Western New York Land Conservancy

Preserving land for future generations
Buffalo
Niagara Falls
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
Stella Niagara Preserve
Property Boundary
(29-acre portion of 130-acre property)

Niagara River

Stella Niagara Education Park

Data Source: Niagara County Parcels 2009
Process Accomplishments

- GESC and HERF funds in two escrow accounts.
- Property subdivision
- Purchase contract signed in July 2014 with a commitment to close before 6/1/15
Fundraising Accomplishments

• $300,000 USFW – GLRI grant awarded.
• $35,000 in contribution from individual donors
• Expect to hear next week on $50,000 request from a family foundation.
Fundraising Accomplishments

• Developed case statement
• Being considered for funding from Town of Lewiston and pursuing funds from Niagara County.
• Pre-application submitted to WNY Power Proceeds Allocation Board.
• Numerous meetings with potential partners/funders e.g. Christina Orsi (ESD)
Fundraising Accomplishments

• Submitting proposals to six local foundations before January 2015.
• Established ten-member Friends of Stella Niagara Preserve meets next week – event and direct mail.
• Sent letters to potential major donors and numerous on-site individual tours with donors.
Community Outreach

• Six group hikes
• July Kayak launch
• July nature, art and history-focused event
• Terry Belke, Channel 2, 2-the-outdoors
• Articles in Buffalo News and Lewiston-Porter Sentinel
Michael the Archangel defeating the devil
FUNDING RECAP
Project Budget: $3.27 million

- $2,320,000 for acquisition
- $223,000 for public access and habitat restoration
- $592,000 for stewardship fund
- $135,000 for planning and administrative costs
Current successes:

• Ecological Standing Committee  $500,000
• HERF $1,843,487
• USFW – GLRI $300,000
• Private donors $35,000
• Total:  $2,678,487
Remaining Need:

- To complete the project $591,518 (Phase 1 & Phase 2)
- To close by June 1 we need $325,000
- We can close without all the funds in hand as long as they are committed.
How can we close by 6/1/15

- Anticipate that you will receive a request from us by 2/15/15 if we may need additional funds to close.
- We would hope to receive confirmation from you by 3/15/15 so that we could begin final steps for closing.
Niagara Escarpment Legacy Project
Thank you