



# Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

## Meeting Minutes: June 29, 2022, 7:30pm

### *Zoom Virtual Meeting*

**Attendance:** Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Maria Branco (Baxter Estates), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Kristina Lobosco (Plandome Heights), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Stephen Klyce, Sarah Schaefer-Brown (NYSG), Mary Arnold (NYSDEC), Samantha Wilder (Intern), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

**The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm without a quorum for the first portion.**

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

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

Note that meetings will be recorded and posted to [YouTube](#).

The new logo pins have arrived and are great.

2022 Water Quality Report: At our April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee approved a contract amendment with Dvirka and Bartilucci to produce a 2022 Water Quality Report for \$10,000 (to be reimbursed by a grant from the State that expires December 31st). However, we cannot make this type of amendment, because it constitutes something different (the original contract was to complete a Quality Assurance Plan). **Deonarine will gather three quotes.**

Fall Beach Clean-up: October 1<sup>st</sup>, at Whitney Pond Park. Deonarine asked if there were any objections to this new location, but there was a lot of support as this is generally an under represented portion of the watershed. **Trustee Spiegel offered to reach out to Temple Beth El for volunteers.**

Financial Update: Deonarine went over a spreadsheet of the Committee's expected budget vs. what had been paid out to the end of May. The Committee started the year just shy of \$200K

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

and, if income and expenses play out as projected, the Committee will end the year with around \$185K.

Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator: Deonarine gave a refresher on our current water quality monitoring program and then explained how she had been considering contracting with Save the Sound for the annual water quality monitoring program. However, after a premature underestimate for the cost of monitoring, Save the Sound came back with a budget of over \$40,000 per year. Instead, Deonarine is now recommending that the Committee consider hiring a part-time Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator who would be responsible for equipment maintenance and calibration, weekly sampling with the Bay Constables, data analysis, etc. at a cost of \$20 -- \$25 per hour for a total of around \$1500 per year (basically, promoting the internship). After some discussion, it was decided that **Deonarine will prepare a job description for the Committee to vote on in the fall.**

***The meeting then jumped ahead to updates before coming back with a quorum to discuss and pass the following motions:***

Karen Siegel made a motion to adopt the minutes of April 28, 2022. Jennifer Wilson-Pines seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Maria Branco made a motion to retroactively approve letters of support for Science Museum of Long Island's and American Littoral Society's grant proposals to the Long Island Sound Futures Fund. Tom Lang seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Sugar Kelp Bioextraction: Such a project would facilitate the removal of nitrogen from Manhasset Bay using a native aquatic plant. To do this, the Committee would have to partner with a marina(s) to grow sugar kelp during the winter, get permission, find volunteers, buy the gear, etc. Lazy Point Farms, a non-profit, would assist with the purchase of gear and seed and getting us set-up. They also have a partnership with a facility in Montauk that would process the kelp after we harvest it (it would be turned into a soil additive that can be purchased at nurseries, garden stores, etc.). Although it wouldn't cause any major changes to nitrogen pollution, there is a push to use any means necessary to abate nitrogen on Long Island and Jennifer Wilson-Pines pointed out that, in order to fight non-point source pollution, it's going to take many incremental projects. After more discussion, it was decided that **Deonarine will gather more information,**

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

work out some logistics, and figure out if this is even feasible in Manhasset Bay before the Committee votes.

Watershed Model: Maria Branco made a motion to purchase the [Enviroscape Coastal Watershed Model](#) and related accessories at a cost not to exceed \$1,250. Karen Siegel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Discussion was about the usefulness of such a tool, especially given the Phase II stormwater permit.

Review of the March 2022 MBPC Priorities and Project Ideas Survey results – Tabled

Meeting Dates: Karen Siegel made a motion to set Fall meeting dates as September 15<sup>th</sup>, October 20<sup>th</sup>, and November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tom Lang seconded. The November 3<sup>rd</sup> date is tentative. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Retractable Educational Banner: Deonarine went over five different design options for the banner (which typically measure 83” by 33”):

- Two “About Us” banners about who makes up the Committee and what we do – it was agreed that these were too many words;
- One about “What You Can Do” – also too many words;
- One of a pretty picture that just had the Committee name; and,
- A “Watershed” focused one with a map of the watershed. This option was overwhelmingly the preferred option. Deonarine will flesh out the design and get quotes for having this done.

### **Committee Updates:**

- Boat Tour: Thursday, July 21st; 6:30 – 8:30pm (rescheduled due to storms)
- Seabin – supplies have been sent to Capris and it should be in soon
- 2022 Dues -- have all been received
- Water Quality Improvement Plan (DOS) Grant – no new updates
- LINAP<sup>1</sup> (Dan Fucci, Nassau County) – The County submitted the final 9 Element plan to DEC in June. DEC had a few, relatively minor comments to which they need a response

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<sup>1</sup> Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan

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

by July 14<sup>th</sup>, and then they'll accept it. The County will need more support from the Committee over the next few years to achieve N-reduction milestones and to create public education materials.

- Stormdrain Markers – have all been distributed

**Municipal Updates:**

- Village of Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines) has elected a new Mayor and trustees. The Villages of Great Neck and Sands Point reelected their incumbents. Baxter Estates elected the same Mayor and two new trustees (one being Maria Branco).
- Village of Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): Manorhaven Blvd (County Project) is still under construction, but is moving along.

**Upcoming meetings and events:**

- Upcoming meetings: September 15, October 20<sup>th</sup>
- Beach Clean-up: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:30am; Whitney Pond Park

*Dan Fucci made a motion to adjourn at 9:03pm.*

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

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