



Meeting Minutes

9:00 AM Monday, May 20, 2019

Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Attendees: Z. Olow, D. McCoy, D. Richmond, J. Panasiewicz, J. Joy, J. Galati, B. Bankoski, B. Boria, M. Bills, L. Earhardt, R. Woodbury, C. Miller, C. Pinkoski, C. Quadri

Call to Order: Chairman Zen Olow called the meeting to order at 9:00. Olow asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the 3/18 meeting. The motion was made by Bob Bankoski and seconded by Doug Richmond. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Expression: None

Chairman's Comments: Chairman Zeno Olow said there is a lot going on in Northern Chautauqua County with the Great Lakes Experience, Fishing Essay Contest, Safe Boating Courses, Veterans Appreciation/Support events and fishing Tournaments.

Coordinator's Comments:

- Dave McCoy said Chautauqua County 2% Occupancy Tax Grant Program grant applications have been scored and ranked. The County Legislature will consider the environmental review for the top 7 projects. Only the grant that co-funds the Boat Steward Program is within the Lake Erie watershed.
- McCoy will be speaking on the 2% Program at the New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA) meeting on 5/2-4.
- Chautauqua County will have a table at the Chautauqua Lake Conference on 6/15.
- Treasurer's Report – The unobligated balance of the LEMC account is currently \$64,242.
- McCoy and Jim Joy reported on the Dunkirk Observer's Outdoor Show. The event was well attended and there was good traffic at our table with more than 100 stopping to talk and pick up brochures, etc.
- McCoy also noted that the LEMC will exhibit and sponsor the Great Lakes Experience event in the City of Dunkirk on Saturday, June 8th. Chairman Olow called for a motion to approve a \$500 contribution to the event. The motion was made by Bob Bankoski, seconded by Martha Bills and unanimously approved by the Commission.



Committee Reports:

- Education Sub-Committee:
 - Yard Waste Management Campaign, Riparian Buffers, Plastics & Microplastics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Disposal campaigns
 - Pharmaceuticals Disposal, Septic Systems and Stream Process brochures

Member/Partner Reports:

- Joana Panasiewicz gave a presentation on the status of Niagara River Watershed Management Plan said that LEWPA was beginning the sampling and testing associated with the 9 Element Plan tomorrow.
- Bill Boria said it was early in the season and there was not much to report regarding the Lake Erie Beaches.
- Cassy Pinkoski noted the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District was working on Scott Creek in Forestville and was still working with the NYSDEC to complete the engineering for the Silver Creek Dam removal with the hope that the project is constructed this year.
- Sportfishing – Chairman Olow said the Conservation Club fishing tournament is scheduled for June 1 and a Veteran's event will take place on June 28. Olow also mentioned that the annual Fishing Essay Contest begins today and that 47 fishing poles are available for prizes. Olow thanked the LEMC for its support of the program. The LEMC's offer to help fund new fish grinders was also discussed. Randy Woodbury said that Dunkirk was considering a bi-directional grinder at an estimated cost of \$10,000. There was discussion concerning the need for improved handicap access at our harbors by installing a wheelchair/handicap lifts. The lifts would also be useful of someone had a medical emergency while on a boat and needed to be moved to an ambulance.
- Clair Quadri said the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy was compiling a survey of the environmental education efforts in the Chautauqua Lake area.

Old Business:

- Martha Bills noted that the NCC Local Waterfront Revitalization Program was making little progress due to changes proposed by a new NYSDOS project manager.
- Dave McCoy said there was no news concerning the Great Lakes – One Water Initiative.
- McCoy encouraged members of the LEMC to attend the City of Dunkirk Great Lakes Experience Event and help with the exhibit.
- McCoy said the City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Planning effort was moving forward and that he had participated in several meetings and workshops.
- McCoy noted that the USACE Buffalo District had requested additional supporting information from the City of Dunkirk for the CAP 107 Feasibility Study.



- McCoy said the contract for the Drain Marking Campaign between Chautauqua County and the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy was being reviewed by the County Law Department and hoped that the project could begin soon.
- Fish Grinders

New Business:

- Bill Boria talked about the need to complete a feasibility study to determine the need for wastewater infrastructure along the Route 5 corridor. He added that the Town of Ripley was planning to extend sewers west to the Pennsylvania state line.

Summary of Actions Taken:

- The LEMC voted to contribute \$500 to the Great Lakes Experience Festival.

Schedule Next Meeting:

- July 15 (3rd Monday) would be the next meeting date at the Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory in Portland.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.