



2018 Annual Report

Presented at the May Member Meeting

May 9th, 2019



"Water links us to our neighbor in a way more profound and complex than any other."

-John Thorson

2019 May Member Meeting Agenda

May 9th, 2019. 4:30 P.M. Stow, New York.

Review of the 2018 May Member Meeting Minutes

Presentation of the 2018 Annual Report

Board of Directors Election

Open Floor - Membership

Origin of an Alliance: Summary of 2015-2018 Achievements

The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) evolved from the Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) in late 2014. Since its inception in 2005 and pursuant to its core mission, the CLMC was a major contributor to the development of the *Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan* and initiated work on the *Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy*, which sets forth specific recommendations for the proper management of our precious natural resources. The CLMC was an advisory committee to the Chautauqua County legislature and having accomplished its core mission, it was determined that the CLMC would sunset in 2014 in order to evolve into a new Alliance.

The Alliance framework was developed through a series of stakeholder meetings, significant research, and forward-thinking innovation. The Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization and was established in order to secure funding to implement the recommendations determined under the lake and watershed plans. The Alliance also aims to strengthen existing relationships among member organizations already engaged in important lake and watershed activities, and to promote a comprehensive and coordinated effort to ensure the sustained health, ecology, and uses of Chautauqua Lake and its watershed.

This Alliance is for the benefit of all Chautauqua Lake and watershed stakeholders and our primary and original objective is to collaborate and coordinate locally in order to secure State and Federal funds (as well as funds from other sources outside the County) for Alliance Members and Member Projects via grant writing and leveraging local dollars.

Our mission: The Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance, working in collaboration with lake and watershed-related organizations, municipalities and other stakeholders, will promote and facilitate implementation of recommendations from the *Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan* and the *Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy* by prioritizing projects, securing funding and allocating resources.

In 2017, heightened community concern about the health of the lake – and differing views on which expenditures and projects would have the most beneficial impact – led the Alliance to seek a more objective, transparent approach for prioritizing projects and allocating resources.

The resulting *5-Year Implementation Strategy for the Management of Chautauqua Lake and Its Watershed (2018–2022)* finalized May 2018, offers a structured decision-making process and template to guide decisions about which lake and watershed projects should be pursued and/or funded. The strategy team developed a multi-criteria analysis (MCA) tool based on the current science, engineering, and technology of lake and watershed management. These technical criteria were weighted with respect to

input from the local community regarding what ecosystem functions are of greatest value.

The MCA tool enables the Alliance to explicitly address the tradeoffs inherent in prioritizing project opportunities. It applies decision criteria to evaluate projects, assigns a weighting factor to each criterion, and allows users to score the criteria consistently and objectively on a project-by-project basis. The criteria include environmental factors (*italicized below*), which are weighted most heavily, as well as social and economic factors. A set of general criteria is applied to all projects and separate criteria are applied to watershed and in-lake projects:

General	Watershed	In-Lake
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plan to measure and report effectiveness</i> • <i>Consistency with existing plans and strategies, and/or consideration of emerging solutions</i> • <i>Commitment to stakeholder collaboration</i> • <i>Outreach and education</i> • <i>Potential for leveraging available non-local funding</i> • <i>Disclosure of costs (up front and any future maintenance)</i> • <i>Magnitude of up-front project costs</i> • <i>Spatial scale of project</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reduction in nutrient loading</i> • <i>Reduction in sediment loading</i> • <i>Hydrologic resilience</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Protective of human health</i> • <i>Reduction of nutrients from lake ecosystem</i> • <i>Protective of ecosystem health</i> • <i>Longevity of effectiveness</i> • <i>Management of invasive species</i>

One of the challenges for the Alliance and its members is to strike a balance between watershed and in-lake management efforts, so the *5-Year Implementation Strategy* (Strategy) recommends a general allocation of resources to guide the relative investment of resources from 2018 to 2022. These allocations are divided among watershed measures, in-lake measures, and monitoring – a third category that will help

the Alliance evaluate the impact of completed projects and provide a basis for adapting and refining the decision support tool. Given community concerns about the urgent need to reduce impairments to recreational uses of the lake, which is an economic engine for the region, the Strategy recommends prioritizing a higher percentage of available funds to in-lake measures in 2018, and gradually shifting that allocation toward watershed measures over the five-year period. Monitoring should receive a continual allocation. All 2018 allocation proportions were reviewed and summarized in the 3/14/2019 published meeting minutes.

The Strategy also addresses some uncertainties about the pool of resources and available techniques that will be available for managing Chautauqua Lake in the future. Governor Cuomo's statewide Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) initiative includes Chautauqua as one of 12 Priority Lakes for which Action Plans were developed to address the emerging issue of cyanobacterial blooms. The Chautauqua Lake HAB Action Plan, released in June 2018, will affect the universe of permitted actions, the availability of funding, and monitoring priorities going forward. The Alliance will be able to and has already begun using the MCA tool to adapt to new opportunities, such as those that have emerged from the HAB Action Plan.

Additionally, the Strategy offered some general recommendations for the Alliance and its members to ensure that future project proposals submitted for local funding align with the criteria outlined in the MCA tool. Historically, grant proposals that come before local funders do not typically address these criteria, nor are they structured to provide sufficient information for others to fully score them based on the prioritization tool. It is anticipated that adapting the local funding request templates to incorporate specific criteria included in the prioritization tool can raise awareness of the desired outcomes of projects and also creates an incentive for organizations to collaborate. Applicants' awareness of the criteria and scoring values that will be used to evaluate their proposals could potentially elevate the quality of proposals received, as proposers will have a clear incentive to address community priorities and ensure that project goals align with measurable expected outcomes. Based on this recommendation, the Alliance has now partnered with several key local foundations and the County to utilize the defined criteria and MCA tool to initiate a more science and community priority based local funding request process for member's needs. The first round of this new local funding process commenced the second half of 2018 and will be assessed and improved during 2019.

Overall, the Alliance has now completed its fourth year of operation, having experienced significant challenges and successes. The Alliance is honored to be comprised of member organizations that understand the incredible asset Chautauqua

Lake and its watershed are to the county and the entire region. During the first four years of operation the Alliance worked with the County and the area foundations to secure \$385,000 in funding to be used specifically for the required local cash match on member state grant applications. These local match dollars leverage limited local resources to bring state funds to our community to fulfill recommendations in the *Chautauqua Lake Watershed Management Plan* and the *Chautauqua Lake Macrophyte Management Strategy*. In those four years the Alliance utilized \$275,000 of those match funds to bring in just under \$3.7 Million in State grants to our community, representing just over \$5 Million in total project investment in our lake and watershed.

There have been fifteen active projects that the Alliance was critical in securing state grant dollars for during the Alliance's four years in operation, for which the Alliance is the primary project facilitator. This does not include a dozen or so more projects the Alliance has facilitated, utilizing only local funding, representing another approximate \$610,000 in funding support, sourced from our foundation and county partnerships, and granted to our members. These projects are located in the towns of Busti, Chautauqua, Ellery, Ellicott and North Harmony as well as the Villages of Celoron, Lakewood, and Mayville. Thus we are working with eight of the nine municipalities that directly border Chautauqua Lake, as well as partnering with the County and other member organizations, to develop impactful projects, secure funding, manage implementation and ensure project completion. Additional project details can be found on Pages 8-24 under the "2015-2018 Alliance Led Project Summaries" section of this report.

By working in collaboration with as many stakeholders as possible, we deepen our collective focus, strength, and leveraging capabilities, for the benefit of Chautauqua Lake, its watershed, and ultimately our Community.

7/2018-6/2019 Members

- Audubon Community Nature Center
- Chautauqua – Cattaraugus Board of Realtors
- Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
- Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau
- Chautauqua Institution
- Chautauqua Lake Association
- Chautauqua Lake Fishing Association
- Chautauqua Lake Partnership
- Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
- County of Chautauqua
- Holmberg Foundation
- Jamestown Board of Public Utilities
- North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District
- NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation – Allegany Region
- Roger Tory Peterson Institute
- South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer District
- The Lenna Foundation
- Town of Busti
- Town of Chautauqua
- Town of Ellery
- Town of Ellicott
- Town of North Harmony
- Village of Bemus Point
- Village of Celoron
- Village of Lakewood
- Village of Mayville

2015-2018 Alliance Led Project Summaries

Primary Partner: County of Chautauqua

Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP), Streambank Stabilization

Description: Work involves six (6) separate grant awards to address streambank and channel instability at seven (7) priority sites along Prendergast Creek, Bemus Creek (two sites), Goose Creek, Ball Creek, Dutch Hollow Creek, and West Dutch Hollow Creek. The purpose of the work is to improve water quality in Chautauqua Lake and its tributaries by reducing erosion and associated sediment and nutrient loading caused by streambank and channel instability. Sediment transport to the lake, from unstable banks like those being addressed by this work, is a source of nutrients, including phosphorus, which can impair water quality when present at excess concentrations (e.g., contributing to algae blooms and/or excessive nuisance aquatic vegetation growth). The work will also help address ongoing property loss, including imminent threats to infrastructure, caused primarily by bank erosion.

Projected budget for all six (6) projects:

Total: ~ \$1.43 Million

State: ~ \$1.07 Million

Local: ~ \$358,000

Grantee: County of Chautauqua

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District (technical services); Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (education & outreach)

Funding Overview: The majority of the project cost is funded by the Environmental Protection Fund administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The remaining share is provided by the County of Chautauqua as local matching funds from the Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds. The State-funded share of nearly \$1.1 million would not have been possible without the commitment of these matching funds. Local matching fund contribution percentage requirements vary

depending on the source of funding. These particular WQIPs require a 25% local match. That is, for every \$1,000 of a total project amount, a local match contribution of \$250, in either cash or in-kind services such as equipment, labor, or service from local employees or volunteers, results in an additional \$750 from the State in the form of the WQIP grant award. Local match requirements are a critical tool used by funding agencies to ensure local “buy-in” and encourage high-quality projects with clear value to the local populace. When projects are properly vetted, designed, and executed, both sides benefit because the grant recipient or beneficiary has successfully leveraged a significant return on its investment (in this case, \$4 worth of work for every \$1 spent from local funds), and the grant provider assures itself a well thought-out, effective project.

Project Descriptions:

1. **Prendergast Creek** Stabilization Project, Chautauqua, NY
 - a. Status: Completed, Fall 2016
 - b. Outcomes & Achievements: Completed a streambank stabilization and stream restoration project on an approximately 1,100-foot-long section of creek. Under the direction of the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, Contractors installed approximately 650 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection in two sections, performed bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, installed two cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and performed final site cleanup, grading, and seeding. Our project team will continue to monitor the performance of the project, in accordance with the workplan and budget, and evaluate potential needs for project maintenance using remaining project funds allocated for such activities.

2. **Bemus Creek** Stabilization Project, Ellery and Bemus Point, NY (two sites)
 - a. Status: Upstream Section completed in Fall 2016; Downstream Section Completed in Summer and Fall 2017
 - b. Outcomes & Achievements: The overall project includes two distinct areas of work along Bemus Creek separated by about 1.5 miles. We identify the two work areas as (1) the upstream section (or, Bemus Creek Upper) and (2) the downstream section (or, Bemus Creek Lower). Most construction on the upstream portion of the project took place in Fall 2016, with minor additional work completed in September 2017. There, under the direction of the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, Contractors installed approximately 500 feet of large rock rip-rap toe protection in three sections,

installed about 70 feet of rootwad and stone revetment, performed bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, installed three cross-channel grade stabilizers (engineered rock riffles), and performed final site cleanup, grading, and seeding. Construction on the downstream section of the project was completed in October 2017 by a Contractor under the direction of the Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District. There, the project included the installation of approximately 470 (+/-) feet of heavy rock rip-rap slope stabilization, bank grading, installation of two engineered rock riffle grade stabilizers, installation of willows along the stabilized bank, and final site grading and seeding. Our project team will continue to monitor the performance at both sections of the project, in accordance with the workplan and budget, and evaluate potential needs for project maintenance using remaining project funds allocated for such activities.

3. **Goose Creek Stabilization Project, Busti, NY**

- a. Status: Construction completed in Summer 2018
- b. Objectives: Stabilized an approximately 225-foot-long section of creek, with the installation of large rock rip-rap toe and slope protection, bank-slope grading and stabilization with vegetation, and restoration of disturbed areas.

4. **Ball Creek Stabilization Project, North Harmony, NY**

- a. Status: Construction completed in Fall 2017; additional site preparation and planting to enhance riparian buffer in progress in 2018 and scheduled for 2019-2020
- b. Outcomes & Achievements: Stabilized an approximately 250-foot-long section of eroding streambank at the site through the installation of heavy rock rip-rap slope and toe protection, bank slope grading, native willow and dogwood plantings, and installation of a grade stabilizer (engineered rock riffle). The project also includes additional riparian buffer-related work. The site is being prepared using an integrated pest management strategy to address the aggressive terrestrial invasive species present at the site (primarily Mugwort) in order to maximize the likelihood of successful establishment of the planned native species. The approach for site preparation and native plantings are based on available scientific publications, best management practices, and coordination with regional experts (Western New York Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management, Soil & Water Conservation District), and it is anticipated that the establishment of native plantings will occur over several years. The approach and

timing of site preparation activities and installation of native plantings will be adaptive based on how the site responds over the course of several seasons, which is consistent with the typical approach for projects of this type. The re-establishment (with native plants) of the riparian buffer at this site will serve to enhance water quality in Ball Creek and Chautauqua Lake through nutrient uptake as well as helping to further stabilize the repaired streambank through the development of a more robust root

5. **Dutch Hollow Creek** Stabilization Project, Ellery, NY
 - a. Status: Construction completed in Fall 2018
 - b. Outcomes & Achievements: Streambank and grade stabilization and stream corridor restoration to address an approximately 1,100-foot-long reach of Dutch Hollow Creek, just north of Interstate I-86, which was negatively impacted by excessive sediment loads and frequent debris jams that obstruct the channel, cause head cutting, cause erosion of banks and new side channels, and result in the formation of oversized depositional features. Work aimed to protect nearby infrastructure and banks and significantly reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient loading to downstream areas, including Chautauqua Lake, caused by the ongoing bank and channel instability.

6. **West Dutch Hollow Creek** Stabilization Project, Ellery, NY
 - a. Status: Construction substantially completed in Fall 2018; retirement of final punch list and construction closeout scheduled for 2019
 - b. Outcomes & Achievements: Streambank and grade stabilization and stream corridor restoration addressed an approximately 850-foot-long reach of West Dutch Hollow Creek, where abrupt localized channel erosion was resulting in larger-scale negative impacts further downstream in areas where the stream flows in close proximity to residential properties and roadways. The work aimed to significantly reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient loading to downstream areas, including Chautauqua Lake, caused by the stream instability.

Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Invasive Species Control Project

Description: This 100% NYS-funded, multi-partner project established a framework for a volunteer Aquatic Invasive Species Early Detection program on and around Chautauqua Lake for priority invasive species (e.g., water chestnut, hydrilla) as a necessary complement to existing prevention-focused efforts (e.g., Watercraft Steward

Program) and monitoring of macrophyte communities. Eleven free, open-to-the-public educational and technical training events were held in 2018 at nine different locations around Chautauqua Lake. Events included both short, seminar-style events focused on raising awareness of the threat of invasive species, basic aquatic plant identification, an introduction to the NYS iMapInvasives mobile application, and generating awareness for and opportunities to participate in the Early Detection program under development for Chautauqua Lake and longer events with classroom instruction and 'floating classroom' workshops on the water focused on plant identification, field data collection, use of Global Positioning System (GPS) units, the NYS iMapInvasives reporting system, and encouraging continued participation in future events. Training materials from the events were archived as on-demand webinars and electronic files to be used for future training events. Other materials produced under the grant included rack cards and posters related to invasive species on and around Chautauqua Lake. Geographical Information System (GIS) data were collected, evaluated, and used to make maps of invasive species distribution in and around Chautauqua Lake, which will assist with future planning and management decisions and priorities. As a culmination of the educational, outreach, and technical work performed under the grant, a Chautauqua Lake-specific Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Early Detection of aquatic invasive plants was also produced as an end-of-project deliverable. Work also included water chestnut control in 2017 at the Audubon Community Nature Center, which threatens Chautauqua Lake. Equipment such as kayaks, inflatable work boat, GPS units, and other macrophyte and water quality related equipment was also purchased under this grant that will be used to support ongoing invasive species related work. We are committed to building upon and leveraging this initial NYS investment by putting this early detection program framework - consisting of increased local capacity and awareness, training and technical materials, and equipment - to work as a newly formed 'Early Detection Volunteer Taskforce' to help protect the environmental, economic, and ecological function of Chautauqua Lake. An expanded program led by the Alliance is planned for 2019, which is expected to include informational seminars, mixed classroom-field 'floating classroom' training events, and 'Aquatic Invasive Species Early Detection Volunteer Taskforce' paddles that will search for priority invasive species (e.g., hydrilla and water chestnut) that are not yet established in Chautauqua Lake but represent an imminent threat to the ecological, environmental, and economic health of the lake.

Project budget:

Total: \$50,000

State: \$50,000

Grantee: County of Chautauqua

Alliance Role: Grant administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Audubon Community Nature Center; Roger Tory Peterson Institute

Funding Overview: Funding for this project was secured through the efforts of Senator Cathy Young and the County of Chautauqua in the form of a local assistance grant from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP), Chautauqua Lake Mechanized Floating Vegetation Collection Project

Description: Chautauqua County will purchase 2 aquatic skimmer vessels to collect and remove floating vegetation and/or surface scum from Chautauqua Lake, thereby reducing the amount of floating vegetation, improving conditions in the lake, and potentially reducing the growth of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). The grant was awarded in late 2018 with implementation planned to begin in 2019.

Projected budget:

Total: \$500,000

State: \$375,000

Local: \$125,000

Grantee: County of Chautauqua

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination; local match via Alliance/Foundation Match Fund

Other Involved Member Partners: Chautauqua Lake Association

Funding Overview: The majority of the project cost is funded by the Environmental Protection Fund administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The remaining share is provided as local matching funds by the County of Chautauqua as operational support to CLA and by the Alliance from the Alliance/Foundation Match Fund.

Primary Partners: Village of Lakewood & Town of Busti
Engineering Planning Grant (EPG), Stormwater Management
Engineering Study

Description: The Village of Lakewood, in partnership with the Town of Busti, completed a comprehensive engineering study in 2018 that inventoried and assessed the condition and capacity of existing stormwater infrastructure, defined surface drainage areas (catchment areas), and modeled nutrient and sediment loads, in order to identify viable future improvement projects that would mitigate potential flooding and have a positive impact on the environmental health of Chautauqua Lake. Grant closeout with NYS is expected to be completed in early 2019. The 2018 engineering study resulted in six recommended improvement projects that were advanced to conceptual design and cost estimation, three of which were then submitted in partnership with the Alliance for consideration as NYS Consolidated Funding Applications in 2018.

Projected budget:	Final Project Budget:
Total: \$136,500	Total: \$119,900
State: \$100,000	State: \$99,916
Local: \$36,500	Local: \$19,984

Grantee: Village of Lakewood

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination

Other Involved Member Partners: Town of Busti (local match, technical involvement & key project partner); County of Chautauqua (local match)

Funding Overview: The State share of funding for the project is provided by a New York State (NYS) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) / Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG), funded through the New York Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program. Local matching funds are provided by the Village of Lakewood, Town of Busti, and the County of Chautauqua from the Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds.

Village of Lakewood

Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP), Chautauqua Avenue Green Street Retrofit Project

Description: Sourced from the completed Stormwater Management Engineering Study, this project is a comprehensive green infrastructure retrofit of Chautauqua Avenue in the Village of Lakewood to transform the existing impervious, over-widened Village Center roadway to improve water quality and quantity conditions by reducing sediment and nutrient loading to lake. The project will result in increased infiltration and biofiltration of urban stormwater, reduced burden on existing drainage infrastructure, and co-benefits of improved aesthetics, increased public awareness of urban stormwater management and lake stewardship, and reinvigoration of traditional “Main Street” character. The preliminary design was prepared as part of the recently completed Lakewood-Busti Stormwater Management Engineering Study, which was a collaborative project among the Town, Village, County of Chautauqua, Alliance, and the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The grant was awarded in late 2018 with implementation planned to begin in 2019.

Projected budget:

Total: \$772,724

State: \$695,000

Local: \$77,724

Grantee: Village of Lakewood

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination; local match via Alliance/Foundation Match Fund

Other Involved Member Partners: County of Chautauqua (local match & financing assistance)

Funding Overview: The State share of funding for the project is provided by a New York State (NYS) Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) grant. Local matching funds are provided by the Village of Lakewood (planned to be in-kind construction services), County of Chautauqua from reallocated

Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds, and Alliance from the Alliance/Foundation Match Fund.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP), Lowe Park Stream Daylighting and Sediment Capture Stormwater Project

Description: Sourced from the completed Stormwater Management Engineering Study, this project includes the enhancement of an underutilized neighborhood lakeshore 'pocket park' with multiple green infrastructure practices to reduce sediment and nutrient loading to the lake. It would retrofit the existing drainage infrastructure to increase sediment capture and transform an existing closed pipe direct outfall to the lake to an open channel that allows infiltration and biofiltration of urban stormwater prior to reaching the lake. Additional co-benefits include a proposed bike shelter and seating for increased active and passive enjoyment of the lakeshore and increased public awareness of urban stormwater management and lake stewardship. The grant was awarded in late 2018.

Projected budget:

Total: \$341,269

State: \$255,951

Local: \$85,318

Grantee: Village of Lakewood

Alliance Role: Grant writing and project management/administration; local match via Alliance/Foundation Match Fund and in-kind service

Other Involved Member Partners: County of Chautauqua (local match)

Funding Overview: Seventy-five percent (75%) of the project costs will be provided by a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) grant from the New York State Department of State with funds provided under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, and the remaining 25% of the project costs will be contributed by the Village of Lakewood (cash and in-kind services), County of Chautauqua from reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds, and Alliance from the Alliance/Foundation Match Fund and as in-kind services.

Town of Busti

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP), Precision Swale Stormwater Retrofits

Description: Sourced from the completed Stormwater Management Engineering Study, in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loading to Chautauqua Lake, this project intends to stabilize and enhance approximately 2,100 linear feet of steep-gradient and 2,500 linear feet of shallow-gradient roadside swales at select locations throughout the Town of Busti and Village of Lakewood. Best management practices (BMPs) will be incorporated to reduce ongoing erosion and bank undercutting, reduce water velocities, promote infiltration and bio-filtration, enhance biodiversity and habitat for birds and pollinators, and improve aesthetics. Such BMPs may include vegetated filter strips, wetland pockets, stone check dams, riffle-pool complexes, sorptive media for nutrient capture, native wetland plantings, and other features. The proposed locations were identified as part of preliminary design completed in the Lakewood-Busti Stormwater Management Engineering Study, which was a collaborative project among the Town, Village, County of Chautauqua, Alliance, and the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and Department of Environmental Conservation. The grant was awarded in late 2018 with implementation planned to begin in 2019.

Projected budget:

Total: \$269,971

State: \$202,478

Local: \$67,493

Grantee: Town of Busti

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination; local match via Alliance/Foundation Match Fund

Other Involved Member Partners: County of Chautauqua (local match)

Funding Overview: The majority of the project cost is funded by the Environmental Protection Fund administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The remaining share is provided as local matching funds by the Town of Busti (cash and in-kind), County of Chautauqua from reallocated

Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds, and Alliance from the Alliance/Foundation Match Fund.

Primary Partner: Village of Celoron

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP), Lucille Ball Memorial Park Improvements, Phases I to III, Breakwall, Boardwalk, and Kayak Launch

Description: The Village of Celoron has completed multiple improvements to Lucille Ball Memorial Park located along the Chautauqua Lake waterfront via two New York State grants issued by the Department of State with funds from Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund. Phases I through III of the Park improvements were completed in Fall 2018 (close-out reporting is expected to be completed in 2019), and included the replacement of a failing approximately 430-foot-long concrete seawall with a heavy-stone sloped/irregular shoreline, addition of an approximately 60-foot-long rootwad revetment for shoreline habitat enhancement at the eastern end of the new breakwall, installation of a new approximately 390-foot-long timber boardwalk atop helical piles, removal of two existing wooden docks and one concrete boat ramp, utilities work, installation of benches (including ADA-compliant bench) and trash-receptacles along boardwalk, and installation of a prefabricated floating handicapped-accessible kayak/canoe launch with gangway. Preliminary engineering and permitting for the waterfront work was largely completed in 2015 and 2016. In 2017, the Village, Alliance, and the Village's engineering consultant completed final design, permit modifications, and bidding and award for construction. The construction contractor completed the work in 2018. The Village also completed zoning changes and installed new security cameras at the Park as part of the overall project.

Projected budget for both grants:

Total: \$874,130

State: \$437,065

Local: \$437,065

Final Project budget for both grants:

Total: \$694,274

State: \$347,137

Local: \$347,137

Grantee: Village of Celoron

Alliance Role: Grant writing (for second grant) and project administration

Funding Overview: One-half of the project costs will be provided by two grants from the New York State Department of State with funds provided under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, and the remaining 50% of the project costs were contributed by the Village of Celoron.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP), Lucille Ball Memorial Park Improvements, Phase IV, Amenities Building

Description: The Village of Celoron is in the process of designing a new park amenities building in Lucille Ball Memorial Park along Chautauqua Lake with construction slated for 2019. The building will include ADA-compliant restrooms, a drinking fountain, a security system, and a storage area. The project will implement the Chautauqua Lake Local Waterfront Revitalization Program which identified the need for park enhancements at Lucille Ball Memorial Park – the centerpiece of the downtown Celoron. The new building will support increased park and lake use by providing amenities which enhance user experience and allow visitors to stay for longer periods. This project will complement recent Alliance-partnered park enhancements completed by the Village including construction of a new breakwall, waterfront boardwalk, and kayak/canoe launch funded by two previous NYS grant awards.

Projected budget:

Total: \$510,240

State: \$382,680

Local: \$127,560

Grantee: Village of Celoron

Alliance Role: Grant writing and project management/administration

Funding Overview: Seventy-five percent (75%) of the project costs will be provided by a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) grant from the New York State Department of State with funds provided under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, and the remaining 25% of the project costs will be contributed by the Village of Celoron in the form of cash or in-kind services.

Primary Partners: Village of Mayville & Town of Chautauqua
Engineering Planning Grant (EPG), Stormwater Management
Engineering Study

Description: The Village of Mayville, in partnership with the Town of Chautauqua, has retained the services of a licensed professional engineer to undertake a study that inventories and assesses the condition and capacity of existing stormwater infrastructure, defines surface drainage areas (catchment areas), and models nutrient and sediment loads, in order to identify viable future improvement projects that would mitigate potential flooding and/or have a positive impact on the environmental health of Chautauqua Lake. The project is slated for completion in Summer 2019.

Projected budget:

Total: \$135,300

State: \$100,000

Local: \$35,300

Grantee: Village of Mayville

Alliance Role: Grant writing and administration; project management/coordination; local match via Alliance/Foundation Match Fund

Other Involved Member Partners: Town of Chautauqua (local match, technical involvement & key project partner); County of Chautauqua (local match)

Funding Overview: The State share of funding for the project is provided by a New York State (NYS) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) / Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG), funded through the New York Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program. Local matching funds will be provided by the Village of Mayville, Town of Chautauqua, the County of Chautauqua from the Occupancy Tax Program and reallocated Chautauqua Lake Management Commission (CLMC) capital funds, and the Alliance from the Alliance/Foundation Match Fund.

Alliance as Lead:

Five-Year Implementation Strategy for the Management of Chautauqua Lake and its Watershed

Description: In May 2018, the Alliance finalized its *5-Year Implementation Strategy for the Management of Chautauqua Lake and Its Watershed* to establish a more objective, transparent approach for prioritizing projects and allocating resources in this time of heightened community concern about the health of the lake – and differing views on which expenditures and projects would have the most beneficial impact. The Strategy offers a structured decision-making process and template to guide decisions about which lake and watershed projects should be pursued and/or funded. The project team, led by independent, outside consultants from EcoLogic, LLC & Anchor QEA, developed a multi-criteria analysis (MCA) tool based on the current science, engineering, and technology of lake and watershed management. The technical criteria were then weighted to incorporate input from the local community regarding what ecosystem functions are of greatest value. Stakeholders from 42 organizations and/or municipalities (including the 31 Founding Members of the Alliance) participated in discussions of local priorities. The Strategy enables the Alliance to explicitly address the tradeoffs inherent in prioritizing project opportunities. It applies decision criteria to evaluate projects, assigns a weighting factor to each criterion, and allows users to score the criteria consistently and objectively on a project-by-project basis. The criteria include environmental factors, which are weighted most heavily, as well as social and economic factors. Separate criteria are applied to watershed and in-lake projects, and a set of general criteria is applied to all projects. The Strategy was immediately put to work by the Alliance to evaluate local funding requests and prioritize projects for NYS grant applications in 2018. Its use is expected to continue in 2019 and beyond.

Alliance Role: Grantee; Project management/coordination

Other Involved Member & Non-Member Partners: All Active and Founding Members were invited to participate in the project. Additionally, key non-Member watershed and lake stakeholders were also invited to participate in the project. Participation included written questionnaires, focus group meetings, participation at project meetings, and review and comments for Draft products. Thank you to the Alliance Members and other lake and watershed stakeholder groups and individuals who participated in the project.

Funding Overview: This project was made possible through the generosity of the Sheldon Foundation and the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (CRCF) who awarded grants to the Alliance to complete the work.

Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation Grant for Alliance-Member Projects

Description: Upon completion of the *5-Year Implementation Strategy for the Management of Chautauqua Lake and Its Watershed* and associated Multi-criteria Analysis (MCA) Decision-Making Tool in May 2018, which established a more objective, transparent approach for prioritizing projects and allocating resources, the Alliance received a \$250,000 grant from the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation to disburse among Members who had previously submitted 2018 funding requests directly to the Sheldon Foundation. The new MCA Tool was utilized to score the four existing Member grant requests, with analysis and scoring done independently by both Alliance staff and outside consultant, EcoLogic LLC. The Alliance Board of Directors considered the results of the independent scoring and the content of the four original grant requests and made the following award decisions, which also include two additional projects identified by the Alliance Board of Directors as important to the health of the lake and watershed:

- \$70,000 to the Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA) for operating assistance for aquatic vegetation control
- \$20,000 to CLA as match funding for a CFA grant application to be prepared by the Alliance for capital equipment acquisition (NYS grant awarded in late 2018)
- \$40,000 to Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (CWC) for operating assistance with their “Starve the Algae - Save the Lake” program
- \$10,000 to CWC for a new baseline Chautauqua Lake tributary stream water quality analysis program (completion scheduled for 2019)
- \$67,000 to Chautauqua Lake Partnership (CLP) for assistance with the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for herbicides
- \$20,000 jointly to CLA and CLP if they bring an acceptable proposal to implement an in-lake project that they will collaborate and cooperate on to the Alliance for consideration; (award was re-directed in late 2018 for shoreline cleanup in Burtis Bay in 2019)

Total budget: \$250,000

Alliance Role: Grantee; Grant administration

Funding Overview: Funding was provided by the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation in the form of a grant to the Alliance, which was subsequently distributed for Member projects.

Alliance Comprehensive Project Prioritization & Local Foundation Partnership Grant Program

Description: In fall of 2018, the Alliance partnered with the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation and the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation for a new local grant opportunity for Alliance Members for watershed and in-lake projects and programs. The new grant application format and evaluation process was based on recommendations in the Alliance's recently completed *5-Year Implementation Strategy for the Management of Chautauqua Lake and Its Watershed* and associated Multi-criteria Analysis (MCA) Decision-Making Tool, which established a more objective, transparent approach for prioritizing projects and allocating resources. The Alliance published a Request for Applications in September 2018 and received 12 applications totaling over \$1.1M. Scoring was performed using the MCA Tool by three independent groups – outside consultant EcoLogic LLC, the Alliance Scientific Review & Advisory Committee, and Alliance staff. The Alliance Board of Directors considered the results of the independent scoring groups as part of their decision making process. Preliminary funding recommendations were made by the Alliance Board of Directors to the partner Foundations in late 2018 with final decisions scheduled for early 2019. Eight of the 12 proposed projects are slated for at least partial funding for implementation in 2019. The anticipated project list is below:

- Chautauqua Lake Association, 2019 operational support
- Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (CWC), Chautauqua Lake Tributary & Conservation Enhancement Program
- CWC, "Starve the Algae, Save the Lake!" Program
- Town of Busti, 2019 Herbicide Program
- Town of North Harmony, 2019 Herbicide Program
- Town of Ellery, 2019 Herbicide Program
- Town of Ellicott, 2019 Herbicide Program
- Alliance, Chautauqua Lake Aquatic Invasive Species Early Detection Volunteer Taskforce

Total projected budget: \$330,000

Alliance Role: Grantee; Grant administration; Project implementation (Invasives grant)

Funding Overview: Funding was provided by the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation & Chautauqua Region Community Foundation in the form of a grant to the Alliance, which subsequently will be distributed for Alliance and Member projects.

5/2018-5/2019 Board of Directors

<u>Director:</u>	<u>Nominating Member Affiliation:</u>
Pierre Chagnon – Chair	County of Chautauqua
David Spann – Vice-Chair	Soil & Water Conservation District
Ted McCague – Vice-Chair	Village of Lakewood
David Shepherd - Secretary	Holmberg Foundation
David Wesp– Treasurer	Town of Ellery
Jim Andrews	Town of Busti
Jay Bailey	NYS OPRHP – Allegany Region
Linda Barber	Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy
George Borrello	County of Chautauqua (ex officio)
Sally Carlson	Town of North Harmony
Bruce Erickson	Chautauqua Lake Association
Ken Shearer	County Chamber of Commerce

Note: A maximum of 9 directors comprise the board of directors. Those listed above served for all or some portion of 2018.

Special Recognitions

The Alliance wishes to recognize that we as a community continually stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. Special appreciation to all those listed below and to the many more who remain unnamed.

CLMC participants: Linda Barber, Chuck Battaglia, Bill Boria, Craig Butler, Sally Carlson, Pierre Chagnon, Doug Champ, Jane Conroe, Rick Constantino, Fred Crosscut, Bill Daily, Jeff Diers, Tom Erlandson, Mark Geise, Tom Geisler, Lyle Hajdu, Vince Horrigan, John Jablonski, Joe Johnson, Don McCord , Wade Morse, Debbie Naybor, Andrew Nixon, Karen Rine, Kevin Sanvidge, Kim Sherwood, Mark Stow, Art Webster, Dave Wilson, Tad Wright and Chris Yates

Leading the evolution from CLMC to an Alliance: Linda Barber, Pierre Chagnon, Don Emhardt, Mark Geise, Lyle Hajdu, Vince Horrigan, Don McCord, Dave McCoy, Randy Sweeney and Tad Wright.

Funders: The Lenna Foundation, Ralph C Sheldon Foundation, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Holmberg Foundation and the County of Chautauqua.

Appendix A

2018 May Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 10, 2018

4:00 p.m. at Stow Senior Center

Directors Present: Jim Andrews, Linda Barber, George Borrello, Pierre Chagnon, Dave Shepherd, Dave Spann, and Dave Wesp.

Absent: Ken Shearer.

Others in Attendance: Erin Brickley - Alliance Executive Director, Randall Perry - Alliance Project Manager & Tamara Miles - Alliance Grant Writer. Linda Swanson - Sheldon Foundation. Jan Bowman - Jamestown Community College. Interested citizens: Doug Champ, Craig Butler, and Vince Horrigan. EcoLogic: Liz Moran & Emma Coronado.

Member Representatives in Attendance: John Jablonski, Claire Quadri, Mary Laumer & Karey Lawton- Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (CWC), Craig Seger - Village of Lakewood, Karen Rine - South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer District, Cassie Brower - Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District, Dave McCoy - Chautauqua County, Jim Cirbus, Jim Wehrfritz & Jodee Johnson - Chautauqua Lake Partnership (CLP), Ken Lawton - Town of Busti, & Marla Connelly - NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation - Allegany Region.

Scientific Review & Advisory Committee Members in Attendance: Jane Conroe & Becky Nystrom.

I. Call to Order:

The second annual May Member Meeting of the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) commenced at 4:30 pm.

II. Review of the 2017 Annual Report:

Mr. Chagnon reviewed highlights of the 2017 Annual Report.

III. Election of Directors:

Ms. Brickley advised that nineteen* completed 2018 member voting forms had been received and based on twenty seven 2017-2018 member organizations, quorum for the election was achieved. The voting is summarized in the below table:

2018	Ted McCague	Linda Barber	David Spann	Jim Wehrfritz (write-in)
Recommended Slate	14*	14*	14*	n/a
Individual	3	0	3	4
Redirect	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Abstain	1	1	2	n/a

**18 forms were in hand prior to the public presentation at 4pm on 5/9/18; however one more completed form was received prior to the deadline at an alternate email which did not alter final election results but was included in these totals for accurate minutes.*

Ms. Brickley advised based on these tallies, the recommended slate of candidates carries and Ted McCague will fill the open town/village slot and Linda Barber and Dave Spann will retain at-large slots. Director terms are identified at 3 years. Mr. Chagnon thanked both Ms. Barber and Mr. Spann for running for another term as Alliance directors and welcomed Mr. McCague. Mr. Shepherd gave a brief introduction of Mr. McCague and his background to those in attendance. Mr. McCague commented that he was honored and appreciated being invited to participate in this important organization.

Dr. Cirbus from the Chautauqua Lake Partnership (CLP) questioned if the election process followed the by-laws and that edits to Jim Wehrfritz's bio were unacceptable. Ms. Brickley advised that the Alliance email list was used without authorization but that Dr. Cirbus sent his version of the bio to the full contact list and that she followed up with bio information on Ms. Barber and tried to match info type between the two for fairness sake and that in essence, Mr. Wehrfritz background information went to the full contact list twice. Mr. Chagnon advised that we feel the by-laws were followed but if the CLP would like to make suggestions for changes or improvements to the election process to please submit them on writing for consideration.

Mr. Lawton from the Town of Busti commented that he feels the CLP is being oppressed and is creating a perception that the Alliance is biased and questioned why the nominated candidate from CLP wasn't put on the recommended slate. Mr. Chagnon advised that there are specific types of seats that open each year (county, town/village, or at-large) and that if sitting directors offer to run for another term, for

consistency they would typically be on the recommended slate. There was no alternatives identified for the town/village slot and the CLP candidate would not have been eligible for this opening. Two sitting directors for the two open at-large slots chose to run again and commented that Ms. Barber was a key participant in the formation of this organization and that Mr. Spann was a key project partner from Soil & Water and both were valued members of the board. Mr. Lawton commented that all seemed reasonable but would like to see a representative from CLP on the board in future years. Ms. Barber noted that there are 9 directors for the board and 27 current member organizations and that serving as an Alliance director does not mean they are there representing their individual nominating organizations agendas but rather have a fiduciary responsibility to represent and carry out the Alliance organizational mission. Mr. Wesp commented that all lake and watershed organizations need to work together and that directors give of their time voluntarily and it has to be appreciated. Mr. Champ commented that we need to remember why we are all here; it's for the lake, not individual member organizations goals.

IV. Open Floor to Members:

Mr. Chagnon opened the floor to any Member updates or upcoming events and/or comments from the general public in attendance. Please see May 9th, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes as Member updates from both the May Member meeting and the May Board meeting that were held consecutively are documented there.