

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization Meeting Minutes 2/28/18

Attendance: Roxy Johnston, Darby Kiley, Allison Truhlar from Cornell NYS Water Resources Institute, Ric Detrick, Tee Ann Hunter, Tom Vawter, David Sprout, Mike Solvig, Town of Ithaca, Michelle Henry, T. C. Water Resources Council, Julia Champaign (Spelling?) Cornell student, Katrina Binkewicz, Town of Lansing, Michael Boggs, Town of Ulysses, Becky Simms, Jackie Cassaniti

This meeting was mostly about the set-up of the Watershed Summit to be held in Seneca Falls at the Seneca Falls Community Center on the proposed date of Thursday, April 19th, this half day event will start at 9am (volunteers please come earlier.) The presenters will be Kathy Bertuch, CNYRPDB; Tony Prestigicomo, DEC- Finger Lakes Hub; Stephanie Wojtowicz, DOS; and Bud Shattuck, Mayor, Village of Union Springs. The meeting will be catered by Dinosaur BBQ, funded by the I O. Tee Ann asked Stephanie W if the \$5,000 grant from Cornell Engaged Opportunity that the I O applied for could be used as a match for the grant from the DOS and the answer was yes. This new start time for this DOS grant will now be April 1, 2018. The I O is still waiting to hear from Cornell Engaged Opportunity to see if they will receive the \$5,000 grant. This money will be used to fund the watershed summit (in the event the I O does not receive the grant the I O will fund the summit itself.) As of January 31, 2018 the I O had \$38,000 in their account and as of this meeting, as proposed last year, the I O will give \$7,000 to the Floating Classroom.

Who should get invitations to the watershed summit? There were many suggestions: supervisors, mayors, public works employees including highway workers, and notify David Orr from the Cornell Local Roads Program, also from the county soil and water districts. What about the agricultural community? Probably only 2 people from each municipality (muni). Also check those working on creek water sampling because that is water that goes to the lake and it would show a connection between the lake and the communities, ex. the Canoga Creek sampling and CSI. Then, should the invitations be sent through the mail or by email? It was decided some of each to different groups; I O members are invited.

Another topic was who would lead the break-out groups, what topics should be covered and how should they be organized? Facilitators could have groups composed of different regions and talents, people with different ideas from the same region or by sub-watersheds of Cayuga Lake so they could relate better to each other's problems; such topics as HABs, TMDL and NYS regulations were suggested. (Roxy mentioned that until the hydrilla problem, the City of Ithaca didn't work with TCSW, and Ric said the Towns of Danby and Newfield worked together for streambank stabilization.) Then they could all come together and share ideas. Tee Ann would like to have a conference call with Kathy Bertuch, Darby Kiley, CJ Randall and others who could help set up the watershed summit. Becky asked if there should be a registration or an RSVP, and to announce the next meeting of the I O, which is on Wed., 3/28/18.

Three students from Cornell who are learning about local governments (and the lake) will be participating in the watershed summit and will report back to the I O at a future meeting. Ric

mentioned that Cornell interns helped the Town of Danby with their EMS. They also participated in TCOG meetings. Ric wanted to know if the I O should go to a TCOG meeting to explain what the I O does and how munis can benefit from the I O by bringing projects to their attention as Danby did.

Allison said she could help update the I O website, and Tee Ann said she contacted Jerry Cogner, who has the domain name, so it can be worked on. The I O has come up with some ideas and suggestions for Allison: 1. put the updated Restoration and Protection Plan on the website, as now it is only on the CLWN website, 2. stormwater info and regulations, and why it is important to control and clean stormwater, and add before and after pictures, 3. Possible photos of projects, 4. a letter about the I O, 5. include the original watershed management plan, 6. the Cayuga Lake Characterization, 7. Photos of Cayuga Lake from Bill Hecht, 8. a map of the munis in the watershed, 9. pictures of streams going to the lake (to show connections with the munis), 10. list of projects, 11. meeting times, 12. minutes of meetings, 13. coming events, 14. grants, 15. I O mission statement, 16. link to CLWN, 17. link to the Floating Classroom, 18. donation button to F C and CLWN (the I O is not eligible for donations).

Submitted by Jackie Cassaniti