

GESC AND ESC/HERF MEETING

DATE/TIME: 16 June 2015/10am

LOCATION: Marina Shelter, Beaver Island State Park, Grand Island, NY

ATTENDEES: Steve Schoenwiesner (NYPA); Timothy DePriest (NYSDEC); Dave Frazier (Gomez and Sullivan Engineers); Erin Redding (Gomez and Sullivan Engineers); Kerrie Gallo (Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper); Renata Niedzwiecka Kraft (Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper); Jeffrey Tunkey (Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper); Emily Sadowski (Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper); Dave Spiering (Tift Nature Preserve)

AGENDA:

I. Welcome - Tim DePriest

II. Project Updates – Tim DePriest

Tim DePriest presented project updates

A. Greenway Commission

- i. The annual Paddles Up event will take place on July 25, 2015.

B. Western New York Land Conservancy – *Stella Niagara Preserve*

- i. The Western New York Land Conservancy has purchased the Stella Niagara Preserve property. A ribbon cutting will take place on July 7, 2015. GESC members are invited to attend.

C. Niagara Musky Association, Inc - *Fish Attraction Structures*

- i. The Niagara Musky Association, Inc. members have agreed to take over the management of the Fish Attraction Structures project.

D. Buffalo Audubon Society - *Black Alder Removal at Buckhorn State Park*

- i. Alder removal was successful over the winter; however there are more areas where alder is growing that the Buffalo Audubon Society would like to include. They will be requesting additional funds from the GESC.

III. New Project Proposals

A. Buffalo Museum of Science - *Green Infrastructure and Native Landscape Planning at Tift Nature Preserve*

- i. Dave Spiering of Tift Nature Preserve presented a revised proposal for this project. (Original proposal presented was in 2014).
 1. At this time, Tift Nature Preserve is requesting a letter of commitment from GESC stating that the GESC will approve approximately \$30,000 of funding for native landscaping around the Tift Nature Preserve visitor's center if and only if the project

receives funding for a new parking area from other sources.
Funding would be needed in early 2016.

IV. Project Status Update:

A. **Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper - *Niagara River Regional Habitat Conservation Strategy Phase II***

- i. Emily Sadowski and Kerrie Gallo presented a project summary for the committee.
- ii. Riverkeeper's final report and data as well as the GESC Final Report will be made available to the committee upon completion.

B. **Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper - *Niagara River Riparian Restoration Strategy Phase II***

- i. Kerrie Gallo, Renata Niedzwiecka Kraft, and Jeff Tunkey presented the conceptual design and budget for Sandy Beach Living Shoreline.
- ii. BNR is seeking \$156,000 for final design, permitting, and construction of the Sandy Beach restoration site.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The committee will reach consensus regarding a support letter for the Green Infrastructure and Native Landscape Planning at Tiff Nature Preserve project.
2. There were questions regarding available funding. Steve Schoenwiesner will clear up these questions via emails with the committee members.