



Meeting Minutes
9:00 AM Monday, January 27, 2020
Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY 14769

Attendees: Z. Olow, D. McCoy, J. Panasiewicz, J. Galati, B. Boria, C. Pinkoski, M. Bills, D. Spann, J. Joy, K. Muldowney, B. Bankoski, D. Richmond, R. Wurster, F. Schoenacker, T. Carlson, W. Gleason,

Call to Order: Chairman Zen Olow called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Public Expression: None

Chairman's Comments: Chairman Olow thanked everyone for attending and said he was pleased with the strong turnout since there was a lot on the agenda. He also noted that he and Dave McCoy met with Rebecca Wurster and Randy Woodbury from the City of Dunkirk about a proposed fishing pier at Memorial Park. The proposed fishing pier is consistent with the City's recently completed Comprehensive Plan and they are supportive of the idea.

Coordinator's Comments:

- Dave McCoy said the 2020 Chautauqua County 2% Occupancy Tax Grant Program would fund nine projects this year, two of which will be within the Lake Erie watershed. There are also four projects from 2018, two of which are in the Lake Erie watershed that will be completed this year.
- Treasurer's Report – The unobligated balance of the LEMC account at the end of 2019 was \$63,742. This balance has now increased to \$93,742 with the addition of our \$30,000 Agency Allocation from the 2% Occupancy Tax Program.
- McCoy noted that the annual Environmental Protection Fund lobby day usually takes place in late February. He will forward registration information to the group once it becomes available.

Committee Reports:

- Education Sub-Committee:
 - Dave McCoy summarized the 2019 Yard Waste Management, Riparian Buffers, Plastics & Microplastics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Disposal campaigns:
 - \$4,800 contract with Chadwick Bay Broadcasting
 - Paid \$3,600
 - \$1,200 remaining to be invoiced



Tracy Carlson and Whitney Gleason from the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy spoke about their experience with the campaigns and expressed interest in being involved during 2020.

- McCoy said the Pharmaceuticals Disposal, Septic Systems and Stream Process brochures are still in progress and expressed interest in expanding the PSAs and social media effort to include these topics in the future.

Member/Partner Reports:

- Joanna Panasiewicz summarized LEWPA's initiatives:
 - LEWPA is continuing to sample for bacteria through the winter as long as ice does not become a problem at sampling locations.
 - Year 2 EPF projects are completed and final reports are due soon. Year 3 projects are wrapping up this spring/summer and year 4 work plans are under development.
 - The Phase 3 for the Niagara River/Lake Erie Watershed Management Plan was funded through CFA for a 3-year project to get to nine-element Watershed Management Plan for region. It will include stream assessments and developing target reductions for waterways for pollutants, as well as developing projects to accomplish goals utilizing monitoring and modeling data from LEWPA, USGS, and NYSDEC.
 - LEWPA is working on developing a sewerage areas map of watershed (vs. septic areas) to help with tracking down bacteria contamination.
- Bill Boria said there were no updates regarding Lake Erie Beaches
- Cassie Pinkoski said the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District was working on LEWPA-related tasks, an engineering study of Wright Park Beach stormwater issues and was working local highway superintendents to resolve roadside stormwater problems. A brief discussion ensued about their efforts to improve chemical storage facilities at local farms. Jim Joy said larger farms generally have good chemical storage facilities, but smaller farms lack the resources to build them. Joanna Panasiewicz suggested the New York State Pollution Prevention program might have funding for this effort.
- Frank Schoenacker updated the group regarding Sportfishing. He said 2019 was a very good year for Lake Erie and expects 2020 to be good also. He noted that he worked booth at the recent Outdoor Expo and there was quite a lot of interest in Chautauqua Lake. He also said the NYSDEC Mike Clancy presented on Walleye fishery and there attended. The group also discussed the possibility of offshore wind power.
- Whitney Gleason and Tracy Carlson from the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy discussed the 2019 Storm Drain Marking project and what they would like to do during 2020 with expanding the effort to include Silver Creek, Fredonia and Westfield.



Old Business:

- NCC Local Waterfront Revitalization Program – No new news
- Great Lakes – One Water Initiative – Telecon with NCCCF and Max Herzog, Cleveland Water Alliance. Focus on Smart Citizen Science. Michael Jabot @ Fredonia
- City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Planning effort
 - Paid \$10,000 on 12/10/19
 - LEMC Contract is satisfied
- 2019 Drain Marking Campaign with the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
 - 2019 Effort is completed
 - \$10,000 contracted with the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
 - \$5,601.57 invoiced
 - \$4,398.43 unspent
 - Contract ends 3/31/20
 - Resolution to renew contract for 2020 to expand the campaign
- Fish Grinders
 - AOS between Chautauqua County and City of Dunkirk good until 5/21
 - NCCF award to Hanover
 - Plan to contract with Westfield and Hanover when they are ready
- Sewer Feasibility Study for northwestern Chautauqua County
 - Dave McCoy and Bill Boria with County Executive Borrello. He indicated his support.
 - Dave McCoy and Bill Boria with PED Committee on 11/13. The Committee was supportive.
 - Next Steps:
 - Outreach to municipalities
 - Prepare for July CFA application

New Business:

- The LEMC By-Laws were discussed by the group;
 - The group agreed to revisit the number of voting members at the next meeting
 - The group discussed returning to a monthly meeting schedule and concluded that meeting every-other month worked for most, but also agreed that monthly meetings would be held if there was a need to do so. The group wanted to have a February meeting, then return to every-other month meetings.
- LEMC Membership was discussed and most thought that expanding the membership to include representation from the Silver Creek area was a good thing. Chairman Olow suggested Larry Lazarczyk was interested and would be a good choice since he operated the Hanover Boat Launch facility. Dave McCoy said he would contact Larry and talk about the LEMC and membership responsibilities.



- Chairman Olow called for a resolution to contribute \$750 to the Sport Fish Advisory Board's 2020 Fishing Essay Contest. Doug Richmond made the motion. The motion was seconded by Martha Bills and was approved unanimously by the Commission.
- Chairman Olow called for a resolution to contribute \$300 and exhibit at the 2020 Dunkirk Observer's Outdoor Show. Joe Galati made the motion, which was seconded by Kevin Muldowney. The Commission unanimously approved the resolution.
- Chairman Olow asked for a resolution to contribute \$500 to support and exhibit at the Great Lakes Experience Event, if it was again scheduled for 2020. Bill Boria made the motion. Joe Galati seconded the motion and the Commission approved the resolution unanimously.
- Chairman Olow called for a resolution for the LEMC to provide \$5,000 or 1/3 of the fee to retain NEXUS for federal advocacy work, noting that 2/3 of the funding for NEXUS was approved by the Legislature on 1/22/20. The motion was made by Doug Richmond and seconded by Bob Bankoski. The Commission unanimously approved the resolution.
- Chairman Olow asked for a resolution to co-fund \$1,000 the Washington DC advocacy trip, tentatively scheduled for February. The motion was made by Martha Bills and seconded by Bill Boria. The resolution was approved unanimously by the Commission.
- Chairman Olow called for a resolution to provide \$10,000 to fund an expanded Storm Drain Marking Campaign in 2020. Joe Galati made the motion. The motion was seconded by Martha Bill and approved unanimously by the Commission.
- Chairman Olow requested a resolution to approve funding for radio PSAs and social media boosts for the Riparian Buffers, Yard Waste Management, Plastics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Campaigns for \$6,000. Kevin Muldowney made the motion, which was seconded by Jim Joy. The Commission unanimously approved the resolution.
- Dave Spann asked if the LEMC would consider providing funding for some of the Soil & Water Conservation District's projects. Dave McCoy noted that Soil & Water should be eligible and suggested that they submit a proposal to the Commission. Dave Spann said that he would develop a proposal for the next LEMC meeting.

Summary of Actions Taken:

- The Commission approved resolutions to fund the following initiatives:
 - \$750 to the Sport Fish Advisory Board's 2020 Fishing Essay Contest
 - \$300 to support and exhibit at the 2020 Dunkirk Observer's Outdoor Show
 - \$500 to support and exhibit at the Great Lakes Experience Event
 - \$5,000 or 1/3 of the fee to co-fund NEXUS for federal advocacy work
 - \$1,000 the Washington DC advocacy trip tentatively scheduled for February
 - \$10,000 for an expanded Storm Drain Marking Campaign in 2020
 - \$6,000for radio PSAs and social media boosts for the Riparian Buffers, Yard Waste Management, Plastics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Campaigns.



Schedule Next Meeting:

- February 24th @ 9:00 am (4th Monday) because 2/17 is President's Day Holiday (monthly schedule) at the Fredonia Incubator, 214 Central Avenue, Dunkirk, NY

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

DRAFT