



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board
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Paul W. Pinckney, Chairman David V. Bottar, Executive Director

MINUTES

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board Board of Directors Meeting August 25, 2021

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Keith Batman, Pamela Caraccioli, Ed Gilson, Kipp Hicks, Scot Ingmire, David Knapp, Stephen F. Lynch, Mary Ann Messinger, Christopher Newell, Paul Pinckney, Eric Ridley, Edward Riley, Morris Sorbello, and Martin Voss.

Guests: Ellen Brody, Great Lakes Regional Coordinator, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries; and also Alex Shultz

Staff: Thomas Bardenett, Kathy Bertuch, Michael Boccuzzi, David Bottar, Chris Carrick, Jeanie Gleisner, Bruce Keplinger, Amanda Mazzoni, and Patricia Wortley

1. CALL TO ORDER

Paul Pinckney called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and noted the meeting was being conducted as a virtual zoom meeting only.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

A motion was introduced and seconded to accept the agenda as presented and the minutes from the meeting on June 23, 2021; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. NOAA EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY DESIGNATION

Ellen Brody, Great Lakes Regional Coordinator for NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries in Ann Arbor MI, was introduced and provided a power point presentation regarding the status of the proposed designation of an Eastern Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary. Ms. Brody discussed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan (DEIS/DMP) developed by NOAA with the assistance of the Lake Ontario Sanctuary Advisory Council of local representatives in four Counties. Ms. Brody noted the comprehensive report addresses many aspects of the proposed sanctuary that demonstrate how fishing, diving and water-related businesses on eastern Lake Ontario can still thrive while preservation of the region's rich maritime heritage is ensured. Ms. Brody noted that two boundary options have been put forth by NOAA for consideration by the community including Boundary Area 1 that include resources

in eastern Lake Ontario and the Thousand Islands area located in a portion of the St Lawrence River, and Boundary Area 2 would include only those resources in eastern Lake Ontario.

Ms. Brody continued her remarks by noting the commitment shown in the DEIS/DMP to honor the region's Indigenous nations, the original stewards of the Great Lake Ontario. Also referenced were the educational opportunities and historic programs, cultural and recreational tourism, as well as technological and scientific innovation that stand to gain a stronger hold in the region's communities, positively impacting local economic development in the region.

Ms. Brody concluded her remarks by stressing the importance of Oswego County's efforts to bring together Cayuga, Oswego, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence County to advance this national designation. Also noted were the efforts of the CNY RPDB to support the nomination process. Ms. Brody noted this collaboration has been critical NOAA efforts to protect the region's maritime heritage resources and increase the public's awareness and access to these unique resources, putting the eastern Lake Ontario region in the company of only fifteen national marine sanctuaries in the U.S.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Bottar initiated his remarks by noting the progress being made on the completion of the broadband study for Central New York. Mr. Bottar noted that field inventory and mapping has been completed. Mr. Bottar also noted that over 6,500 surveys have been completed by residents and businesses across CNY as part of the study. Mr. Bottar indicated that a draft report of the study should be completed by October 2021.

Mr. Bottar continued his remarks by noting the agency recently received a \$100,000 grant award from NYSERDA to complete a CNY Community Heat Pump System – District Energy pilot study in the Syracuse Lakefront and downtown area. Mr. Bottar also noted that the agency assisted the City of Oneida with a NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) application for a \$10 million grant. Mr. Bottar noted the agency is currently working with CenterState CEO and economic development organizations to prepare a major application for funding through the EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge program.

Mr. Bottar concluded his remarks by noting the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on September 29th. Also referenced was the next Board meeting set for October 27th that will include a presentation regarding the draft regional broadband study.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was introduced and seconded to adjourn the meeting; the motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

L. Michael Treadwell, Secretary/Treasurer