



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Final Minutes: January 10, 2019, 7:30pm

Supervisor's Conference Room, Town Hall

Attendance: Anne Krzyzanowski (Assemblyman D'Urso's office), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Mike Malloy (Baxter Estates), Ray Herbert (Plandome), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Chris Shannon (Councilwoman De Giorgio's office), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

Meeting was called to order at 7:45pm with a quorum in attendance.

Note: Action items are **highlighted**. **Motions are highlighted in blue.**

Discussion & Motion points:

Minutes

Ray Herbert made a motion to approve the minutes of October 11, 2018; Mike Malloy seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Dan Fucci made a motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2018. Jennifer Wilson-Pines seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

MBPC 101: IMA

Deonarine passed around a newly produced "welcome" packet with pertinent information for new member representatives. These new packets contain:

- FAQ sheet on Intermunicipal Agreements (IMA)
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) fact sheet from DEC
- New "What is an MS4" fact sheet produced by the protection committees
- Glossary (draft) and List of Acronyms
- "Manhasset Bay Protection Committee/Watershed" informational brochure
- Either of two similar stormwater runoff informational fact sheets
- Manhasset Bay Classification (2016) packet with information on the Priority Waterbodies List, 303(d) list, and how Manhasset Bay is classified by the State
- Contact information for the Director

Please reach out to Sarah with what the packet is missing and/or to go over the information contained in it. In the future, the Director will distribute these to new representatives with an invitation to meet and go over the materials. Deonarine also introduced the idea of a brief "MBPC 101" presentation at the beginning of each meeting to go over a different topic. This month's topic was the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA), since it sets the dues percentages.

Dan Fucci has been working tirelessly to get both the IMA signed and the 2018 dues paid. These have to first go to the Rules Committee, whose next meeting is in February. If approved, these two items would then go to the full legislature in March.

Deonarine gave a brief presentation about IMAs in general and about the MBPC IMA specifically:

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director
- Email: mbpcExec@gmail.com
- www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org

- An IMA is a written agreement between municipalities to jointly undertake an activity that each has the power to undertake on its own. It formally outlines the responsibilities of each municipality.
- The first MBPC IMA was signed in 1998 by 13 members.
- The latest IMA was executed January 11, 2016 (the date when more than half of the members had signed). All of the 15 members have signed and pay dues, except for Nassau County. All the members will have to re-sign in 2021.
- IMA sets dues percentages:
 - Nassau County: 45%
 - North Hempstead: 11%
 - Villages: 44% (3.38% each)
 - “Each member shall have sixty (60) days from the date that such dues are proposed to review, comment, or withdraw from the COMMITTEE as set forth in Paragraph 12 of this agreement.”

Grants:

Before discussing dues, the Committee went over the 2018 financials as well as what grants will be coming in the next year and what the financial burdens will be.

- Water Quality Improvement Grant: \$125,000 from the State over the course of two years as well as \$20,000 cash outlay for match. For this grant, the Committee will have to cover the expenses and then wait for reimbursement from the State. However, it is unlikely that this grant will get up and running immediately and the first cash outlays to a vendor may not be until closer to the end of the year.
- Water quality monitoring: \$80,000 from the State until March 31, 2020 (this may be extended). For this grant, the Committee will again have to cover the expenses and then wait for reimbursement from the State. The Committee has already spent over \$20,000 that would be reimbursable, but that means there is still an additional \$60,000 to layout over the next year (if possible).
- Seabin: Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District can pay for this directly, but we are still waiting for a “proforma invoice” from Seabin. **Deonarine will look into whether the Seabin can be permanently installed or if NCSWCD will remove it and take it to other locations.**

Dues

COUNTY OF NASSAU	45% of total	\$20,000
TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD	11% of total	\$5,000
MUNICIPALITIES ¹	44% of total	\$1,500 each

The Committee discussed the annual dues and agreed that they need to be raised, but to wait a year to do so to allow time to alert the members that a dues increase is coming. Kevin Braun made motion to keep the annual dues the same, Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. This will trigger a 60-day review period, such that dues will be considered adopted by the March meeting.

Website design

Deonarine requested a specific allotment of \$2,000 for website design and explained: the Committee’s website is hosted by Bluehost who has a contractor who can do the web design for \$2,000 and this contractor has been very responsive. Jill Monoson reached out to a web design company that she has worked with in the past and they quoted \$4,000. Deonarine also reached out to the firm that did

¹ The percentage break-down of dues per member is set through the Inter-Municipal Agreement (which was considered executed effective January 11, 2016) and will not be reconsidered until the next IMA.

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Hempstead Harbor's website and was quoted about \$1,000 to do the web design if we moved our website to their servers. But their annual web hosting package is much more expensive than what we are currently paying. This firm has not gotten back to Deonarine with a quote for doing the design on the Bluehost server and has also been nonresponsive. Jennifer Wilson-Pines made a motion for up to \$2250 specific for web design, Nora Haagenson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Deonarine will reach out to the local firm one last time before moving forward with the Bluehost contractor.

Letters

Jennifer Wilson-Pines made a motion to retroactively accept both the Town zoning letter and to sign-on to the shellfish laboratory request letter. Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. As an update: Assemblyman Chuck Lavine is interested in helping and likes the idea of using the Town of Hempstead's lab. He will reach out to Senator Kaminsky and Assemblyman Englebright.

"Don't Feed the Waterfowl" educational sign

The Committee briefly discussed turning this into a Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF) project, but decided not to as it would be a big project to undertake a LISFF grant application and would add at least two years. It was decided to form a sub-committee to decide on a sign (likely one already designed) and then present it to the Committee. The sub-committee volunteers are: Bob Keane, Sarah Deonarine, Dianne Sheehan, Jennifer Wilson-Pines, and Ray Herbert.

Updates:

Nassau County Implementation of State Septic Replacement Grant Program

The Manhasset Bay Protection Committee, Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee, NC Soil and Water Conservation District, and Friends of the Bay are assisting the County in implementation of the State's funding program for septic upgrades. So far, that has meant designing an educational brochure for the County to use. Deputy County Executive Brian Schneider wanted to roll out the program in February.

Shellfish TMDL and new MS4 permit update:

The previous shellfish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), which Manhasset Bay was not included on, have been rescinded. As it pertains to MBPC, the rescission means that the four members who had to do semi-annual MS4 reports no longer have to. There is a TMDL workgroup whose purpose is to advise DEC on a priority strategy to write TMDLs for up to 75 waterbodies. Eric Swenson and Pat Aitken serve on it and give updates. Manhasset Bay is currently listed as a water body with insufficient data to do a TMDL. With the TMDLs rescinded, we are expecting the new draft MS4 permit in February which will likely hold more requirements for MBPC members.

CAC meeting

The Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), of which MBPC is a member, met in December and Deonarine attended. Of note is that the federal act that authorizes LISS was reauthorized to the tune of \$65 million per year. Under a suggestion from Representative Zeldin to ask for the full authorized amount, the CAC is going to recommend to the LISS Management Committee that they develop a plan to incrementally increase the annual ask in order to reach the full \$65 million in three years. The most LISS has received in one year was \$12 million.

During the meeting, there was a lot of discussion about the Army Corps of Engineers feasibility study for New York City, which includes possible flood gates/storm barriers. There have been no new updates from the Army Corps, but the CAC wanted to take action, citing the fact that public outreach was almost non-existent for the previous public meetings. The CAC chairs asked for volunteers for a short-term (6 month) working group to prioritize and advance public communication and information about the potential impacts to Long Island Sound and its coastal communities from the proposed actions.

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Deonarine volunteered (as did Eric Swenson from HHPC). The Committee discussed the feasibility study and the fact that it could have serious repercussions for everyone and, therefore, the Committee wants to stay on top of this.

Municipal updates

Baxter Estates (Mayer Nora Haagenson): The Village has signed an IMA with the County to do a feasibility study of Baxter Beach and the area along Shore Road, between the beach and Baywalk of PWN. Shore Road experiences significant flooding during storms, threatening life and property. Haagenson was pretty sure that there is funding to do a feasibility study; then the Village and County will go to the State in order to secure federal funding. The flooding would be monumental if the flood gates go forward. According to a County study, there are 8,000 cars that use Shore Road per day. Residents Forward has also joined the effort.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- **Volunteers needed: Harbor Fest, Sunday, June 2nd (all day event)**
- February 7, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13

Annie Mendelson made a motion to adjourn at 9:00pm.