



# Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

**Minutes: October 12, 2017, 7:30pm**

**Supervisor's Conference Room, Town Hall**

**Attendance:** Sarah Deonarine (Director), Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Carol Frank (Town of North Hempstead), Jed Siegel (Plandome Manor), Nora Haagenon (Baxter Estates), Dan Fucci (Nassau County), Ray Herbert (Plandome), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead, Planning Department), Joel Ziev (Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington), Bruce Bent, Chuck Idol, TJ Costello (Manhasset Chamber of Commerce, President)

**Meeting was called to order at 7:42pm, but no quorum.**

Note: Action items are in **bold highlighted, underlined italics**.

## **Discussion:**

Winter/spring 2018 meeting dates (second Thursday of the month):

January 11	March 8	May 10
February 8	April 12	June 14

Update on replacing vandalized educational sign: The Port Washington Water Pollution Control District Board has approved our request to replace the sign in-kind and the official letter to that effect should be in-hand next week. Some grammatical mistakes were caught on the sign, so Paul Singer made some minor corrections to it. Deonarine is now working with IZone to get a quote for fabrication.

Monthly Website update: General update provided by Chuck Idol. Many new pages added. Inventory of old and new pages created and a new "Link List" is now available. One page Statement Of Work (SOW) to guide in site purpose and target audiences to be created. Traffic data is being monitored. It's an ongoing process with small steps each month.

Fuss & O'Neill Water Quality Report (2009 -- 2015): Yesterday, we received the pdf of the final report for proofing before printing.

- The Executive Summary starts on the 4<sup>th</sup> page and there was discussion that this does not stand out as separate from the rest of the report. Deonarine will make sure they remove their logo from the ES and that it is renamed "Manhasset Bay Executive summary." On the cover, Deonarine will make sure it says, "Prepared for and funded by..." and make sure that our logo is bigger. Deonarine will also make sure that we get an editable MS Word document of the final report.
- Deonarine asked Diane Mas to darken the text and she is working on it.
- The Fuss & O'Neill logo is prominently on the top of every page. Usually, it should be our logo on top of a report like this, but let's leave it and remember to be specific in the future.

## Water quality monitoring program:

- Town intern: Councilwoman DeGiorgio has mentioned/offered a Town intern to assist with the annual water quality monitoring program. Details are still being worked out.

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  - [www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org](http://www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org)

Finalized: 11/9/2017

- State funding: Last spring, the north shore protection committees attempted to get a line-item in the EPF (Environmental Protection Fund) for water quality monitoring, but it didn't quite make it. Out of the blue, Eric Swenson was contacted and told that DEC has (with the aid of Senator Marcellino) found \$125,000 in funding for north shore water quality monitoring. The details are still being worked out, but we can use it for equipment and we will likely have to move fast to spend it.
- The Long Island Sound Study may have funding for citizen monitoring.

#### Committee projects:

- The Committee discussed what projects are happening, proposed, and just ideas. Deonarine will create a matrix of projects (priority, cost, etc) for the next meeting.
- Clarification On Water Quality and Safety: Is it safe to swim in the Bay? This is complicated to answer, because we cannot make such a blanket statement for the entire Bay. Clarification to the question and how to address will be added to the Project List being created.
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#### Fall beach clean-up (9/23) follow-up:

- Top two items collected were cigarette butts and small plastic debris
- Two project ideas suggested by volunteers: a poster art contest for Troops and School Districts; having a troop construct sifters to sift sand and collect the small debris

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration: There generally seemed to be interest in a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The event would be used to raise awareness and to highlight all the good work that the Committee has done. Deonarine will reach out to HHPC, since their event was really well received and well done.

#### Municipal updates

Kevin Braun (Town Planning Department): They are continuing Phragmites control at Mill Pond. Additional wetland plantings went well there this past season.

Bob Keane (Port North): The Village held a big grand opening of Baywalk Park last month. The Park, which once was Lewis oil, is being well used and a great addition to the waterfront.

Dan Fucci (Nassau County): The County provided water quality data to MBPC. They did additional sampling two weeks ago and will have results shortly.

Ray Herbert (Plandome): The Village Board adopted local law restricting cutting of trees. The law, which is now effective, requires a permit to remove trees on private property (10").

(Plandome Manor): no updates

Carol Frank (Town of North Hempstead): The Town has partnered with Great Neck Park District, Great Neck Historical Society, and City Island Maritime Museum to restore Stepping Stone's Lighthouse and they are raising money. The group is hosting the first walk/run starting in Stepping Stones Park and going throughout Kings Park on Sunday, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>. Chuck Idol asked if cross-links from each web site could be accommodated to support one another's efforts. Carol and Chuck will work with one another on cross listing pages / sites.

#### Nora Haagenon (Baxter Estates):

- The badly burned Baxter House was demolished, but NOT by the Village, it was done by the owner. The owner was asked to tear it down many months ago.
- November 5<sup>th</sup> is the fall clean-up and planting at Baxter Pond, 9/9:30 until noon, children are welcome.
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- The Village is continuing to investigate how (and with what money) to stabilize Baxter Beach. They are currently looking into getting a feasibility study. It was noted that the County would not support the stabilization of the beachfront if the road has not yet been damaged.

Joel Ziev (Town appointed representative to the LISS CAC): The Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Citizen's Advisory Committee (which MBPC is a member of) recently took a trip to Washington, D.C. to lobby for continued and increased funding for LISS. This year, the President had set the budget for LISS to \$0, but, after the CAC trip last spring, it was raised to \$8M. The CAC went again in September to thank the elected officials and to continue support for LISS. Their trip was also to attempt to secure \$10M for LISS and to push to maintain Plum Island as a natural resource. Those interested can contact Sarah Deonarine for a more detailed report of the trip provided by Eric Swenson.

TJ Costello (Manhasset Chamber of Commerce): The Chamber wants to make sure that the businesses aren't doing anything to pollute the Bay. One idea was to get sewers along Plandome Road. There are currently 11 vacant stores, 6 could be restaurants. Three current restaurant businesses in Manhasset pump their septic every week at a cost of upwards of \$800. TJ and Sarah will communicate about what issues most concern the Chamber and how MBPC can support the Chamber's efforts.

**Upcoming meetings and events:** November 9, no meeting in December

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:15PM**

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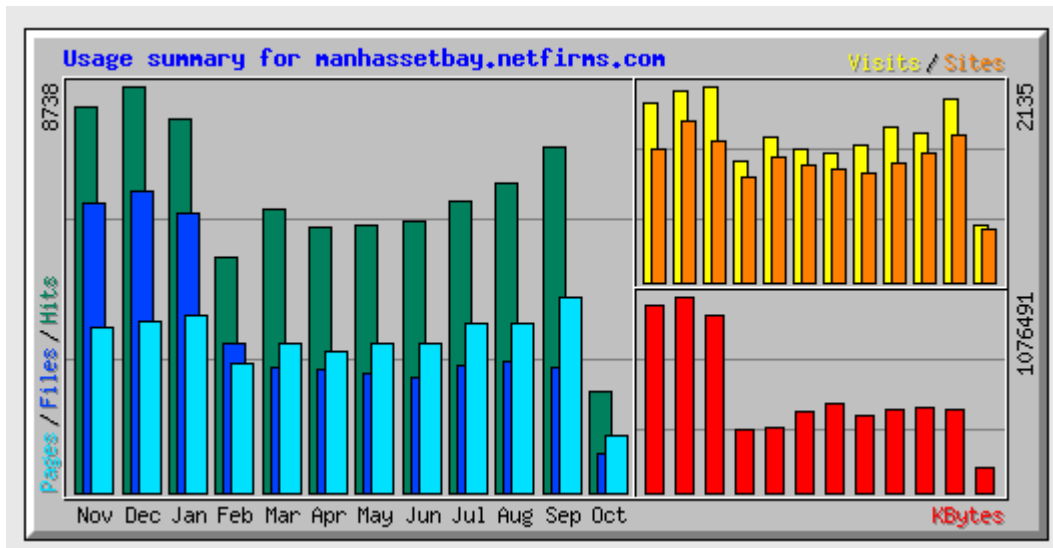
## Monthly Web Site Status Report

### September 2017

The following are the key initiatives and results:

- Added Many New Pages ( Geese, Baxter Pond, Boating, Mill Pond, Shell Fish, Storm Water, Protect Wild Life, Fish Kill, Mater Links Index )
- Updated Master Links Index page with all listings / pages hosted on the server.

#### Statistics



\*\* Traffic has picked up but there was no expectation of any changes to activity.

#### **Top 5 Traffic Pages.**

- /about\_the\_protection\_committee.htm
- /historical\_background.htm
- /waterquality.htm
- /watershed\_physical.htm
- /committee\_projects.htm

#### **Monthly Maintenance:**

- Continuing to fine tune old pages and set some standards on new pages.
- Reformatting all old pages is still in review.

#### **Requirements and Statement of Work:**

- Requirements – No Activity
- Statement of Work – No Activity