

Attendance: Lynn Leopold, Darby Kiley, David Sprout, Grace Bates, Tee Ann Hunter, Hilary Lambert, Cynthia Brock, Jackie Cassaniti

Tee Ann said Kathy Bertuch from the Central NY Regional Planning and Development Board liked getting the updates to the Cayuga Lake Restoration and Protection Plan (RPP). It will pave the way for the next step, upgrading the aging water and sewer infrastructure.

Cynthia suggested a few changes: 1. Should there be a piece on dredging...a lot of responses to the RPP update contained that about the Six Mile Creek reservoir. It can't take any more because it is full of silt and sediment. 2. She also brought up the industrial and commercial use of water in the Cayuga Lake watershed again. As an example she brought up the Ithaca Beer Company; they use up to 3 or 4 million gallons of surface and aquifer water to make 6 gallons of beer, and there are other distilleries and beer companies coming to town. Hilary said she put something in the last chapter about monitoring the watershed for that reason. Lynn added that some of the fracking language could be used as it takes water out of the ground and puts contaminated water back. And Tee Ann added that agriculture may be doing that as well, what will happen when Bolton Point water is sent to Genoa for use for cows. 3. It turns out that there are 4 or 5 "Lake Source cooling" projects on Cayuga Lake. Most people know about the Cornell and Milliken Station projects, but where are the others? They could be for private homes. So wording will be put into the RPP as such: "Create and inventory of industrial and commercial water users and those who take water away from the watershed." Ex. those who take water from a stream by blocking it for consumption and document taking water away from the watershed; another example is that cow use 5 gallons of water for every gallon of milk they produce...these are questions that are being asked in other states; and how much water does Cargill Salt Mine use? Will their new shaft puncture an aquifer? Cargill said they are "grandfathered" to the old rules about building a shaft.

Other parts of the I O recommendations have been looked at during this meeting as well. The monitoring points were changed slightly as well as the stormwater management and erosion control, collaboration and coordination, and public education and engagement. Lynn motioned to accept the recommendations as presented and amended, Cynthia seconded, and they were accepted.

Tee Ann got Cayuga Lake pictures from Bill Hecht to put on the cover of the updated RPP which Hilary will look at, and Hilary asked that on the title page it should read, "Prepared for the Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Organization by the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network" Hilary Lambert, the watershed steward for the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network (CLWN), did most of the writing of the updated RPP. She said the final copy will be done soon (3/31/17). And it should be finished so she can present it to the Ithaca Town Board on 3/27/17 to have the town acknowledge the updated RPP. Hilary is still collection hours to use for the state match, she has until the end of April, '17 to submit it to the DOS. Stephanie Wojtowicz, from the NY DOS, and the manager of the grant, looked at the updated RPP and said, "overall, this is a great

document.” She did have a few suggestions, but they were mostly formatting and grammatical suggestions and to add a summary chart. (She is looking at 86 such plans!) Her biggest recommendation is to tone down the scientific aspect to make it easier to understand.

Tee Ann asked the I O to approve and adopt the updated RPP; the motion was moved by Cynthia and seconded by Darby, and passed. Lynn will write a press release for some time in April. Unfortunately, Catch-A-Fire did not do the work they were asked to perform, and Tee Ann will ask for the (taxpayer) money to be returned. As a result, possibly the individual municipalities and county soil and water districts could release the updated RPP on their websites...the I O is still looking for projects from these municipalities.

The I O is still waiting for the DEC to release information about the TMDL for the southern portion of Cayuga Lake. Also the DEC has released money for the Finger Lakes hub to get rid of invasive species such as blue-green algae and hydrilla. This plan will not last for the next 20 years and has to be updated periodically. The next grant to implement some of the ideas of the updated RPP will come from the I O membership and \$5,000 from CLWN. Kathy Bertuch can help with the implementation as well as Bill Foster can relay the message about the RPP to the municipalities around the lake.

Submitted by Jackie Cassaniti