

Minutes
Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force
Frank Bratt Agricultural Center
August 17, 2017

Call to Order: by Chairman David Spann at 10:03 AM.

WQTF Members Present: Cassandra Brower, David Spann, Joe Galati, Bill Boria, Bernie Klaich, Rhonda Lindquist, Peter George, Craig Butler, John Jablonski, Tom Erlandson, Randall Perry, Erin Brickley, Bob Pickett, Peter Beeson, David McCoy, Jan Bowman, Douglas Conroe.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by B. Boria to approve the July meeting minutes. Seconded. Carried.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

1. Letter to NYS DEC – Bemus Bay- Changes were suggested to include a subject line to the letter format. Also, it was suggested the letter additionally be sent to Michael Clancy. Motion by E. Brickley to send the letter with the additions. Seconded. Carried.

New Business: None

Member Comments

1. Chautauqua County Department of Environmental Health – B. Boria was approached by residents along a small canal at Shore Acres with no inlet or flow. It is relatively stagnant, and prone to HAB's. Alternatives were discussed among the group to address the water quality concerns in the canal. B. Boria also shared that the Department is working to keep public informed as best as they can on harmful algal blooms, with more press releases and P.R. than ever before. They have notified local doctor and veterinary offices. Discussion on press release and public reporting to the State Department of Health.
2. Bear Lake Association– B. Klaich shared the Jeff Diers is working on sampling and plan development for a Bear Lake Management Plan. Based on the conditions in June/July, he thought that the plant density would be a lot worse, but Bear Lake looks great. The weevils and moths stepped it up this year, and are really working spectacularly.
3. Cassadaga Lakes Association – P. George commented that two years ago, the Lake received Senator Young funding and is now on its way to having a completed lake management plan, dredging of the outlet and has a boat steward program.
4. Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy– Tuesday night there will be a lake buffer tour starting at 6 PM aboard the Chautauqua Belle. J. Jablonski also announced that there has been a staffing change and Jennifer Russo has resigned from the Conservancy, so now they are looking to fill the part-time position until next May.
5. Chautauqua Lake Association – D. Conroe shared that it is August on Chautauqua Lake, so algal blooms are present. In the North Basin, the clarity is better than expected. The shoreline is currently a hot topic. Low lake levels do not allow for flushing on the shoreline. He shared the story of an experience by one of the Boat Stewards in which a fisherman came to Long Point State Park and launched his boat. The sum that covered the trailer took the paint right off. J. Bowman commented that there is unusually high pH in Bemus Bay currently.
6. Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance –The Busti-Lakewood Stormwater grant is at 98% preliminary design, and a meeting is scheduled between the municipalities and engineers. For the Celeron shoreline restoration, sheet piling was recommended, but since the original discussion, they have moved to a full rip-rap plan. They have plans to leave some of the

breakwall in place, so not a full removal, and pack rocks around it. The far east end of the project area will utilize log stabilization and create habitat. For the WQIP Projects, the West Dutch Hollow/ Dutch Hollow design is underway. The SWCD is working on the bid for construction on Bemus Creek. The Alliance is underway for its membership drive. They recently received \$100,000 for member projects that are operational in 2017 due to changing weather/lake conditions. Foundations are looking to the Alliance to prioritize project funding, and the Alliance will undertake creating a 5-year Strategic Plan to bring together in-lake and watershed management plans. The Chautauqua Lake Rally will be held on August 19th at 9 AM at the Casino in Bemus Point. There will be four presentations with the theme of “Investment and Change”. Topics include an overall presentation by Dave McCoy, Camp Onyahsa’s expansion, CWC on their success in passing the 1,00 acres of conservation lands milestone, and the sewer expansion.

Public Comments: None.

Next Meeting:

Date: **Thursday September 21, 2017**
Time: **10:00 AM**
Place: **Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center**

Adjournment: Motion by J. Bowman to adjourn. Seconded. Carried.

C. Brower- Recorder