

Minutes
Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force
Frank Bratt Agricultural Center
January 18, 2018

Call to Order: by Chairman David Spann at 10:04 AM.

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by J. Galati to approve the December meeting minutes. Seconded. Carried.

Correspondence:

1. Notice: SEQR: Issuance of Final Scoping Document – A copy of the document was passed around and can be found at the Town of Ellery's webpage: [<http://elleryny.org/>].

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Governor Cuomo's HAB Announcement – Governor Cuomo included in his proposed budget, funding to develop Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) management plans for twelve lakes across New York State. These lakes were selected as a sampling of different site conditions, with anticipation that the management plans could be used to address HAB concerns in lakes with similar conditions. The management plans are scheduled to be completed by May 2018. How the additional funding for projects will be allocated is still to be determined. In March, there will be a summit for local stakeholders and physical invitations will be sent out. D. Spann will keep the group updated on the process of this initiative, as the SWCD and its state committee is one of the partners working with NYS DEC and NYS DOH.

Member Comments

1. SUNY Jamestown Community College – J. Bowman shared that the summer research course will be held again this summer, so if there is a need for data collection, let her know.
2. Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy – J. Jablonski announced that the Conservancy has just closed on roughly 230 feet of Chautauqua Lake frontage on Whitney Point (from Snug Harbor Marina to the first cottage on Whitney Bay Road) in December. Another piece, 20 acres in Hartfield near Sea Lion Drive consisting of mostly wetlands, also closed in December.
3. Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Economic Development – D. McCoy announced the 2019 2% Bed Tax Grant applications will be available February 1st, and there will be hard copies also available at the Department of Planning's offices as well as can be found online.
4. Cassadaga Lakes Association – P. George shared that even with the high water currently, there wasn't any major flooding with the last thaw/rain event.
5. Bear Lake Association – D. Spann has been working with the landowner at Muskee Point to facilitate a dredging effort, but it is still ongoing.
6. Chautauqua County Board of Health – T. Erlandson updated that the County Board of Health will be meeting at 6 PM this evening.
7. Chautauqua County Department of Health – B. Boria shared that while the DOH was looking for funding to update the septic/private water well data management, it was not funded through the NYS CFA. Instead, the DOH has been working with the County IT staff to develop a program in-house. Originally, it was estimated to cost \$100,000 for the program, but doing it through the

County, the IT can have full control and ability to manipulate the program themselves. The program would involve using survey and collector programs through ESRI.

8. Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance – E. Brickley shared an update on the status of the Alliance’s 5 Year Implementation Strategy. Surveys have gone out to members and stakeholders. Small group meetings are scheduled for the next coming weeks, with Dave Spann representing WQTF in the “Scientists” meeting. R. Perry added that the Mayville-Chautauqua stormwater engineering planning grant was getting kicked off. This will be the same approach as the ongoing Lakewood-Busti grant that was awarded previously. At the end of the month, a draft of the Lakewood-Busti study is anticipated, complete with proposed projects. The Celeron breakwall, part of the Village’s LWRP grant, is ready to go as soon as the weather conditions are right.
9. Chautauqua Lake Association – D. Conroe shared that the CLA is seriously exploring some small dredging projects at tributary mouths. They will take a lot of time and money to execute as well as figuring out the necessary permitting. The projects are variable per site in terms of time and cost, and the bigger question is what to do with the dredge materials. D. Spann noted that there is not only navigational, but also flooding concerns.
10. Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District – D. Spann announced that this year’s Envirothon competition for local high schools students will be held at Roger Tory Peterson Institute in Jamestown on April 26th.

Public Comments: None.

Next Meeting:

Date: **Thursday February 15, 2018**
Time: **10:00 AM**
Place: **Frank W. Bratt Agricultural Center**

Adjournment: Motion by E. Brickley to adjourn. Seconded. Carried.

C. Brower- Recorder