

Chautauqua Lake Partnership
May 1, 2017

Mr. Dave Spann
Chairman, Chautauqua Lake Water Quality Task Force
220 Fluvanna Avenue
Suite 600
Jamestown, NY 14701

We appreciated the opportunity to describe Chautauqua Lake Partnership (CLP) plans to the Chautauqua County Water Quality Task Force on April 25, 2017.

As in the meeting and the attached .ppt, the CLP **formally requests “WQTF action on CLP issues and concerns”**, the serious health, safety and environmental problems associated with the shoreline and near shore weed and sludge accumulation experienced by Bemus Bay shoreline residents and businesses.

The requested WQTF action is consistent with the WQTF role described in your most recent correspondence, to “...provide technical guidance on environmental issues...” and “...improve management practices...” As a matter of principle, the CLP strongly believes that Chautauqua Lake water quality is unacceptable and must be improved in the near term for the health and safety, economic vitality and use and enjoyment of Chautauqua County residents.

Current approaches to weed management and cleanup of weed fragments are not sufficient and new approaches must be tried, hence the **CLP’s 2017 Demonstration Projects, which we ask the WQTF to support.**

The Macrophyte Management Strategy (MMS), recently-completed by the County, is clear that the “one size” of weed management used almost exclusively since 1992, weed cutting, does not “fit”, is not the most appropriate for, all areas of the lake. Further, the MMS requirement that “All harvested material must be collected and removed from the lake” is not being realized by the current weed cutting operation and is a significant contributor to our problems.

The CLP wishes to be included in WQTF action on our issues and concerns, in discussions and investigation. We ask that you include CLP representation in future WQTF meetings which include this topic. Contact Jim Wehrfritz by e-mail (jjwehrfritz@msn.com) or phone (832.319.8112) to make arrangements.

Sincerely,

Jim Cirbus, President
Chautauqua Lake Partnership

Attachment

cc: Mr. Pierre Chagnon, Chautauqua County Legislator, District 9
Mr. Arden Johnson, Town of Ellery Supervisor
Mr. Bryan Dahlberg, Village of Bemus Point Mayor