District had applied to the CFAs for funding for projects on Canadaway and Walnut Creeks.
- Chairman Olow said Sportfishing on Lake Erie continued to be good with many small, but legal walleye being caught. He also noted a decline in the number of Canadian fishing tournaments and hoped that these events would come to Chautauqua County. Olow also said that the grinder for the fish cleaning station at the Hanover Boat Launch needed upgrades.
- Dave McCoy informed the group that Southern Tier West had a drone for water quality work and was looking for applications.



Old Business

- NCC Local Waterfront Revitalization Program update - None
- A discussion concerning a potential fall education & outreach event to take the place of the spring Lake Erie Rally. Dave McCoy said one of the challenges is finding people who can speak to relevant topics and no cost. The group suggested Dr. Sam Mason and Dan Egan (Life & Death of the Great Lakes) and expressed willingness to talk further at the next meeting.
- City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan update – Dave McCoy said the City was making good progress and had completed a series of outreach activities to solicit public input.

New Business

- Chairman Olow discussed his desire to enable handicapped fisherman to board charter boats by installing a lift in the Dunkirk Harbor. Dave McCoy suggested approaching out NYS elected officials for a grant and a possible contribution from the LEMC to fund the initiative. Joe Galoti added that NYS funding was available to improve public access to Cattaraugus Creek.
- The group agreed to discuss renewing the Yard Waste and Riparian Buffers Campaigns for 2019 at the next meeting.

Summary of Actions Taken

- Chairman Olow made a motion for the LEMC to obligate \$10,000 to support the grant application to the NYSP2I for stormwater education & outreach. The motion was seconded by Bill Boria and approved unanimously.

Schedule Next Meeting

- November 19th (3rd Monday) would be the next meeting date at the Fredonia Technology Incubator, 214 Central Ave., Dunkirk, NY

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.