

**Irondequoit Bay Coordinating Committee
Technical Staff Meeting
Penfield Town Hall
June 24, 2021**

Present: Steve Olufsen of the Monroe County Department of Planning and Development, Andy Sansone, Monroe County Environmental Services Department, Robert Call, NYSDEC, Mike Allen, Chairman, Kerry Ivers, Town of Irondequoit, Jim Costello and Mike O'Connor, Town of Penfield, Josh Artuso, Town of Webster, Ahmed Mustafa, NEQALS/Boater, Jane Shafer, Newport Yacht Club, Noel Schlageter, EMC, Ken Altfather, Bay Creek Paddling and Mark MacMillan, MacMillan Marine.

A. Introductions:

Chair: Mike Allen

Scribe: Jim Costello

B. Water Level Update:

- Today's water level on Lake Ontario is 245.16'. The average is 246.20'. The outflow is 7,600 CMS and the average is 7,800 CMS. Lake Erie averaged 575.10' last month. The average in 2020 was 574.46' and the long term average is 572.05. All lakes have dropped since last year.

C. Densmore Creek Marker:

- Steve noted that there were 2-3 markers in the bay in close proximity to the outflow of Densmore Creek. One of the markers came loose and floated away, and ended up in Webster. A request was made to have it put back in its original position. It was originally placed by a resident and not an authorized official or agency. The area protrudes approximately 200 feet into the bay. The general consensus is that it would be dangerous if it were not put back in place. It is now sitting at the Newport Marina and Ahmed offered to put it back in place. Jane asked if the placement could be made official. It was noted that the Coast Guard would be the agency to authorize that action. She said that she would reach out to Chief Matt Reisberger to see if he could officially support the placement. Ahmed also stated that he felt that such markers should be installed in Held's Cove as well.

D. Stoney Point Weed Growth:

- Steve received an email from the Stoney Point HOA requesting guidance and assistance in removing aquatic vegetation from the area around their docks. He also received an email from Bayside Boat and Tackle requesting assistance at the south end of the bay as well. Both groups want the County or State to assist them in the removal. Rob Call noted that the NYSDEC would be required to issue a. Article 24 Permit for any weed harvesting activity. The NYSDEC does not allow herbicides as a method of resolving the problem – just usually hand pulling. He stated that mechanical weed harvesters could be considered, but suggested that a pre-app meeting be set up with a specific plan for review. Ken Altfather stated

that weed growth has overrun the south end of the bay since 2019. This year, the entire weed patch has move northward and is not in the channel or shoreline. He noted that it smells and feels that it is an embarrassment. Andy Sansone said that he has been on the bay doing monitoring work on the bay. He is proposing an aquatic vegetation survey. He noted that there has been no dramatic change in phosphorous levels, but the water temperature has increased in the center of the bay by 2.8°C in April this year. He would like to develop an aquatic plan to replicate his monitoring work every year.

E. Review last month notes and this agenda:

- Last month's meeting minutes were accepted as written. Nothing new was added to this month's agenda.

F. Project Updates and Reviews:

Irondequoit –

- Kerry reported that the Bay Village Condominium Association has applied for a permit to replace its revetment.
- R.T. Masters has applied for approval to elevate its building to comply with FEMA requirements for development within the 100 year floodplain.

• Penfield –

- Jim Costello stated that the 98 unit Bellagio apartment building at 1384 Empire Blvd. has received its Certificate of Occupancy and the units are being leased.
- He also stated that Dr. Jack Howitt's 60 unit apartment building on Wilbur Tract Road, on the south side of Empire Blvd. adjacent to the K2 Brewery has been approved and work should start before the end of summer.

• Webster –

- Josh Artuso stated that the REDI project concerning the Lake Road realignment has passed through the State Assembly alienation process.
- Public open houses to address the Sand Bar Park improvements have taken place. He noted that the Bayside restaurant will be demolished as part of the revitalization plan and that a new structure will be constructed and leased through an RFP process once completed. Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2022. He noted that boring and geotechnical data will be collected during the third week of July.
- Bob Call addressed applications for docking at 1008 Glen Edith Drive and shoreline protection at 1016 Glen Edith Drive. He has issued permits for the Stoney Point dock replacement and gazebo, Mayers Marina Business REDI Grant to raise its wall and sheeting, and a Coastal Erosion Permit for the Morrow property on Lake Road, where the fire took place for a new residence is under review.

G. Other:

➤ **Harbor Management Plan Update:**

- Mike Allen reported that work is near completion on the Draft Harbor Management Plan Update. The committee will meet again soon to continue its work.
- Steve noted that dredging is on schedule to start on July 16th from the lake into the bay. The work is expected to take three weeks and minimal disruption is expected. Ahmed suggested that highway signs be posted at the State Launch alerting boaters of the dredging activity. Steve stated that the County may have such signs and he would look into that and also stated that he can send out information to let the public know of the work. It was noted that Kristin Sorbaro of OGS would get the message out.
- Ahmed requested that each community post that the Webster Parks and Rec. Department will be hosting Safe Boating Classes from June 30th to July 1st from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and that pre-registration is required.

H. Next meeting – Thursday, July 22nd via ZOOM and in person

I. Parking Lot: None

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.