

MINUTES OF THE
SENECA LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANNING KICK OFF MEETING
JULY 31, 1996
SLPWA offices, Geneva, NY

ATTENDANCE: (See attached sheet)

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ruth Sweet called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. The participants introduced themselves.

OPENING REMARKS: Peter Landre, Water shed Specialist, Yates County Cooperative Extension, made a slide presentation describing the watershed planning process which he has assisted in the Canandaigua and Keuka Lake watersheds. He stressed linking watershed protection to economic impact to encourage "buy in": if the quality of water goes down, so does income from recreation/boating/fishing and from lake residents leaving upland residents to pay increased taxes.

Jim Curatolo, Research Associate with the SLPWA, reviewed the work he has accomplished under the current watershed planning grant. He has defined and mapped subwatersheds, land use and soils on a small scale. This info is available on computer. He has also catalogued existing water quality studies on the lake and found that only a few studies have been done.

Mary Ruth Sweet handed out the outline of the Seneca Lake Watershed Study Task List, the Cooperation Resolution, the 1995 Snapshot of SLWPA members, and the Summary of Suggested Minimum Municipal Ordinances. She noted that the SLPWA was formed in 1990 and since that time a very active Land Use Committee has gathered all land use laws passed within the watershed. She noted that most dealt with "neighbor vs. neighbor" issues not "neighbor vs. lake" issues, thus the model watershed protection language proposed by SLPWA would be useful to most communities. SLPWA has also spoken with 10 of the 14 communities ringing the lake about adoption of the Resolution Endorsing the Development of the Watershed Study. To date, 8 of the 10 have signed the agreement

Sweet noted that water quality in the deep portions of the lake are good, but shallow shore areas are showing high nutrient levels. There is the potential for uncontrolled growth, which could lead, to costly problems. Now is our chance to prevent problems. The Seneca Lake Waterways group formed in the 60's has offered photos which show the reduction in weed growth and land use characteristics of the watershed for comparison purposes.

Jennifer Fais, STCRPDB, and Dave Zorn, G/FLRPC, explained that NYSDEC provided Section 604(b) water quality funding to their agencies to undertake locally driven water quality projects. With this group's concurrence, Jennifer and Dave would propose work tasks that they could accomplish which would help the SLPWA achieve its plan. They hoped to submit their work plan to DEC by mid-August. Since it is a competitive process, they were not assured of funding, but were very hopeful. They thanked the group for the opportunity to work with them.

WHAT WILL WE CALL OURSELVES? After a discussion of a variety of names, the group agreed that Seneca Lake Area Partnership (SLAP5) captured the cooperative and preventive nature of this ad hoc group.

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES AND WHO WILL DO THE WORK? Sweet asked each person to discuss their specific role in the project so that the plan could be accomplished with wide agency participation.

Ron Rudin, NYSDOH felt that getting the Watershed Rules and Regulations updated and approved by NYSDOH would be an excellent enforcement tool when the process reached the implementation stage. These WRR's should be consistent for ease in enforcement. Also, stress erosion control measures by public works departments as well as private developers. Don't forget that new regulations on individual septic systems are stronger and need consistent enforcement.

Warren Hart, Ontario County Planning, said that Ontario County had a Building Officials organization which could be the vehicle to contact when working on consistent regs. Are there other associations in other counties?

Dave Weller, Geneva Water Supply, noted that uncontrolled erosion from an upland development has led to \$250,000 filter cleaning at the water plant. He foresees a total cost of \$600,000. This is a direct quantifiable impact of nonpoint erosion on water quality.

Les Travis, Yates County S&WCD, said that the recently completed Yates/Steuben erosion control workbook for highway officials was excellent and should be shared with neighboring counties. An education workshop was held inviting nearby counties. Maybe other sessions should be held. Perhaps map the towns/counties who took part in the training as an article in the SLPWA newsletter. He pointed out a need for educational materials explaining WHY erosion is a problem and what suitable RURAL solutions might be. Many answers are too high tech and costly.

Pat Hastings, Schuyler County legislature, was worried about overlapping agency work and hoped that this effort would avoid duplication, not just create a new group. She appreciated the willingness by everyone at the meeting to help.

Doug Stone, Ontario County S&WCD, noted a macro-invertebrate study conducted on Kashong Creek and suggested that that may be a cost effective tool for others.

Peter Landre, Yates County Coop. Ext., stressed that everyone appeared to be willing to work, but that additional funding would be needed. Few people had any open-ended time left to commit. He suggested that the 1997 work programs for existing agencies be reviewed to coordinate these upcoming projects and to identify staff with expertise to do remaining tasks identified in the Watershed Study outline. He felt strongly that tasks and their costs be defined by the end of 1996 so that legislators could assist in finding the needed funding. He also noted that Hobart and William Smith College has applied for water monitoring moneys and has pledged assistance to SLPWA should the College be funded.

Robert Oaks, rep. For Assemblymember Ron Stewart offered assistance to find support for current funding proposals within the current competitive process and, if armed with facts and figures, would be prepared to find funding through line item legislative initiatives. He appreciated being invited to learn what was going on. He also suggested that the meeting participants go back to their counties to learn what the localities are doing/planning to do so that duplication is avoided and communication is improved.

Pradeep Jangbari, NYSDEC said that he was the “point person” from Region 8 and that he’d be happy to provide what information he could.

(At this point, noon, the following people remained at the meeting: Brown, Curatolo, Fais, Fiori, Jangbari, Stone, Stephany, Sweet, Zorn.)

NEXT STEPS:

1. Jim Curatolo would create a matrix of tasks and agencies, filling in the blanks showing the information that he has already gathered.
2. A specialized meeting of “technical” people would be called to discuss information available in computerized form. **THIS MEETING WAS CALLED FOR AUGUST 15 AT SLPWA OFFICES, 9:30 AM.**
3. M. R. Sweet would send the matrix and minutes ahead of the meeting.
4. The regional planning agencies would suggest a draft work plan showing the assistance they would like to provide under Section 604(b) (if selected by NYSDEC).

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fais, STCRPDB

ATTENDANCE

NAME

REPRESENTING

Rick Brown	Yates County Planning Dept.
Jim Curatolo	SLPWA Research Associate
Craig Doran, represented by Michael Northrup	NYS Assembly 129 th District
Dundee Observer	Press
Jennifer Fais	STCRPDB
John Firoi	CCE Seneca County
Warren Hart	Ontario County Planning Dept.
Pat Hastings	Schuyler Co. Legislature
Amo Houghton Jr., represented by John Meier	House of Representatives
Paradeep Jangbari	NYSDEC Region 8
Peter Landre	CCE/Yates County
Jim McFerson	City of Geneva
Robert Oaks, represented by Ron Stewart	NYS Assembly 128 th District
Ron Rudio	NYSDOH
Ed Stephany	SLPWA Board
Doug Stone	Ontario County SWCD
Mary Ruth Sweet	Seneca Lake Pure Waters Assoc.
Les Travis	Yates Co. SWCD
Dave Willer	City of Geneva
Joanne Wisor	City of Geneva
Dave Zorn	Genesee Finger Lakes Regional
Plng.	

SLAP-5
SENECA LAKE AREA PARTNERS IN FIVE COUNTIES
(Chemung, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Yates)

c/o SLPWA
PO BOX 247 GENEVA NY 14456-0247 315 789 3052

TO: PEOPLE WITH A STAKE IN SENECA LAKE

FROM: Mary Ruth Sweet, SLAP-5 Education Coordinator and Conference Co-Sponsor

RE: WE NEED YOU AT THE *ABUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE*
WATERSHEDS@ CONFERENCE, SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1

Back from the summer all refreshed? Do you recall finding an invitation in your stack of mail to the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance, Fifth Annual Conference, *ABuilding Partnerships for Sustainable Watersheds*,@ to be held at the Ramada Inn-Lakefront in Geneva from September 30 - October 1? You do??? It=s sent in already??? GREAT!!!!

Still deciding??? Here are just some of the many reasons for you to come:

- < **HEAR ABOUT** the work underway by the conference co-sponsors, Seneca Lake Area Partners in Five Counties (SLAP-5) such as the completed Road Bank Erosion Site Inventory
completed Macroinvertebrate Study
Stream Bank Erosion Inventory (underway)
Ag-Environmental Management Plans (underway)
- < **COMMENT ON** the Draft Seneca Lake Watershed Resident Survey
- < **ADD** the right people to the SLAP-5 list to work on the Watershed Strategy
- < **CELEBRATE SUCCESS** and watch communities receive their award for spearheading this watershed-wide effort (Is your town one of these???)
- < **HELP PICK** the meeting locations for watershed meetings
- < **ADD YOUR TWO CENTS** about the project so that the work that gets done is the work that YOU want done.
- < **TAKE HOME** your packet of valuable information.

THE FIRST STEP.....

- < **SEND IN THAT REGISTRATION FORM!!!!** (Or contact Betsy Landre at 315-536-7488 or wrb@eznet.net for your copy of the conference brochure)
- < **COMPLETE THE ATTACHED STAKEHOLDER=S SURVEY!!!**
- < **MARK UP THE SLAP-5 PARTICIPANTS LIST!!!**
- < **BRING THE SURVEY AND LIST WITH YOU** to the conference for a surprise gift, OR
- < **MAIL THEM BACK**, if you cannot attend.

This project works from the **A**bottom up.@ We=re at the **A**ground floor@ and hope that you will come along to get us to the **TOP!!!!**

SEE YOU SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 1!!

SLAP - 5
SENECA LAKE AREA PARTNERS IN FIVE COUNTIES
(Chemung, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Yates)
c/o SLPWA

PO BOX 247 GENEVA NY 14456-0247 315 789 3052

STAKEHOLDER=S SURVEY

Name _____ Date _____

Organization/Municipality _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

e-mail _____

I AM A SLAP-5 MEMBER ____ Yes ____ No.

IF AYES@

_____ I am very interested. Please notify me of all project oversight meetings, drafts, etc. so I can help set the direction of this program. The best way to reach me is:
_____MAIL _____E-MAIL

_____ I would like to volunteer for a specific task. Below are my interests: _____

_____ I can=t attend meetings, but want to keep in touch. Please send me:
_____agendas _____minutes
_____ work scopes _____progress reports
_____ other:

IF ANO,@

_____ PLEASE send me more information before I decide

_____ The following person already represents my interests as part of SLAP-5

_____ I=m not involved now, but WOULD become involved if: _____

IN GENERAL:

_____ I have reviewed the attached list of SLAP-5 members and made corrections and/or added names of people or organizations I feel MUST be involved.

_____ The current list of SLAP-5 members looks fine.

OTHER COMMENTS:

THANK YOU. Please return to our display booth.....

Please return this survey to our display booth at the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance=s 6th Annual Watershed Conference to be held 9/30 & 10/1 at the Lakefront Ramada Inn, Geneva

INTERIM MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE SENECA LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT:

To protect and enhance the quality of Seneca Lake and its surrounding watershed through the encouragement of sound management practices and to facilitate cooperation at the local level to develop a comprehensive approach to enhance the quality of life and the quality of water in the Seneca Lake Watershed.

Adopted on June 4, 1997

GOALS FOR THE SLAP-5 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Chemung, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca and Yates Counties

To develop a watershed management plan for Seneca Lake that will protect and improve water quality and is supported by the citizens and communities in the watershed.

To provide representation of all important sectors in the Seneca Lake Watershed and to keep in contact with people in their areas of expertise to make sure that the watershed program reflects and responds to the people that they represent.

To work by consensus to complete a Seneca Lake State of the Lake report by July 1, 1999 which includes current and historical data on water quality and land use, among other information, and suggests strategies for achieving the above mission.

To help the Technical Coordinator, Education Coordinator, and regional planning board water quality staff accomplish their work plans to achieve the above mission by suggesting priorities in the face of unforeseen developments.

To provide direct technical input into the State of the Lake report, or advise staff on the right sources for that information.

To identify and encourage all groups in the basin, including those with opposing views, to review the data and to work through a facilitated process to finalize the Mission Statement and to define strategies that can be supported by all.

To understand and support the watershed management program as developed above.

To help implement the strategies through their own programs and by working with others.

To attend bi-monthly meetings of the SLAP-5 Oversight Group proposed for each fourth Wednesday starting in January 1998. The meeting location will alternate between the north and south ends of the lake (Geneva, Glenora Winery, Montour Falls, other?)

SLAP-5 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

*Attendance Expected

ORGANIZATION

NRCS/RC&D

Federal legislators

State legislators

NYSSWCC

Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association.

Finger Lakes Ecology Association

County Water Quality Coordinating Committees

County Soil and Water Conservation Districts

County Planning Departments

County Cooperative Extensions

Farm organizations

State/County Health Departments

Scientist

Citizen at Large

ADVISORS:

USGS

NYSDEC

WRB/FLA

NAME

*Dick Winnett

John Meier for US Congressman, Amo Houghton

US Congressman William Paxon

Michael Northrup for Craig Doran

Pat Cougevan for Senator Randy Kuhl

Assemblyman Mike Nozzollio

Ron Stewart for Assemblyman Robert Oaks

Assemblyman James Bacalles

Tom Brace

*Edward Stephany

Bill Hocutt

*Al Horwath Chemung Co

*Doug Stone, Ontario Co.

*Elaine Dalrymple, Schuyler Co.

*Phil Griswold, Seneca Co.

*Peter Landre, Yates Co.

Mark Watts, Chemung Co.

*Tom DeRue, Ontario Co.

*Jim Malyj, Seneca Co.

*Elaine Dalrymple, Schuyler Co.

*Les Travis, Yates Co.

*Rick Brown, Yates County

Randy Olthof, Chemung County

*Warren Hart, Ontario County

*John Czamanske, Schuyler County

*Harriet Haynes, Seneca County

Lee Younge, Chemung County

Tom Nally, Ontario County

*Charles Fausold, Schuyler County

Allen Woodard, Seneca County

*Peter Landre, Yates County

Mark James, Ontario Co. Farm Bureau

*Chip Burden, Yates, Ontario, Seneca Region

*John Halfman, Hobart and Wm Smith Colleges

*Jim Curatolo

Bill Kappell, Ithaca

Ed Bugliosi, Ithaca

*Doug Gillett, Avon office

Gena Gallinger, Lakes Services

Jay Bloomfield, Lakes Services

Betsy Landre, Yates County

NOTE: Many categories have multiple representatives so that each meeting of SLAP-5 is JUST ABOUT GUARANTEED to have a representative from that list of alternates. It is expected that schedules and distance of the meeting would dictate who would attend from each category.

HOWEVER!!!! This still leaves us with a monthly mailing list of MORE THAN 70 PEOPLE to ensure that we have 20+/-people there. Is this good for communication anyway so let's pay for the stamps? What do you think???

SLAP-5 SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS (January 1998):

AGRICULTURE SLPWA Subcommittee members (M. R. Sweet to contact)

EDUCATION: WQCC contacts (A. Horwath, E. Dalrymple, Doug Stone,
Mary Catt, P. Landre) and J. Halfman
STAFF: B. Demjanec; J. Fais, M. R. Sweet, D. Zorn

FINANCE: Tom DeRue, Chair; D. Gillette
STAFF: B. Demjanec; M. R. Sweet

FISH AND WILDLIFE: ??? SLPWA Subcommittee members (M. R. to contact)

OVERSIGHT: federal and state legislators by E-mail
NRCS/RC&D, Dick Winnett
NYSDEC
D. Gillette
Gena Gallinger
Jay Bloomfield
SLPWA, Ed Stephany
County WQCC=s
Chemung: Al Horwath
Ontario: Doug Stone
Schuyler: Elaine Dalrymple
Seneca: Mary Catt
Yates: P. Landre
County Planning
Chemung: Randy Olthof (A. Horwath to contact)
Ontario: Warren Hart
Schuyler: John Czamanske
Seneca: Harriet Haynes
Yates: Rick Brown
County Cooperative Extension
Chemung: Lee Younge
Ontario: Tom Nally
Schuyler: Charles Fausold
Seneca: John Firoi
Yates: P. Landre
County Health, Mark James (Jim Malyj to contact)
Scientist, John Halfman
Citizen at Large, Jim Curatolo

TECHNICAL J. Curatolo, P. Landre
STAFF: B. Demjanec; J. Fais, M. R. Sweet, D. Zorn
SLPWA Technical Committee members (M. R. to contact)

WATER QUALITY SLPWA Subcommittee members