



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: February 13, 2020, 7:30pm

Law Library, Town Hall

Attendance: Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Erin Molyneux (Councilmember Dalimonte's office), Bruce Bent, Nora Haagenon (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Kate Hirsch (Flower Hill), Ray Herbert (Plandome), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Melanie Cassens (PWWPCD), Windsor Kinney (PWWPCD), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Mike Ertel (Sands Point), Rebecca Chu (Kensington), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), TJ Costello (Manhasset Civics), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

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

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

Discussion & Motion points:

Kate Hirsch made a motion to accept the minutes of January 16, 2020. Nora Haagenon seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Community-based social marketing training: Sarah Deonarine and Jennifer Wilson-Pines have done the training (with a different instructor) before. Social marketing is a really in-depth process to get people to change their behavior, so it goes beyond just educating the public. The process requires deciding what your target will be, focus groups, various meetings, and the like and it's expensive. Jennifer Wilson-Pines likened it to the CESSPOOL program. It will only really be feasible if we team up with others and, as such, Wilson-Pines pointed out that it may not be worth it if the Long Island Sound Study isn't offering a template or buy-in to a Sound-wide project. The training also conflicts with the annual Envirothon on April 31st. Other discussion was generally favorable and felt that this training may be worthwhile if LISS is offering some sort of follow up. **Mike Ertel made a motion to send one or more people at a cost not to exceed \$600 each.** Jennifer Wilson-Pines seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

2021 IMA: what needs changing? The dues structure for the Villages seems to be the main cause of contention. Discussion was that the dues are small for everyone and everyone is receiving the same service. Baxter Estates, one of the smallest villages, feels that the dues structure is fair. **Sarah Deonarine to make a list of potential changes to the IMA for the next meeting to discuss.**

Approval of Summer 2020 Intern: **Dianne Sheehan made a motion to hire Samantha Wilder for summer 2020.** Ray Herbert seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Seabin: Prospeed is a foul release coating recommended by the manufacturer. It's not a paint, so it's better for the environment. **Mike Ertel made a motion not to exceed \$500 for foul release coating and hardware as needed.** Kate Hirsch seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Discussion then moved to the possibility of relocating the Seabin to another site due to previous issues we experienced at Town Dock. The sentiment of the Committee was that we should keep the Seabin at Town Dock and work on ways to protect it.

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WQIP: We finally have a contract with NYS Department of State for our Water Quality Improvement Plan, so work can commence. As such, it is necessary for member representatives to track time spent on the project for in-kind match (15.5 hours each over the course of the project). Bob Keane suggested adding a regular line item to collect time sheets to all agendas and to include in all WQIP e-mails.

Discussion on 2020 Joint Protection Committee meeting: The Committee felt that an Oyster Bay location was equitable and recommended social marketing and microbial source tracking as potential projects.

Manhasset Sewer Feasibility Study – TJ Costello from the Manhasset Chamber of Commerce gave the background on the study: Manhasset business owners approached the Great Neck Water Pollution Control Plant and requested a study to get Plandome Road sewered. The study is complete and in comment form now, Deonarine can resend the e-mail with link. The business community is on-board, but it is a hot topic: some villages seceded over sewers 40 years ago. There is a fear of build-up, but there are checks and balances to keep it from happening. Any comments can be sent to TJ Costello and the Committee was asked to submit comments. **Deonarine will draft comments on the study.**

The study can be accessed on the Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations website at <https://www.manhassetcivic.org/our-projects/> and clicking on the PDF titled “Plandome Road Water Treatment (sewers) Feasibility Study.” Comments can be sent electronically to tj@hierarchyarchitecture.com

Improvements to the Port Washington Water Pollution Control District -- Melanie Cassens and Win Kinney gave an update:

- The district received a grant for asset management improvements
 - Mapping the collection system in GIS (Geographic Information System)
 - They can track everything (sewer connections, when cleaned, etc) from an iPad
- Biosolids improvements
 - Building a new Dewatering Facility Building
- Other improvements:
 - Site improvements (paving, new access road, etc)
- Other information on the plant:
 - Operates at 2.6MGD, but has the capacity for 4MGD¹
 - Plant treats leachate from the Town’s capped landfill
 - They achieved compliance with the Long Island Sound Nitrogen TMDL² in 2010 and were \$2M under budget. They remove 90% of the nitrogen from water.

Winter 2020 e-Newsletter – **Mike Ertel made a motion to approve the newsletter with edits.** Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Newsletter was scheduled to send Wednesday, February 19th at 2:30pm

Updates:

- Alewife monitor training -- Volunteers are needed to watch for a specific fish in Manhasset Valley Park. River Herring (alewife) are a type of fish that move upstream in the spring to spawn, but they may run into dams that keep them from making it to freshwater. All that is required is standing on the pedestrian bridge at the park for 15 minutes per week (or more often) looking for alewife or signs of their presence and then entering observations into an on-line form. The survey runs mid-March to mid-May and there is a training session at Town Hall on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30pm. For more information,

¹ Million Gallons per Day treated

² Total Maximum Daily Load

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visit: <https://www.seatuck.org/index.php/river-herring-survey> To register, e-mail Victoria O'Neill at victoria.oneill@dec.ny.gov

- Baxter Pond sign – no update
- 2016 – 2018 water quality report – no update
- Army Corps
 - New NOI posted on their website, supposedly just because timeline changed
 - Public meeting on 2/27 in Rockaway Park, but probably nothing new and solely focused on the south shore.
 - POST MEETING UPDATE: the project has been suspended.
- Nassau Septic Replacement Program – the IRS has gotten involved, so it is on hold currently.
- DEC Water quality monitoring –the Town is working on a contract with Dvirka Bartilucci for our QAPP and DUAR
- Web & social media – **Deonarine to develop a social media plan**
- “Don’t feed the geese” actions – meeting with the new councilmember on March 2nd

Municipal updates

Plandome Heights (Dianne Sheehan): Village just had a brand new map made up that shows everything including all lamp posts, storm drains, etc. The Board decided not to computerize it, so it is up at Village Hall.

Flower Hill (Kate Hirsch): The village is investing in GIS.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- **Next meeting: March 19 (Law Library)—attendance is critical**
- Spring 2020 meeting dates (third Thursday of the month, except as noted): April 23 (fourth Thursday), May 21, June 18
- **Alewife monitor training, Tuesday, March 3rd, 6:30pm in Town Hall**
- Annual MS4 reporting year ends March 9th – **Deonarine will reach out to Village Clerks and make sure they review last year’s report and did everything by March 9th.**

REMINDER: March 19th we vote to finalize the 2020 dues

Mike Ertel made a motion to adjourn at 9pm.

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Finalized: 5/5/2020

Save the Date: April 28-29 Workshop³

Learn How to Create Effective Environmental Behavior Change Campaigns

Do you work with people and communities to tackle environmental challenges that impact Long Island Sound and its rivers, harbors and bays? This spring we are providing an opportunity that may help in your outreach. The Long Island Sound Study is pleased to be sponsoring a workshop at an affordable price on how to plan and implement an effective outreach campaign, incorporating scientific knowledge on behavior change to encourage local citizens to commit to and take positive actions for cleaner water and a healthier environment.

The two-day training for environmental and municipal leaders will be led by Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr, a Canadian environmental psychologist. Workshop attendees will learn the five steps of Community-Based Social Marketing (selecting behaviors, identifying barriers, developing strategies, conducting pilots, and broad scale implementation) and be exposed to numerous case studies illustrating its use. More than 75,000 program managers have attended Dr. McKenzie-Mohr's workshops throughout North America, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. This is his first workshop in our region.

McKenzie-Mohr is a recipient of the American Psychological Association's inaugural award for innovation in environmental psychology and the World Social Marketing conference's inaugural award for contributions to the field of social marketing. You can learn more about his approach at www.cbsm.com.

- **Workshop Date:** April 28-29, 2020
- **Location:** Hanson Exploration Station, Beardsley Zoo, 1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport, CT
- **Registration:** Early Bird (February 18-April 6): \$75
Regular (April 7 or later): \$95

*Registration includes 2-day attendance, light breakfast, lunch, free on-site parking, and a copy of McKenzie-Mohr's book: *Fostering Sustainable Behavior*.*

³ Note that this would interfere with attendance at the annual LI Envirothon on April 29th

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