

FLWF – Water Quality Report for January 14, 2023, Board Meeting

1. Lake Management Plan – SUNY Oneonta has a Lake Management graduate program that has graduate students partner with Lake Associations to prepare Lake Management Plans. The NYSFOLA Website shows 9 lake management plans by SUNY Oneonta. We contacted SUNY Oneonta on January 6, 2023, to let them know of our interest in partnering with them to prepare a management plan and asked about their process for selection of lakes and partnering. No response yet.
2. Buffer Garden – The sign for the buffer garden is complete. We have obtained planning board approval of the sign and will need to coordinate with them for the precise placement of the sign in the spring prior to installation.
3. Mission of the Water Quality Committee: The Findley Lake Watershed Foundation’s Water Quality Committee is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the water quality and beauty of Findley Lake and its surrounding watershed.

If the Chair thinks it desirable or necessary for the Board to approve this mission then we request a motion to approve this mission.

4. Stormwater discharge into Findley Lake – We became aware of stormwater runoff being collected from a group of homeowners and the Town is putting a discharge pipe into the lake – Our understanding is that the Town brought it to the property line and the property owners will pay to connect their runoff into the lake.
Investigation showed that there are no U.S.EPA or NYSDEC regulatory or permit requirements for this type of situation. A review of: *The Management of Findley Lake and Its Watershed* (January 2002), included a recommendation to eliminate pipe culverts and replace with grass-lined ditches and to line existing ditches with sod or stone with [geotextile] fabric.
If the Town of Mina is awarded the DEC grant for “Green Infrastructure Practice/ Stormwater Retrofits” and/or “Culvert Repair and Replacement Engineering Feasibility Study/ Design Report” Outline” we plan to be involved in preparation of Scopes of Work for the RFPs. Otherwise, we will investigate what can be done to advance the recommendation from 2002.
5. We are preparing a proposal in response to: WNY PRISM Crew Assistance Program 2023 Request for Project Proposals (www.wnyprism.org) Eligible activities fall into two primary work areas: invasive species surveys & mapping and invasive species removal & habitat restoration. All proposals must be received by WNY PRISM by 5:00 PM on Friday, January 27, 2023, to be considered for the Crew Assistance Program in 2023.

Motion to approve submission of proposal to WNY PRISM Crew Assistance Program 2023.

6. Note: If the Town is awarded the grant for “In Waterbody Controls for Nutrients”, Rebecca Brumagin has indicated that Ben can be involved in preparation of Scopes of Work for the RFPs.
7. The NYS DEC Region 9 conducted an abbreviated aquatic invasive species survey of two small areas of Findley Lake in 2022. The final report (posted to our website and announced on our Facebook page) includes the data and recommendations. The report states: “Mechanical harvesting is clearly being used to manage vegetative biomass for recreational purposes. If this is the overall goal for this lake, rather than a goal of dedicated invasive plant management, then

the use of a mechanical harvester will continue to meet that need. The following recommendations are based solely with ecological community health/invasive plant control in mind, not recreational access.”

The Water Quality Committee will review the report and prepare recommended actions for Board consideration.

8. Lake Aeration and/or Alum – Ed will report plans and actions under OLD Business
9. Sampling Plan for 2023 – Ed will report plans and actions under OLD Business

Respectfully submitted by,

Chrissy Craffey and Ben Fergus