

Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

HOCCPP · Boehlert Center at Union Station · 321 Main St. Utica N.Y. 13501
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MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2023

4:30 PM

Town of New Hartford Offices
at "The Orchards"
8635 Clinton Street
New Hartford, NY 13413

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)

Kyle Tritten (V. of Whitesboro)

Stephane Wurz (City of Utica)

Rick Sherman (T. of New Hartford)

Dave Babowicz (OC DPW)

Sophia O'Neil (A/M Buttenschon)

Jake Voelker (NYS DOT)

Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)

The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Dave Glenn. The March 21, 2023 minutes were approved with a motion by Kyle Tritten and a second by Stephanie Wurz. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

Whitestown Flood Plain Bench Update

Maggie R was unable to attend but sent Kristin notes to be shared with the members on the Whitestown portion of the Sauquoit Creek Flood Plain Restoration Project.

Project 1: Construction will begin shortly on the repairs of Project 1 at Dunham Manor Park. It should be complete by fall of this year or even earlier.

Project 3: Preliminary design has begun on the two sites: Wadas bench and enhancement of Project 2 site at the CSX tracks in Whitesboro. The Town and engineers are working on getting all information to NYS EFC for the signing of the GIGP grant agreement for \$3M. The matching grants are the Oneida County flood mitigation and Climate Smart Community grants. Whitestown is still working on a Forest Conservation Grant to buy the property for Wadas bench and preserve 14 acres of forest. The plan is to go to construction before the end of next year.

Project 2 Maintenance Permit & Creek Cleaning: Due to the heavy sediment deposit from the April storm, Ramboll is meeting with NYSDEC next week to discuss cleaning sediment out of creek in vicinity of south bench and then putting together a maintenance plan. Permits will be needed for both items separately. Kyle T. noted that he saw CSX down there for a few days doing some investigation

and cleaning of debris. There is still a tree lodged under the tracks, but they must be waiting for equipment or for water levels to fall.

NRCS Buy-Out: The program has moved from an easement program to a recovery program. Without getting too detailed it means the Town will now be going through the process of acquiring the properties and restoration of the area. The program is still being funded by NRCS but should move faster.

Upper Sauquoit Creek Modeling

The draft plan was given to Kristin and Dave G. last month. Ramboll provided copies of the draft for comments from NYS DOT and DEC. DOT has gotten comments back to the engineer but DEC needs a little more time. The group discussed and they would like Ramboll to do a presentation at the June 20th meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

Treasurer's Report

The balance in the Commission's bank account is \$101,971.61. The balance doesn't include a bill paid to Ramboll for \$43,450 for the watershed study of the upper portion of the Sauquoit Creek. Kristin submitted for reimbursement from the Oneida County Flood Mitigation grant. Upon a motion by Kyle T. and a second by Stephanie W., the motion passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Other Business

Member Reports

Dave asked members if they would like to pause meetings over the summer in July and August. Unless there is something vital the group needs to meet about, all were in favor of not meeting in the summer.

There were no member reports.

MS4 Coalition

Kristin spoke about MS4 coalition creation efforts. She mentioned that in the CFA, working towards being a coalition is adequate for some grant applications such as new vacuum trucks. She would like to set up a meeting with highway officials who work with MS4 data collection and reporting to kickstart efforts to a coalition. Members discussed holding the meeting in late June/early July at the Oneida County Planning Department during the day. Kristin will send out more details in the next few weeks.

The next meeting date is June 20, 2023 at 4:30 at the Town of New Hartford Offices.