



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: November 3, 2022, 7:30pm
Great Neck Library

Attendance: Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Maria Branco (Baxter Estates, alternate), Carey Ye (Kensington), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Karen Lynne Siegel (Thomaston), John Ellsworth (Nelson, Pope, & Voorhis), Samantha Wilder (Intern), Sarah Schaefer-Brown (NYSG), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

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:

Review of WQIP¹ Goals and Vision Statement: John Ellsworth from the Committee's consultant Nelson, Pope, & Voorhis (NPV) was on hand to discuss the project and present the draft Vision Statement and Goals. He explained that a lot has changed in 23 years since our last plan, such as new green technologies, climate change, etc. The first task of the project is to develop a vision statement for the Bay that is all encompassing and then a series of goals which will cover everything we want to accomplish for Manhasset Bay. **The Committee is asked to look this over, see if anything was missed, if anything needs to be tweaked to include additional elements, or other.** Deonarine will send an electronic version to the Committee for comment. The document first lists the goals from the 1999 WQIP, which weren't very clear. So NPV organized it and added some goals based on current thinking and then came up with a vision statement, which is at the end.

After this is complete, NPV will be preparing a public outreach plan and program and will come back to Committee with that for approval. Everything will go through the Committee before it goes out to the public. NPV is also looking to the Committee to help make sure we reach as many people in the community as possible.

Over the course of this project, NPV will update all the information about the Bay and do an analysis (while taking input from us and what we know about the Bay). NPV will develop recommendations based on their analysis for specific projects and changes to municipal codes, etc in order to improve water quality and protect the Bay. We'll want to look at it in 5 year intervals to ID what has been done and which actions are priorities.

¹ Water Quality Improvement Plan; funded by grant from NYS Department of State



This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
- Email: mbpcExec@gmail.com •
- manhassetbay.net •

Finalizing Meeting Minutes

Maria Branco made a motion to adopt the minutes of June 29, 2022. Karen Siegel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Karen Siegel made a motion to adopt the minutes of October 20, 2022. Tom Lang seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Letters and Participation

Maria Branco made a motion to retroactively approve letters to the individual members of the Long Island Sound Congressional caucus asking them to pass **H.R. 2711** to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 such that septic replacement grants are not taxable. Dan Fucci seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Annie Mendelson made a motion to retroactively approve a letter to County Executive Blakeman asking him to continue funding for the County's septic replacement grant program. Kevin Braun seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Jennifer Wilson-Pines made a motion to retroactively approve being a promotional partner on the Port Washington Water District's Pharmaceutical Take Back Event. Kevin Braun seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

DEC's Advance notice of saline waters reclassification: Kevin Braun made a motion to approve the comment letter to DEC as edited. Karen Siegel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Discussion centered around the northeastern portion of the Bay and that Baxter Beach was once a swimming beach, but may not be anymore. The decision was made to send the letter, but remove specific reference to Baxter Beach before it is sent.

Review of Committee Finances

Deonarine reviewed the attached spreadsheet with the Committee. Kevin Braun noted that the Committee's grant from the Department of State is retroactive, meaning the Committee has to outlay the costs and then submit for reimbursement. Deonarine will prepare a final 2022 financial spreadsheet for the January meeting. A vote on dues will be held at the Committee's January meeting.

A motion to hire Samantha Wilder long-term was tabled until the end.

Kevin Braun made a motion to purchase reusable bags and silicone straws as table giveaways for educational events at a cost not to exceed \$1,750.00. Carey Ye seconded. (500 of each) Discussion: The Committee has giveaways for various educational events and we are currently all out. Deonarine wants to purchase 500 each of reusable tote bags (preferably the one that was used before) and silicone straws. The estimate is based on a quote from epromos (whom the Committee has purchased from before), but **Deonarine will get three quotes and go with the lowest bidder.** It was recommended that Deonarine reach out to the local company, Spectrum, for an estimate.

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- Email: mbpcExec@gmail.com •
- manhassetbay.net •

Updated: 1/24/2023

2023 Meeting Dates: The Town announces the Town Board meeting dates in December – Deonarine will come up with a list of dates once that is released. In the meantime, it is likely that the Town Board will meet the first and third Thursdays of January, so the next Committee meeting will be January 12th.² Deonarine will reach out to the Port Washington Public Library for a meeting space. The Committee was not in favor of meeting over the summer.

Comment Letter to the Army Corps: Surge barriers at Throgs Neck and east are gone, but Maria Branco pointed out that there will still be impacts from whatever is done (what looks like 10-12 feet of flooding). The Committee was wholly on-board with preparing a letter that covers the following: get details on near-shore protections (hardening), induced flooding, and having a meeting in Nassau County. Army Corps hasn't done an updated study on this region in 60 years. Deonarine will send out information on the project and members will send Deonarine comments. Sarah Schaefer-Brown reported that USGS will be looking at all of LI and doing modeling on flooding, etc. Schaefer-Brown has reached out to USGS and asked if they could help in this process.

Updates & Reminders:

- Nassau County Nine Element Plan - County is still waiting on DEC to announce the plan.
- EPA Shellfish Seeding Grant Steering Committee – HHPC is determining whether to go for a \$300K shellfish seeding grant. Deonarine and Braun will be on the steering committee.
- DEC³/Marcellino grant – might need an extension
- See “Jul – October 2022” Update document (attached to the end of this document)

Municipal Updates

- Sarah Schaefer-Brown, the LISS⁴ Sustainable and Resilient Communities Extension Professional for Nassau County, brought up the upcoming 1st annual LIS⁵ Sustainable and Resilient Communities Bi-State Workshop. This virtual workshop will be on Thursday, December 1st from 12:30 to 4pm. Sessions will include: tips for success with Long Island Sound funding opportunities, information on a new grant-writing assistance program, and breakouts for focused discussion on shoreline planning, using green infrastructure for stormwater management, and managed retreat. The workshop is catered to municipalities and non-profits, but anyone is welcome to attend. Additionally, it was pointed out that this would count as education for municipal officials under the MS4 permit. To register and get more information, visit: tinyurl.com/LISResilience
- Kevin Braun made a request that the Committee keep up with the Beacon Wind project. In the past, money was made available for municipalities from these cross-Sound cable projects.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Next meeting: January 19, 2023

² This date had to be changed to January 19th after the release of the 2023 Town Board meeting dates.

³ NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

⁴ Long Island Sound Study

⁵ Long Island Sound

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Executive Session: The Chair, Bob Keane, called for an executive session at 8:49pm. Karen Siegel made a motion to hire Samantha Wilder long-term as the part-time Water Quality Coordinator at an hourly rate of \$20. Tom Lang seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Kevin Braun made a motion to adjourn at 8:55pm.

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MBPC 2022 Estimated and Actual Expenditures through the Third Quarter

	Estimated for 2022	End of 3rd Qtr. 2022	
Starting Balance	\$199,853.44	\$199,853.44	
Income	\$117,200	\$73,258	
Dues	\$53,400	\$53,400	
DOS WQIP grant	\$30,000.00	\$0	
DEC WQ monitoring grant	\$33,800.00	\$19,858	
Salary (part-time, contract)	\$42,640.00	\$28,174	
Supplies	\$4,025	\$625	
Office & other supplies*	\$3,300	\$105	
Tabling event supplies	\$350	\$236	logo pins, tote bags, giveaways
Beach clean-up	\$375	\$285	
Website*	\$2,000	\$326	
web hosting, etc	\$1,000	\$160	
web design	\$1,000	\$166	
Projects/Events	\$11,280	\$6,208	
WQ monitoring	\$1,980	\$813	
Boat Tour	\$3,500	\$2,892	
Joint Protection Committee Meeting (one per year)	\$50	\$0	
Educational sign/markers	\$4,000	\$2,097	storm drain markers & watershed model
Educational printing	\$750	\$0	
software	\$0	\$0	
Seabin	\$1,000	\$406	
Contractual services	\$54,500	\$4,995	
NPV for Development of WQIP	\$40,000	\$2,411	
DB for DEC WQ monitoring work	\$11,500	\$1,696	QAPP & DUAR
Intern	\$3,000.00	\$888	
Total Expenditures	\$114,445	\$40,328	
Income - Expenses =	\$2,755	\$32,930	
Balance	\$202,608	\$232,784	

"Office Supplies:" includes the purchase of a laptop and accessories (approved September 2020)

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