



A clean lake reflects well  
on all of us.

(final)

## ONONDAGA LAKE PARTNERSHIP (OLP)

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 23, 2007

#### 1. ATTENDEES

##### **Committee Members Present:**

LTC John S. Hurley, District Commander, USACE, Buffalo District (VTC)  
Mr. David Coburn, alt. for Mr. Nicholas Pirro, County Executive, Onondaga County  
Mr. Kenneth Lynch, Regional Director, NYSDEC, Region 7  
Mr. William Owens, Contract Compliance Officer, City of Syracuse, alt. for Mayor Matthew Driscoll  
Mr. Seth Ausubel, Chief, Freshwater Protection Branch and Outreach Committee Chair, USEPA Region 2, alt. for Mr. Mario DelVicario, Chief, Community and Ecosystem Branch USEPA-Region 2 (VTC)  
Mr. Charles Silver, Environmental Scientist, Attorney General, NYS (teleconference)

##### **Others In Attendance:**

Mr. Christopher Dere, Onondaga Lake Program Manager, USEPA Region 2 (VTC)  
Mr. Steven Vriesen, OLP Program Manager, USACE, Buffalo District (VTC)  
Ms. Julie Zielinski, Recording Secretary, USACE, Buffalo District (VTC)  
Ms. Lindsay Speer, Office of Joseph J. Heath, Onondaga Nation General Counsel  
Dr. Elizabeth Moran, EcoLogic, LLC

##### **Committee Members Absent:**

None

2. **MEETING ARRANGEMENTS:** The meeting was held on Friday, February 23, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.
3. **AGENDA ITEMS:** An Agenda was provided which included the following items:

**Opening Remarks:** LTC Hurley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- a. Executive Session:** An Executive Session was held from 10:20 a.m through 10:30 a.m.
- b. Approval of the December 19, 2006 minutes:** The December 19, 2006 minutes were tabled until all revisions were received. An e-mail vote will be taken upon completion of all revisions.

**Approval of the January 16, 2007 minutes:** The January 16, 2007 minutes were unanimously approved with the following amendments. Page two, subparagraph e., 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet, 4<sup>th</sup> line, replace non-OLP members with “speakers.” Page three, second last bullet, rewrite to read, Recommend completing the visioning project and conducting further outreach consistent with OLP planning process.

- c. Action Items:** Ms. Zielinski reviewed the open Action Items and will revise the list as appropriate. Mr. Lynch reported on Action Item No. E07-6. Based on information from Don Hughes bacteria from Onondaga Creek is not solely a CSO issue. Mr. Lynch will look into the accompanying issues further with DOH.
- 4. Correspondence:** Ms. Zielinski reported that USACE received one item of incoming correspondence from Ms. Carmella Mantello of the NYS Canal Corporation. Ms. Mantello appointed Mr. Steve Eidt to fill the vacancy on the Project Committee. No outgoing correspondence to report.

#### **5. Standing Committee Reports:**

**(a) Outreach Committee:** Mr. Ausubel reported on the Outreach Committee meetings of January 17, and February 21, 2007: The following key items were discussed:

- Onondaga Creek Sub-basin Conceptual Revitalization Plan Project: A stakeholder meeting will be held on March 20, 2007 at the MOST at 7:00 a.m. This meeting is targeted toward the business district, also open to all, and free of charge. Individual meetings will also be held with CANOPY, Izaak Walton League, and Trout Unlimited.
- Motion passed to award OLP publications contract to Koenig for one year with a one year option to extend (includes 2 OLP newsletters and 2 tabloids per year).
- 2007 OLP Mini grants: Approved funding for three mini-grants for a total of \$13k. (awarded to Dunbar School, Liverpool School, and Enviromails). The Outreach Committee decided to release announcements for the OLP mini grants on a semi-annual basis (July 1, December 1) to gain more interest.
- Mr. Joe Ranieri, Town Councilor, Town of Geddes attended the February 21, 2007 meeting to discuss options for an Onondaga Lake Visitors Center.

**(b) Project Committee:** Mr. Vriesen reported that the Project Committee also met on January 18, and February 15, 2007.

Highlights from the January 18, 2007 meeting are as follows:

- Executive Committee has assigned USACE as interim Chair of the Project Committee until a permanent selection has been approved.
- FFY2007 OLP project selection process was initiated and the committee set a 2 Feb 2007 deadline for submission of project proposals.
- Distributed preliminary PMIS database report based on a compilation of all quarterly updates that were received.
- Project of the Month presentation: Mr. John Clare from Onondaga County Dept. of WEP gave a brief presentation of the OLP Grant Agreement for Sewer Separations at CSO Basins 045, 047, 048, and 050.
- The committee agreed to move forward with the development of a modified RFQ for the Local Watershed Coordinator, a proposal previously approved in 2006 (FY06-7). A sub-committee was formed to draft the RFQ.
- Received monthly OEI update.

Highlights from the February 15, 2007 meeting are as follows:

- NYS Canal Corporation accepted the invitation to fill the Project Committee vacancy and designated Steve Eidt as their representative.
- The committee agreed to review the draft lake visioning report and submit comments to USACE no later than March 8, 2007.
- Continued to discuss FFY2007 OLP project proposals. The committee intends to submit a recommended project list for consideration by the Executive Committee at their March meeting.
- A draft Watershed Management Plan Strategy prepared by USEPA was presented to propose a paradigm by which a watershed management plan could be prepared.
- Received monthly OEI update.
- Project of the Month: Mr. Jeff Carmichael from OCSWCD gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Rural Non Point Source Pollution Best Management Practices, Roadbank/Streambank Construction project.

## **6. Unfinished Business:**

- (a) **EcoLogic Draft Vision Project:** The Executive Committee, as well as the standing committees have requested to review the complete draft Vision report concurrently prior to approving the next steps. OEI will mail copies to the respective committee members.

All comments are due to USACE by March 9, 2007 where the comments will be consolidated into one set for the March Executive Committee meeting. The Outreach Committee explained that they are interested in this document as it is a public outreach document and also in the research data. After a lengthy discussion the partners agreed to review the complete report prior to their March meeting and discuss comments/issues in detail during the Executive Session portion of the meeting. EcoLogic will be asked to be available by telephone if any questions need clarification

**(b) Standing Committee Chair Assignments and Vacancies:**

**Outreach Committee Chair:** Mr. Ausubel urged the Executive Committee to appoint a chair for the Outreach Committee as he has been assigned other projects at USEPA. Mr. Coburn proposed to nominate Ms. Sue Miller (Onondaga County) as the Chair of the Outreach Committee. Mr. Ausubel agreed to support Ms. Miller in the transition period over the next month. The following Motion was moved by Mr. Ausubel, seconded by Mr. Lynch, and approved unanimously. Mr. Lynch offered the assistance of Ms. Carlton if needed.

**MOTION:** The Executive Committee approves the nomination of Ms. Sue Miller from Onondaga County to serve as the Outreach Committee Chair for a two-year term.

**Project Committee Chair:** Mr. Lynch informed the partners that the position of the Project Committee Chair remains under discussion at NYSDEC. LTC Hurley was agreeable for USACE to continue to Chair the Project Committee for the short term.

**7. New Business:** None to report.

**8. Other Business:**

**(1) Syracuse Office of Creek Development Update:** Nothing to report.

**(2) Issues:**

**EcoLogic Lake Vision Report:** The Executive Committee discussed the appropriateness of inviting the EcoLogic staff in person to the March meeting to discuss their work product. It was agreed to prepare one set of comments and/or questions to submit to EcoLogic for response at the April Executive Committee meeting.

**9. Public Comment:** Ms. Lindsay Speer informed the partners that she has replaced Ms. Katie Nadeau in the same capacity in Joe Heath's office.

**10. ADJOURN:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 26, 2007 in Syracuse, New York

Adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Number	Date of Origin	Due Date	Action Officer	Tasking	Status
E06-36	19-Dec-06	26-Mar-07	All	Review the complete EcoLogic, LLC draft Visioning report. Provide comments to USACE for consolidation.	In-Progress
E07-1	16-Jan-07	15-Feb-07	USACE	Prepare checklist outlining the tasks listed in the EcoLogic work plan (scope) and status of each. (assigned to OEI)	Complete
E07-2	16-Jan-07	26-Mar-07	USEPA	Provide copies of the EcoLogic contract sections that lists what tasks are funded under the original budget.	In-Progress
E07-3	16-Jan-07	23-Feb-07	USACE	Send letter of invitation to NYS Canal Corp to fill vacancy of OLP Project Committee.	Complete
E07-4	16-Jan-07	23-Feb-07	All	Provide a recommendation for the Outreach Committee Chair position.	Complete
E07-5	16-Jan-07	15-Mar-07	Project Cmte	Discuss and provide a recommendation for continuing maintenance of the tully valley mudboils and the long term needs.	In-Progress
E07-6	16-Jan-07	26-Mar-07	Lynch	Contact the State Department of Health for further information on the health risks associated with human contact with Onondaga Creek.	In-Progress