

Conservation/UWEX Education Committee
March 17, 2014
Minutes

Committee members present: Bob Martini, Bob Mott and Greg Berard. Absent: Jim Intrepidi (excused) and Clint Zimbeck.

Others present: Erica Brewster, Tim Brown, Lynn Feldman, Jean Hansen, Bill Freudenburg and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Martini at 1:30 p.m. noting the meeting has been properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible. It was noted a quorum was not present and only non-action items will be covered.

Dates of future meetings:

April 7, 2014	9:00 a.m.	Extension meeting room
May 12, 2014	1:30 p.m.	Extension meeting room

Agency reports:

Lake Districts: Mott reported Mid Lake is still working on curly leaf pond weed control.

RC&D: Mott noted the next RC&D meeting will be held in April.

WACEC: Brewster noted the WACEC Regional meeting has been rescheduled for 4/21/14 in Rothschild. Mott plans to attend contingent on re-election.

Annual report to County Board: Brewster discussed presenting an annual report to County Board to help market the Department. Committee members felt this is a good idea. Staff will request time on the Board agenda after April.

Office space update/air quality issues:

- Hansen noted LWC began to move to the Courthouse on 3/5/14 with the final load delivered on 3/13/14. Staff is not fully unpacked. Discussion followed regarding office coverage, etc.
- Brewster reported the report from NIOSH has not been received. She has been contacted by Buildings & Grounds regarding assistance moving staff into space vacated by LWC. Brewster responded with a list of concerns noting the need to address the air quality issue before shifting staff spaces. She also noted the agents are all out of the office most of April which may delay the issue.

Oneida County Recreation Plan: Martini attended Forestry Committee meeting last week where information from the public hearing was discussed. He noted the Committee agreed to add economic information and seemed open to adding some of the omissions. It was also noted the Plan will be a "living" document which can be changed as needed. Discussion followed. The Plan is expected to come before County Board in April.

WHIP Roadside survey/management plan: Committee members received plan by email. Hansen noted Freeman Bennett (Highway Department) is eager to begin control efforts this

season. Hansen plans to meet with the Highway Committee regarding the plan. Discussion followed.

AIS grants: Hansen reported the WEEB grant has been submitted and the department is awaiting approval.

Farmland Preservation Plan: Hansen reported Oneida County was awarded a grant in the amount of \$17,000 to help cover costs of developing the plan. She noted a Committee member is needed to sit on the Citizens Advisory Committee. The item will be placed on the April agenda for action.

County Cost-Share Program Update/Approval: Hansen made a cost-share project site visit today with the DATCP Engineer, noting there are several issues that need to be addressed.

Monthly staff report: Hansen gave a presentation on a project completed on Moen's Lake in 2005, highlighting the practice of vegetated geo-grid for soil erosion.

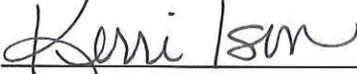
Public comment:

- Martini thanked Berard for his service on this committee and his time and efforts as the liaison to the Fair Planning Team. Berard was excused at 2:43 p.m.
- Brewster noted preliminary interviews for the WNEP Coordinator position will be held on 4/8/14 with finals scheduled for 4/22/14 in Antigo.
- Martini has received a North American River Academy lifetime achievement award and will receive his award in Denver in April.
- Hansen reported the Conservation Awareness Poster Contest award ceremony will be held on 3/26/14 at 3:30 p.m. in the County Board room. Martini will attend.
- Hansen reported the first place speakers from the Conservation Awareness Contest will give their speeches at the March County Board meeting.

Items for next agenda: WHIP Roadside survey/management plan, DATCP Farmland Preservation Plan, action items not addressed at this meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerri Ison, Recording Secretary



Bob Martini, Vice Chair