



# Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

## Minutes: March 24, 2022, 7:30pm

### Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Attendance:** Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Mike Malloy (Baxter Estates, alternate), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Meghan Kelly (Clerk, Baxter Estates), John & Kim Keiserman (Baxter Pond Foundation), Jill Monoson (Thomaston), Mayor-elect Randall Rosenbaum (Flower Hill), Mariann, Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Samantha Wilder (Intern), Mariann Dalimonte (Councilmember, District 6), Sarah Schaefer-Brown (NYSG), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

**The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm with a quorum in attendance.**

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

The Chair recognized that this was Dianne Sheehan's last meeting and thanked her for her service, but deferred further comment until the end of the meeting. The Chair also noted that meetings will be recorded and posted to YouTube.

YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/5Y-rrQ-4Dcc>

#### **Discussion & Motion points:**

**Minutes:** *Kevin Braun made a motion to adopt the minutes of January 20, 2022.* Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Calibration Solutions:** Deonarine clarified that the request for \$1,000 is specifically for calibration solutions used for the YSI and these would be ordered with or without a DEC-approved QAPP. *Dianne Sheehan made a motion to authorize up to \$1,000 for the summer 2022 water quality monitoring.* Jill Monoson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Monitoring Equipment:** Deonarine went over the expenses covered by the request for \$980 (see table below) and clarified that these were included in the grant contract with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and that, if we have an approved 2022 Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), these expenses would be reimbursed. *Kevin Braun made a motion to purchase water quality monitoring equipment up to a cap of \$980, regardless of QAPP status.* Dianne Sheehan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
- Email: [mbpcExec@gmail.com](mailto:mbpcExec@gmail.com) •
- [www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org](http://www.manhassetbayprotectioncommittee.org) •

Item(s)	Cost Estimate in Grant Contract	Cost Estimate for Summer 2022
Cooler(s) for sample transport	\$120.00	\$50
Swing sampler for surface water catches	\$185.00	\$166
Handheld Anemometer (wind speed)	\$250.00	\$100+
Secchi disk	\$175.00	\$60
Handheld Depth Sounder	\$250.00	\$150+
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$980</b>	<b>\$526 -- \$800+</b>

**Seabin:** Deonarine recalled that there were issues that came up with siting the Seabin at Town Dock (specifically, the floating dock is on the south side and takes the brunt of the wind coming across the Bay) and that, as an alternative, she was tasked with going back to the funder, Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District (NCSWCD), to find out if we were allowed to install the Seabin at a marina on Manhasset Bay, since it would still be performing a public service, even if not in a public location. NCSWCD agreed and Deonarine then approached the Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) on Monday night and David Doody, General Manager of Capris Marina, expressed a definite interest. Deonarine supplied him with a list of requirements for a marina partner, but has not gone over it in-depth with him yet. Councilmember Mariann Dalimonte confirmed that David Doody was excited and expressed that she hopes he will talk about this and get other marinas to buy them. WAC also has representatives from each yacht club and other marinas and this is the goal of the founders of the Seabin Project: multiple Seabins in a Bay cleaning up trash. **Deonarine will reach out to Capris Marina and make sure they are on-board and agree with the terms (e.g., volunteer access, etc).**

Deonarine also said that the original plan was to collect the trash based on day of the week and then have volunteers weigh and sort the [dry] trash. Hofstra University (including Samantha Wilder) had developed procedures based on Ocean Conservancy data cards used during the volunteer beach clean-ups. In support of that, NCSWCD had purchased a locked plastic shed to house shelves, baskets, logbook, etc. However, the shed was damaged in a storm and Deonarine is not sure if the items in the shed were damaged also. A new shed is likely around \$350, but Deonarine requests \$400 spending limit to be sure. Deonarine requested an additional \$1,000 to

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purchase any other items that may be lost or broken in the shed and in case something happens to a filter over the summer (two years ago, a set of two new filters was \$450) or any other parts are needed to keep the Seabin running over the summer.

Ultimately, two motions were put forward and passed:

Kevin Braun made a motion to move the Seabin to Capris Marina as per their interest in taking it on. Nora Haagenon seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Kevin Braun made a motion to purchase a storage shed, if necessary, at a cost not to exceed \$400 and, if necessary, to set a spending limit of \$1,000 for support of the Seabin project and volunteer efforts to quantify the trash collected. Dianne Sheehan seconded. This is also based on if Capris Marina will agree to our terms. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Summer Intern:** Nora Haagenon made a motion to hire an intern for up to \$3,000 for summer 2022 to assist with water quality monitoring and the Seabin project. Jill Monoson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Discussion was about the current intern and her availability for the upcoming summer. Kevin Braun stated that contracts take a while to go through and we have to make a decision soon about who we are hiring. **Wilder and Deonarine will investigate and bring information to the next meeting.**

**2022 Draft MS4 Permit:** At the beginning of the year, DEC released their new draft permit, which all MBPC municipal members are subject to. The new permit was quite extensive and the Committee contributed to and was signatory to three joint letters: one specific to the Third Party Certification; one requesting an extension to the public comment period; and the last being the compiled comments to DEC. These letters and the draft permit were discussed electronically. Nora Haagenon made a retroactive motion to approve signing on to those three (3) comment letters. Dan Fucci seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Tour of Science Museum of Long Island:** There are two tours for the morning of April 9<sup>th</sup>: 10am and 11am. There is no RSVP, just show up to whichever time works best for you; we will meet at the main building. SMLI is about 15 months into an 18 month project to install stormwater practices on the property. Tony Canetta (their stormwater runoff guru and also the lead on the original 1999 WQIP) and Tom Lang put together a three (3) page handout about the work done.

**Annual Boat Tour for Elected Officials:** The sentiment was to resume hosting the annual boat tour. **Deonarine will bring information for a vote to the next meeting.** Deonarine also asked about whether we expand and host a boat tour(s) for the general public this summer. **Deonarine to reach out to the Port Washington Public Library, who previously hosted boat tours for the public, and explore the idea.**

**Upcoming Meetings:** The April and June meetings (May was cancelled in lieu of the joint protection committee meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>) conflict with Town Board meetings. The June

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meeting can easily be moved to June 9<sup>th</sup>, but the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will have to stand, unless we move to a different day of the week (Wednesday?).

A second question is whether we continue to meet virtually. Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee is making that decision one meeting at a time. According to Assemblywoman Gina L. Sillitti's District Office, the executive order for holding public meetings virtually was extended into April and then the anticipation is that the Legislature will make it permanent.

The Committee decided to keep the April 28<sup>th</sup> date and to hold that meeting virtually.

**Purchase of Educational Retractable Banner for Events:** At the previous Committee meeting (1/20/2022), Dianne Sheehan requested a sign/banner that clearly states who we are to be used at beach clean-ups and educational events. Deonarine reached out to Oyster Bay/Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee for more information and found out that they had bought two stand-up banners for \$450 each in 2013 from a local company. Deonarine asked what information the Committee would want on a sign, adding that septic awareness and stormwater impacts on Manhasset Bay rose to the top of educational topics according to a recent web-based survey of Committee representatives. The main desire for the banner is that it includes our logo and name. One suggestion was to list some of the things the Committee does. **Deonarine will come up with sketches.**

### **Updates, Reminders, & Municipal Updates:**

- MS4 Reporting period ended 3/9 and is due June 1<sup>st</sup> – MBPC's contribution went out on 3/23, if you did not receive it, reach out ASAP
- 2022 Dues have been coming in
- Greentree Foundation meeting & Whitney Pond/Creek watershed – Deonarine gave a quick presentation about a meeting with Greentree Foundation and the stormwater issues in the Whitney Pond watershed. Nassau County does have a design plan that is being resurrected. Deonarine, Braun, and Schaefer-Brown made a plan to talk separately about a proposal to do a subwatershed assessment.
- Water Quality Improvement Plan (DOS) Grant – The contract with Nelson, Pope, and Voorhis has been executed and they have started working on the first two tasks. **Deonarine will invite NPV to the next meeting for a quick introduction.**
- LINAP – Deonarine briefly recalled information shared previously about the Solute Transport Work Group and the Hydrodynamic Modification Assessment. Then talk turned to the County's 9 Element Plan. This is an off-shoot of LINAP and is a nitrogen reduction strategy, which Dan Fucci is heading up with a stakeholder group putting together the elements. A Draft Final 9E Plan is expected by mid-to late-April.
- Stormdrain Markers: Deonarine will have a better update at the April meeting
- Deonarine has begun putting together "Monthly Snapshots" as a way to inform everyone of what the Committee is doing without taking up too much time at Committee meetings

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- Long Island Sound Futures Fund is open and accepting grant applications until May 19<sup>th</sup>
- The Port Washington Library has just announced their Earth Day event for the afternoon of April 24<sup>th</sup> at Sunset Park and Harbor Fest is back on June 5<sup>th</sup> at Town Dock –  
**Deonarine will send out a volunteer sign-up form for Harbor Fest.**
- Kevin Braun took the time to congratulate and thank Dianne Sheehan for her time (6 years) on this Committee. Many others expressed well wishes and thanks as well.

**Upcoming meetings and events:**

- Upcoming meetings: April 28, June 9
- Joint Protection Committee meeting: May 12
- Beach Clean-ups: April 3 at Manorhaven Beach Town Park; May 7 at Bay Walk Park;  
Transition PW is translating our flier and outreaching to the Latino community
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – Tour of Science Museum of Long Island (10am or 11am)
- Harbor Fest – June 5<sup>th</sup> at Town Dock, Port Washington
- Earth Day – April 24<sup>th</sup>, afternoon, at Sunset Park, Port Washington

**Executive Session:** The Committee Representatives then went into an executive session and made the unanimous decision to raise the Executive Director’s hourly rate to \$41 effective that day.

*Dianne Sheehan made the motion to adjourn at 9:30pm.*