

OLPA Minutes, April 12, 2017

Attendance: Tim, Margie, Jennifer, Mary, Lynne via Skype, Adam via speakerphone

Treasurer's report - about \$30,000.

Venues for future meetings were discussed. Possibilities include Amber Inn, Marcellus Library, Lakeside Vista, Marcellus Park Community Room, and Amber Community Center. First choice would be the Amber CC if we can use it without charge. Tim will ask Bill Ayling to check into this. Second choice is Amber Inn.

Annual meeting will be July 5th. Again, choices were suggested and discussed. First choice would be the Marietta House.

Earth Day: Bill Ayling will coordinate this, April 22 from 9:30-11:30.

Projects:

Grant Application. Jennifer has been working hard on obtaining a grant to address Aquatic Invasive Species. Otisco Lake has 4 invasive species and is susceptible to more. There is a need for mapping the lake so we can determine what is growing and where. ESF can use GPS mapping to do an aquatic survey. Jennifer feels the best technique for removal is a combination of surface harvesting and suction, pulling and raking. We are also involved in a study to check on the presence of bloody red shrimp. We have tremendous partners in the preservation of the lake, including OCWA, Onondaga County Health Dept., Finger Lakes Institute and Soil and Water Conservation. We should hear about the grant allocation on May 10, and Jennifer cautioned us to be mindful of public comments on funding until we know the results and can draft a public statement. Tim will develop "talking points" with input from Jennifer.

Harvesting. Kara Croyle is the new person who will be doing harvesting of bogs and disposal. Suggested dates are the week after the 4th of July, and around August 1st. Our cost will decrease if we can provide a dump truck.

Dumpster Days. June 3rd is the first one, at Rick Frost's driveway. The second date is August 19. We need a coordinator who will work with Calista.

Shuffle. John Cappozzi will help coordinate the race part of our event. We talked about prizes, how to distribute them, Lynne will work on gift baskets again and Mary will do the food.

Water Chestnut Pull. July 9th. FLI has \$\$ to hire people to work with us. When we pull, some seeds fall to the lake bottom where they can live for 12 years, starting more plants. We need to combine pulling and suctioning around the roots. DEC has reported seeing water chestnuts near the narrows, but no mapping or reporting was done.

Mike Plochocki continues to be supportive of our group. The county will give \$5,000 towards salaries for stewards, giving a check directly to the Fingerlakes Institute. DOH contributes \$5,000 toward harvesting.

We approved 3 \$250.00 scholarships to be given to seniors going into the science/environmental field.

We approved money for Margie and Jennifer to attend the NYS Freshwater Lake Ass. Conference May 6th.

Next meeting is May 3rd. (Later changed to May 10th).