



Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

c/o Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program
The Boehlert Center at Union Station
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MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2020

4:30 PM

Whitestown Town Offices
8539 Clark Mills Road
Whitestown, NY

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)
Rick Sherman (T. of New Hartford)
Supervisor Christian (T. of Paris)
Joseph Morosco (V. of Yorkville)
Vincent Malagese (V. of Whitesboro)
Tom Hughes (V. of New Hartford)
Mayor Bialek (V. of NY Mills)
Mike Mahoney (City of Utica)
Celeste Friend (City of Utica- 3rd Ward)
Legislator Mary Pratt (OC Legislator)
Legislator Anthony Leone (OC Legislator)

Dana Nimey-Olney (NYS Assembly)
Steve Devan (OC WQ&WPC)
Dave Babowicz (OC DPW)
Dan Appler (OC E-911)
Sherry Hierholzer (NYS DOT)
Kristina Markey (NYS DEC)
Alan Swierczek (citizen)
Gary Kielar (citizen)
Shaun Gannon (OBG)
Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP)

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by member Chairperson Dave Glenn. Upon a motion by Supervisor Christian and second by Joseph Morosco, the minutes of the December 17, 2019 meeting was approved.

Whitestown Sauquoit Creek Channel and Floodplain Restoration Capital Project

Chairperson Glenn and Kristin provided a brief update on the status of the project. Phase 1 of the project suffered some damages from the Halloween 2019 Flood event. NYS DEC is working with the Town of Whitestown on permitting for repairs. The cost of repairs will be included in the FEMA public disaster declaration, re-plantings provided by NYS DEC's nursery and some additional funds from the contractor.

Phase 2 near the CSX tracks is in the permitting and engineering phase. The Dormitory Authority of the State of NY (DASNY) has approved the appraisal for the purchase of the property in the Village of Whitesboro and the Town of Whitestown's attorney is drafting a bill of sale. In January, the Town of Whitestown applied for a \$100k Mohawk River Coalition Grant for Phase 2, held the kick-off meeting with NYS Environmental Facilities to discuss the Green Infrastructure Grant Program award for Phase 2 and started the organizational paperwork for FEMA's Flood Hazard Mitigation Assistance award for engineering.

Treasurer's Report

Kristin reported the balance in the Commission's bank account is \$ 47,257.08. There were no new bills. Upon a motion by Vince Malagese, and second by Supervisor Christian, members voted to accept the treasurer's report.

Other Business

- Earlier in the month, a map of each municipality was handed out to the representative to bring back to their municipality to use to identify problem areas such as gravel bar or debris fields. Chairperson Glenn requested members identify areas that need clean up or problem areas and returned to Dave or Kristin. The Planning Department will work with municipalities to map these problem locations and eventually work with other agencies to come up with a long-term maintenance plan for the creek. The future goal is to set up a task force with various stakeholders to work on sections of the creek on a regular basis to perform maintenance.
- Chairperson Glenn requested members discuss any projects and problem areas in their representative communities. There was general discussion of areas that flooded and debris in different areas along the creek particularly near bridges. Some issues are not maintenance but require large-scale repairs such as near Whitesboro's Parkway School.
 - Supervisor Christian reported that the Town has \$25k from Assemblyperson Miller that they are looking to use on a mitigation project after a landowner pulled out of a culvert repair project. He provided a list of 10 problem areas in Paris.
 - Steve Devan reported that three spots needed to be fixed in Chadwicks, Paris and near the pump station after the flooding. A new force main has been installed under the CSX tracks.
 - Village of New Hartford and Utica reported that the trees on along Richardson Avenue in the channelized portion of the creek collect debris and need to be either trimmed or removed. The Genesee Street Bridge over the Sauquoit Creek was over topped during the Halloween storm.
- There was further discussion about what activities are regulated or not in the Sauquoit Creek and its tributaries. Kristin is speaking with NYS DEC's regional office to set up a local training for highway personnel. This will be scheduled for February with further details will be coming soon.
- The agreement has been signed for the flood drainage study in Whitesboro between Oneida County and the SCBIC. A scope of work was presented by OBG and a request for written authorization for the work to proceed. Upon a motion by Joseph Morosco, and second by Vince Malagese, members voted to approve the scope of work and send out written authorization to proceed with the drainage survey and analysis.

The next meeting date is February 18, 2020.