



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: January 20, 2022, 7:30pm

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Welcome & Introductions

Attendance: Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Don Richardson (Plandome), Jill Monoson (Thomaston), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Mike Ertel (Sands Point), Mike Malloy (Baxter Estates, alternate), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Sarah Schaefer-Brown (NYSG), Mary Arnold (NYSDEC), Barbara Cohen (Baxter Pond Foundation), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

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

Note: Action items are in **yellow highlight**. *Motions are in italicized underline.*

Discussion & Motion points:

1. Note that meetings will be recorded and posted to YouTube.
2. Sarah Schaefer-Brown, Long Island Sound Study's (LISS) new Sustainable and Resilient Community Extension Professional, New York Sea Grant, presented on her new position and the work LISS plans to do. Funded by LISS, and also in partnership with NOAA, she and her counterparts (in Suffolk, Westchester, and two in CT) were hired to work with Nassau Co Communities on the Long Island Sound coast. Their goal is to bring about:
 - a. Better coordinated regional response
 - b. Better trained community decision makers
 - c. Infrastructure improvements planning
 - d. Viability of government services
 - e. Facilitated implementation

She wants to work with both the Committee and the individual communities and to know our goals. The team plans to create a clearinghouse of tools and resources. She does not have a funding arm other than directing people to existing grant programs, but Mary Arnold (DEC/NEIWGCC) said that, if funding is an issue, and we have an idea, to bring it to them as EPA plans to funnel money down through the LISS work groups.

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Finalized: 3/25/2022

3. Jill Monoson made a motion to adopt the minutes of November 4, 2021. Don Richardson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

4. Quarterly financial update: There was a discussion of the 2022 budget projection, project ideas (as presented by Deonarine), and the current reserve of the Committee.
 - a. Deonarine requested the blessing of the Committee to pursue an outside entity to take on water quality monitoring. The Committee supported the idea. Mary Arnold offered to look into other monitoring groups.
 - b. Discussion then turned to the Committee's financial reserve. Deonarine and Braun explained that the WQIP will provide us with projects that will improve water quality, then we take the document and seek funding. It's a long-term project, so, if anyone has any ideas on projects, let us know. Our reserve is for projects to come. **Deonarine will send out a survey for project ideas.**

5. Kevin Braun made a motion to finalize the 2022 dues as set at the November 4, 2021 meeting. Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The dues break-down is as follows:

Total Dues:	Nassau County:	Town:	Each Village:
\$53,400	\$24,000	\$6,000	\$1,800

All member municipalities were sent a dues review letter dated November 8, 2021.

6. Stormdrain markers: Don Richardson made a motion to purchase storm drain medallions and glue and associated items at a cost not to exceed \$2,500 from Almetek, the sole source vendor. Mike Ertel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

7. Dianne Sheehan made a motion to set the spring beach clean-up dates as April 3rd at Manorhaven and May 7th at Bay Walk Park and approved the purchase of up to \$150 in supplies for the beach clean-ups. Mike Ertel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Discussion: The supplies that are needed include new patches, gloves, snacks, and water. Dianne Sheehan requested a sign/banner that clearly states who we are to be used at beach clean-ups and educational events. **Deonarine will get more information and bring it back to the Committee.**

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8. There were no objections to canceling the February and May meeting dates.
9. 2022 Draft MS4 Permit Public Comment Period: NYSDEC had just released their draft 2022 stormwater permit¹ for public comment, which ends on March 7th. The various protection committees are working together on a joint comment letter to DEC.
10. 303(d) List Public Comment Period: Two of Manhasset Bay's three portions (as identified by DEC) are listed and Whitney Pond is listed twice (once for chlordane, once for dissolved oxygen). The only change is that Whitney Pond is proposed for delisting for its chlordane impairment due to "flaws in original analysis." The Committee agreed that this action didn't warrant comment.

Updates, Reminders, & Municipal Updates:

- MS4 Reporting period ends 3/9 – make sure you did all that you said you were going to do in last year's report.
- 2021 Dues & IMA – complete (all dues payments and signatures have been received)
- Greentree Foundation meeting – deferred to next meeting
- DEC Water quality monitoring grant: the QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan) is still under development. The process has highlighted the need for a dedicated monitoring group, as was discussed above.
- Water Quality Improvement Plan (DOS) Grant – The Town sent a contract to Nelson, Pope, & Voorhis for their review and signature. They haven't responded yet.
- LINAP
- Seabin – The Town has a contract with Mehran Marine to do various water-based jobs and the installation and removal of the Seabin was included. Unfortunately, the original location at Town dock has proven to be a bad location, because it takes the full brunt of winds coming across the Bay. Discussion then turned to alternative locations. Deonarine brought up the Manorhaven boat ramp, but was cautioned about low water at Manorhaven. **Deonarine will need to investigate on a moon low.** Then the suggestion of a private marina came up, but Deonarine said that, since the project used public money, it

¹ You can find it here: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/43150.html>

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likely needs to be in a public place. Deonarine will ask for clarification from NCSWCD² on whether we can put the Seabin at a marina since it has a public improvement no matter where it's placed, as it's cleaning the water.

- Science Museum of Long Island (Tom Lang): They are planning a volunteer clean-up of the shoreline at SMLI and Manhasset Bay Estates Assoc.
- Nassau County (Dan Fucci): They are hoping to have a draft of the Nassau Co Nine Element Watershed Plan finished by late February and then stakeholders will review. MBPC provided information on nitrogen reduction and education, which has been run past DEC, the approving agency. This is not a mandate – it's a wish list with the purpose of pursuing funding opportunities later on as having a plan strengthens grant proposals.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Upcoming meetings: March 24, April 28, June 16
- Annual Joint Protection Committee meeting: May 12th *tentative*
- Beach Clean-ups: April 3rd (Manorhaven) and May 7th (Bay Walk Park)

Dan Fucci made motion to adjourn at 9pm, Dianne Sheehan seconded

² Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District (NCSWCD) funded the Seabin project.

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