



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: September 14, 2017, 7:30pm

Supervisor's Conference Room, Town Hall

Attendees: Pasqua Dziadul (Sands Point), Jill Monoson (Thomaston), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Brian Herrington (Flower Hill), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Chuck Idol (Baxter Estates), Bruce Bent, Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Sarah Deonarine (Director), Matt Temares

Meeting was called to order at 7:35pm with a quorum in attendance.

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

Discussion & Motion points:

Erin Reilley has left the Town and moved to Colorado. The Town has appointed Carol Frank as the interim representative until Erin's position is filled.

Kevin Braun made a motion to accept the minutes of June 8, 2017 with corrections, Brian Harrington seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Committee trust fund (Account balance as of 8/30: \$124,704):

Reporting period: April 1 - June 30, 2017			
	Expenditures	Deposits	Balance
Beginning balance:			\$117,267.03
2017 dues payments		\$20,000.00	\$137,267.03
Director salary	\$6,886.25		\$130,380.78
WQ report	\$7,338.40		\$123,042.38
			\$123,042.38
			\$123,042.38
Ending balance:			\$123,042.38
Totals:	\$14,224.65	\$20,000.00	

- Year-to-date the Committee has taken in \$24,500 and spent \$26,108
- All dues payments have been received, except for Nassau County.
- All IMA signatures have been received, except for Nassau County, but the Agreement is still considered executed. The Town Attorney has been in touch with someone from the County's DPW. The Town Attorney thinks we just need to keep trying. There may be movement after a new administration comes in.
- Deonarine will send out the IMA to the members and will include articles to use for newsletters, press releases, etc.

- Sarah Deonarine, Director • Town of North Hempstead Parking District
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 - www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org

Finalized: 11/12/2017

The annual beach clean-up will be on Saturday, September 23rd at 9:30am at Manorhaven Beach Town Park. **After the meeting, Deonarine converted the PDF flier to a JPEG and sent both out by e-mail and posted on Facebook.**

Jennifer Wilson-Pines made a motion to place a third Storm Drain Medallion order not to exceed \$500, Jill Monoson seconded. All were in favor, the motion passed.

Summer 2017 Water Quality Monitoring wrap-up

- During monitoring, the YSI handheld unit was cracked. Kevin Braun made a motion for repair and associated costs of YSI probe not to exceed \$550. Dianne Sheean seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- Deonarine will begin working on a WQ report based on this data.

2009 – 2015 Water Quality Report: Diane Mas at Fuss & O'Neill agreed to e-mail a PDF before finalizing, but that hasn't come yet. The Committee should review and approve the final report before making it public, but information on the report can be shared with other partners.

- The Committee discussed how often we want to do this and Deonarine agreed to take a stab at preparing the next water quality report.
- The Committee should plan publicity around the WQ report release (get it in before the Unified Water Study releases before the next boating season).
- Other sources of data to look into:
 - County does dry weather sampling at entry to Leeds Pond (Stonytown Road).
 - Also, look at Stannards Brook study – may be another source.
 - County also does coliform sampling in Baxter Brook, which discharges into Baxter Pond, and also takes samples at the Pond discharge.
- Geese impact has not been quantified, but it is high. If we can prove the source is the geese, we can use it to say "this is why we need to control the geese" and we want to be proactive in controlling the sources of bacteria. This conversation continued into the next topic:

"Don't Feed the Geese" sign update:

- The Town does not have a "don't feed the birds" ordinance, instead uses the county ordinance.
- Neither Sarah, nor Kevin could find an educational sign for Manhasset Bay, but there were some from Hempstead Harbor.
- Deonarine was (serendipitously) approached by a local citizen looking to raise awareness (and lobby legislators) on not feeding geese. They've provided examples of signs from around the country and have offered to help however he/they can.
- Deonarine recommended multiple next steps:
 - Start working up the data (from all the sources)
 - Investigate new DNA identification technology
 - Develop/reuse a "don't feed the birds" educational campaign for next spring/summer
 - Work to reinstate goose egg oiling by the Town (<http://www.geesepeace.com/>)

Update on replacing vandalized educational sign which was installed on Port Washington Water Pollution Control District (PWWPCD) at Sunset Park.

- The vandalized sign was damaged during removal such that the whole thing needs to be replaced, not just the sign itself.
- The PWWPCD Superintendent recommended that we send a letter to the board.
- Deonarine will send copy of the sign (pdf) to the Committee. And will forward the letter to the board.

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- **Dianne Sheehan made a motion to replace the sign in-kind at a cost of no more than \$1000, contingent on approval from the PWWPCD to reinstall on their property.** Brian Herrington seconded it and all were in favor. The motion passed.

Website update: Chuck Idol and Sarah Deonarine have been working over the summer on cleaning up the current website at no additional cost to the Committee (see one-page report). The main focus has been on getting it functional and clean and then we'll work on making it aesthetically pleasing. Feel free to share images, but they have to be released for use on the website.

WQIP: The grant application for a Water Quality Improvement Plan was submitted in July for a project total of \$150,000: \$112,500 request from Department of State and \$37,500 in-kind match.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting (9/14) in Mamaroneck Recap (Jennifer Wilson-Pines):

- Rep. Suozzi's office is planning a Long Island Sound (LIS) event and has invited Governors, EPA Regional Administrators, etc. This was originally an idea of the joint protection committee meeting.
- Bunker/menhaden are coming into the bays now (which is later than usual) and we've had the usual annual kill at the mouth of Baxter Pond.
- Most wildlife species populations are increasing, but horse shoe crabs are decreasing.
- Kayaking and paddle boarding has increased while boating has declined.
- IEC has completed their annual monitoring of the western LIS. They charter a fishing boat out of Manhasset Bay, so the first sample is taken in the back of Manhasset Bay in shallow water at 6am. This data will be combined with CT DEEP's data into one report.
- Save the Sound and Long Island Soundkeeper are merging.
- The LIS report card will be every other year and will continue to only focus on nutrients and only open waters of the Sound. The 2018 report card is expected to release in late spring/early summer.
- The CAC will write a letter to the LISS Management Committee urging them to fund both the Unified Water Study and also ongoing monitoring for community-based groups that have EPA-approved QAPPs.
- The LISS CAC is going on a lobbying trip to DC on 9/26. Consider going, as the Federal Officials really like local government officials attending. Deonarine forwarded the information on 9/20.

Municipal updates

Sands Point (Pasqua Dziadul): Plum Beach and Sands Point Roads have been resurfaced and their drainage improved.

Town of North Hempstead (Kevin Braun): The Town did wetland plantings in Mill Pond in conjunction with Nassau County SWCD.

Great Neck (Annie Mendelson): The Village is converting all their street lights to LED and plan to be done by December.

Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): The Village installed (working with Cornell Cooperative Extension) a native garden in the preserve area. The dog park is closed for now.

New York State: Governor Cuomo announced a \$10.4 M effort to improve LI water quality, restore shellfish populations, and bolster resiliency of coastal communities:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-104-million-effort-improve-long-island-water-quality-restore-shellfish>

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The Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District is hosting a NYSDEC Endorsed 4-Hour Erosion and Sediment Control (E&SC) Training on October 24th, 2017 – check your e-mail for the details.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Upcoming meetings and events: October 12, November 9
Beach clean-up September 23

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