



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: September 8, 2016 Meeting, 7:30pm
Supervisor's Conference Room, Town Hall

Attendees: Erin Reilley (Town of North Hempstead), Pasqua Dziadul (Sands Point), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven rep, pending), Buddy Vetrone (citizen volunteer), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Charles Comer (Baxter Estates), Chris Shannon (Councilwoman DiGeorgio's office), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Brian Herrington (Flower Hill), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), To-on Pang (Thomaston), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

Note: **Motions are highlighted in blue.**

Meeting opened at 7:35pm with a discussion of the Committee's trust fund expenses and income April 1 – August 31. Current balance is \$122,230. Expenses are in line with what we expected (Director will add a column to the quarterly report for "Budgeted expenses"). \$18,500 in 2016 dues have been deposited to date, a total of around \$40,000 (\$44,500) is expected.

Review and Adoption of the Minutes of May 11, 2016

Dianne Sheehan made a motion to accept minutes as amended (spelling correction, added Braun to attendance), Nora Haagenson seconded. Motion passed. Brian Herrington abstained (not at meeting).

Selection of a vendor for a new water quality report looking at years 2009 – 2015

Three very competitive vendors submitted quotes in response to the Committee's Scope of Work. After review, the sub-Committee, consisting of Robert Keane, Brian Herrington, Erin Reilley, and Sarah Deonarine, recommended Fuss and O'Neill as the vendor to produce the report for several reasons including their experience with other watershed groups, the quality of their quote, and that their base was below the \$6,000 cap, but also provided optional add-ons for the Committee's consideration. After some discussion, the Committee agreed to the selection, but asked for clarification on the options before deciding what to add-on (if at all). Deonarine will follow-up.

Brian Herrington made the motion to contract with Fuss & O'Neill at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Erin Reilley seconded. All in favor, no opposes or abstentions.

New storm water curb medallion order

After discussion, **Brian Herrington made a motion to spend up to \$1000 on a new order of 180 medallions and 14 glue tubes**, Nora Haagenson seconded. The motion passed

Updates:

The multi-year educational sign project is complete with signs being delivered and installed this past spring and summer at Whitney Pond Park, Mill Pond, and Manorhaven Beach Town Park.

October 8th is the Committee's annual volunteer beach clean-up at 9:30am, meeting at Manorhaven Town Park. Buddy Vetrone is getting his school's Green Club involved.

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Harbor Fest was unsuccessful due to the weather (thunderstorms). Bob Keane expressed gratitude to Sands Point for the extra help during the very brief event.

The annual boat tour was a phenomenal success. A new group was on-board who enjoyed it and appreciated it. Dianne from Plandome Heights said, "I learned so much more and I've lived here for 26 years." The group expressed their gratitude to Jennifer Wilson-Pines and Joel Ziev who were the tour guides.

Municipal Updates

Town of North Hempstead Planning Department (Kevin Braun): The town applied for a grant through the NYS CFA for Baywalk trail construction. They are currently moving forward with permitting. Additional plantings and *Phragmites* removal at Mill Pond look great. The Manorhaven/North Sheets Creek project is done. Some *Phragmites* is still present, but the boat launch and Water Quality Improvements look great. The project brings, among other things, recreational benefits, stormwater mitigation, and wave action dissipation. There is an additional part that includes dredging, but that was not included in this project. This project was originally started in 1998.

Town of North Hempstead Sustainability Office (Erin Reilley): Just today the Town received approvals from the State that will allow them to proceed with the 22 Village MS4 mapping grant. Additionally, the Town just received \$800,000 from Lockheed Martin to restore Whitney Creek in Whitney Pond Park. Part of the project involves sediment testing for contaminants. This funding is just for the Creek, not the pond; the whole corridor is a multi-million-dollar project, this is step 1.

Additionally, the Town installed a new teaching rain garden at Clark Botanical Garden, Albertson.

Baxter Estates (Nora Haagenson): The Village just received word of help for the beach, which just lost three trees in the most recent storm. According to the US Army Corps of Engineers, to restore the beach would be a \$6-10 million project, so they are looking for other options.

Sands Point, Great Neck, Plandome Heights: no update

6th Council District, Councilwoman De Giorgio's office (Chris Shannon): A constituent asked about street sweeping. The Committee was able to clarify that street sweeping is not a requirement, but it counts as "good housekeeping" in the MS4 reports.

Port Washington North (Bob Keane): building in Baywalk Phase II is under construction and due to be complete by the end of the calendar year. This phase includes a parking lot and kayak launch.

Flower Hill (Brian Herrington): Flower Hill has entered the social media page and is now on Facebook. **They are looking for content, so please e-mail BH with anything you have.** The Village is participating in the Port Washington Water District's Save 15 program to conserve 15% of water usage.

NYS DEC is doing a voluntary tracker for MS4 permit, but it is not live yet. Sands Point and Flower Hill are supposed to be exempted from the semi-annual reporting, but they have not been yet, so they have to complete the December report. DEC is currently revising the MS4 permit, Eric Swenson (HHPC) and Alison Branco (PEP) have been the LI representatives for this process.

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Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): Manorhaven built “devil strips” along Manorhaven Blvd to capture water from sidewalks and properties, but not roads since they didn’t do curb cuts. Luckily, most of the plantings survived the summer.

The Village has a six-month moratorium on waterfront building and it’s looking like they will redo their LWRP (last done 25 years ago). A marina bought by developer who wants to build a condo there.

Port Washington Public Library Nautical (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): The library hosted eight boat tours, Wilson-Pines was docent on two. This year Earth Day is on a Saturday, so they will do a volunteer fair and will have presentations through the year.

Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Citizens Advisory Committee (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): They had their quarterly meeting today in Centerport, Wilson-Pines and Erin Reilley both attended. The bulk of discussion was around a letter going to the LISS Management Committee regarding the various Nitrogen action plans (phosphorous, which is a primarily freshwater issue, was included). Lorraine Holdridge from DEC Division of Water presented on the Island-wide DEC groundwater study (doesn’t include Queens or Brooklyn). And, even though it was a very hot summer, the LIS dead zone was not as bad as in previous years.

Over the summer, there were reports of a “bad smell” on Manhasset Bay, which is likely due to annual, natural processes in the Bay. There was a sewage spill, but this occurred after the smell. There was also a small bunker kill, but nothing compared to what was seen last year.

Buddy Vetrone: Vetrone is the new activities coordinator for Manhasset High School’s Green Group, 20-30 kids who volunteer, so **let him know if you need volunteers**. The group was previously land-focused, but Vetrone is getting them to focus on the water. Some volunteers from the group will help out with the October 8th clean up; Brian Herrington also suggested that they distribute CESSPOOL information once that project is complete.

Erin Reilley the made motion to adjourn at 9:05pm, Dianne Sheehan seconded.

Upcoming meetings: October 13, November 10 in the Supervisor’s Conference Room

Beach clean-up: October 8

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