



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: October 12, 2023, 7:30pm

Town Hall, Law Library

220 Plandome Rd, Manhasset

Attendance: Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Charlie Interrante (Nassau Co), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Karen Lynne Siegel (Thomaston), Maria Branco (Baxter Estates, alternate), Gary Lewandowski (Flower Hill), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Samantha Wilder (Water Quality Coordinator), 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 in italicized underline.*

Discussion & Motion points:

1. *Kevin Braun made a motion to adopt the minutes of September 7, 2023.* Maria Branco seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
2. The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft Manhasset Bay Shellfish and Sediment Study (also known as shellfish density survey). Deonarine made notes on the comments and edits and will send back to Cashin Associates for their review and correction. The Committee was happy to see there is a healthy clam population in the Bay.
3. The Committee then discussed project ideas for the upcoming year, especially with State and Federal funding becoming available. Projects that floated to the top were assistance on the larger Baxter Beach project in seeing restoration and/or stormwater is addressed and pursuing a stormwater design project at Manorhaven Beach. Both locations have bacteria issues. **Deonarine will develop criteria for prioritizing projects.**
4. Update on MS4 permit: DEC has indicated that the stormwater permit has been revised based on public comments and is in final executive review. It is not known when the new general permit will be issued and there will be no further public review or comment. **Representatives will warn their villages that they need to put more money into their budgets for implementation of the new MS4 general permit requirements.**
5. Manorhaven Beach – Deonarine explained that an informal work group has formed to address bacteria concerns at Manorhaven Beach. This is in response to the Save the Sound report card of Long Island Sound beaches and gave Manorhaven Beach a C+ (not the worst grade). There was a virtual meeting between Save the Sound, Councilperson Dalimonte’s office, various Town departments, and the Committee (Deonarine) on 9/12. As one next step that came out of that meeting, “Manhasset Bay Protection Committee will investigate the outfalls in question as well and determine their next steps which may

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include sampling and/or discussing the management of the outfalls and previous inspection results.”

Committee discussion: The outfalls observed may be Town or County; the group didn't think they were the Village's. Kevin Braun mentioned an outfall report done quite some time ago. **Deonarine will reach out to the County.**

Updates, Reminders, & Municipal Updates:

- There was a Volunteer Clean-up at Baxter Beach on Sunday, October 1st in association with the International Coastal Clean-up. It was lightly attended, but we still removed a lot of heavy, metal debris.
- WQIP¹
 - a. Bay Environmental Consulting (a subcontractor of NPV) has started
 - b. We will discuss the watershed characterization report at the next meeting
 - c. First public meeting won't happen until 2024 now, but NPV is planning on sending an e-blast to stakeholders to start getting feedback and to give them a heads-up that a public meeting is coming
- Water quality report RFP status – no movement due to personnel changes
- Seabin – it will be removed from the water in early November
- Shellfish Seeding Grant² – RFP closed yesterday, received 3 proposals, they will be opened tomorrow and then the sub-committee will review
- LISS CAC³ -- no updates
- October newsletter – **Committee representatives, be on the lookout for a draft newsletter to review. Deonarine will send the newsletter link to all the villages once it's published.**
- Nassau S.E.P.T.I.C. program
 - a. The 100th install could be as soon as next week
 - b. NCSWCD⁴ will present at large national wastewater conference in VA
 - c. More municipalities considering mandates for these advanced systems on new construction
- New MS4 permit – the permit has been revised based on comments received and is in executive review. There will be no further public review and DEC hasn't been specific about the changes made. Once it's released, we'll be expected to comply.
- Science Museum of Long Island (Tom Lang): There will be a Pumpkin Smash at SMLI coming up. It would be an opportunity for NCSWCD to get the word out about the SEPTIC program. **Deonarine will reach out to NCSWCD.**
- Village of Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): The Village is working on updates to their sewer conveyance system.
- Village of Flower Hill (Gary Lewandowski): At a village board meeting, Gary Lewandowski mentioned the village promoting the Committee's link(s). This prompted a discussion about what is the Committee doing about outreaching to the public.

¹ Water Quality Improvement Plan; funded by grant from NYS Department of State (DOS) under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund

² This is a grant from the EPA to the north shore embayments for shellfish seeding. The grant is being administered by the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee.

³ Long Island Sound Study's Citizens Advisory Committee, MBPC is a member

⁴ Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District, they administer the program on behalf of Nassau County

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Deonarine offered to present to the village board on what the Committee is currently doing and how the Trsutees can be better advocates.

- Maria Branco also recommended that we reach out to the Water Pollution Control District to present to the Committee.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Upcoming meetings: November 16th

Karen Lynne Siegel made a motion to adjourn at 8:48pm.

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