

NREC Meeting Minutes: Monday, June 1st, 2020

Meeting held on Zoom Virtual Conference

Members present: Kerrie Gallo (Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper), Claudia Rosen (Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper) John Jarosz (Niagara Musky Association), Jajeane Rose-Burney (WNY Land Conservancy), Larry Beahan (Sierra Club), Lauren Makeyanko, (Buffalo Audubon Society), Ed Sirianno (Buffalo Audubon Society) Jay Wopperer (Adirondack Mountain Club - Niagara Frontier), Linda Schneider(Adirondack Mountain Club - Niagara Frontier)

Members absent: Don Houck (Presbytery of Western New York), Ann Ingleman (League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara), Bob VanHise (Adirondack Mountain Club - Niagara Frontier)

1. Day-to-Day Business

- a. March minutes approval
 - i. Motion by Larry, Second by Jajeane, minutes approved.
- b. Chair update – Kerrie
 - i. There will likely be several GESC projects submitted in July. NREC may schedule an additional meeting in July to discuss these projects. Based on consistency comments and conversations with local stakeholders, it seems likely that the GESC will have more proposals and requests for dollars than there is money to support in this round.
 - ii. Kerrie will check on current GEF fund balance prior to NREC's discussion of the GESC projects.
 1. The GEF balance through March 2020 is \$1.119 million. That total reflects everything that has been paid out so far plus all still-committed amounts for future years of multi-year projects.

2. Niagara River Greenway Consistency Discussion

- a. Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Ellicott Island Bark Park Living Shorelines
 - i. BNW will likely seek more than one funding source for this project. At this point, BNW is asking for consistency with the Greenway Plan, not funding.
 - ii. Motion that the project is consistent with the NR Greenway Plan by Jajeane, second by John.
 - iii. All in favor, BNW abstains, motion passes.
- b. Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Raymond Klimek Veterans Park
 - i. Motion that the project is consistent with the NR Greenway Plan by Jajeane, second by Larry.
 - ii. All in favor, BNW abstains, motion passes
- c. Town of Porter, Fort Niagara Beach Shoreline Restoration Project
 - i. Comments:
 1. Prior to submitting a proposal for funding, NREC recommends that the applicant clarify details of the amount of planting materials to be used at the project site.
 2. NREC suggests that if the applicant intends to seek funding from the Greenway Ecological Standing Committee, they should check the

“environmental” box under project type and clarify the ecological components of the project.

3. NREC suggests that the applicant address how the planting materials will be placed at the project site and consider the high-water levels when deciding on placement.
 - ii. Motion that the project is consistent with the NR Greenway Plan by Larry, second by John.
 - iii. All in favor, motion passes.

Action Items:

- When GESC meeting date is set, Claudia will schedule an additional NREC meeting to discuss upcoming GESC applications.