

HEMPSTEAD HARBOR PROTECTION COMMITTEE

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of July 15, 2009
Sea Cliff Village Hall – 7:00 pm

NOTES: Items Requiring Action are ***italicized and underlined in Bold.***

Present: Eric Swenson (Director); Fred Pollack (North Hempstead); Joel Ziev (North Hempstead); Bill Archambault (Glen Cove); Dan Maddock (Sea Cliff); Aldona Lawson (Oyster Bay); Victor Mora (Roslyn Harbor); Carol DiPaolo (Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor)

Call to Order

Eric Swenson called the meeting to order shortly after 7:00 pm and explained that Bill Clemency had a last minute and unavoidable conflict arise and he apologized for having to miss the meeting.

Introduction of New Member

Eric introduced Victor Mora, a resident of Roslyn Harbor, whose home overlooks the lower harbor. He had been following the activities of the Committee and noticed that there was no one from his village attending the meetings. He contacted the Mayor and expressed interest and was appointed to replace Robert Smith. Thank you to Robert for your service to this Committee.

Approval of Minutes of June 17th

The minutes of the June 17th meeting were approved at this meeting. Dan Maddock made the motion and Bill Archambault seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements, Reminders, & Upcoming Events

Eric made the following announcements and reminders:

Public Hearing on Glen Cove Waterfront Development DEIS – Eric attended the June 25th meeting at Glen Cove City Hall held by Glen Cove Planning Board's public hearing on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the RXR Glen Isle Mixed-Use Waterfront Development. The hearing room was fairly full. People were standing in the back but there were still several empty seats. About 15-20 people spoke. He was the first to speak. The applicant started by giving about a 20 minute presentation (basically the same one presented to our Committee). The speakers ran the gamut from "this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to transform our city into a destination location" to "the city should not sell out its valuable assets so that the wealthy can have nice condos" and "people will die of cancer from the contaminants in the soil". Eric didn't count but felt that the split was pretty even between both sides. Eric's presentation primarily focused on stormwater.

The only other municipality that presented comments was Sea Cliff. Trustee Carol Vogt spoke right after Eric. She expressed concerns over the traffic projections and the ability of the traffic mitigation measures to do what is predicted. She stated the Village concurred with the Committee's presentation on stormwater. Mayor Kennedy arrived shortly after Carol spoke. He did not make a presentation.

A resident, Theresa Hauck, also made a point of supporting the comments on stormwater and stated that the county or the developer should consider extending the outfall from the wastewater treatment plant out to the middle of the harbor where there is greater tidal flow.

The meeting adjourned about 10:45 pm. The Planning Board extended the written comment period until July 20th (from July 10th). Once the FEIS is accepted by the Board, a public hearing will be held on it. When that will occur will depend on the extent of comments on the DEIS and how much additional investigation must take place in order to prepare the FEIS. The Board will then adopt findings which may contain conditions that the applicant must meet. This will then end the environmental review process. Following this, the city will do site plan review (which will also be subject to public hearings) and issue permits, variances, etc.

On a parallel track, the IDA / CDA will be negotiating a land disposition agreement with the developer. That agreement may have some of the same conditions that would be included in the findings.

After the meeting, Eric spoke with both Matt Frank and with Michael Posillico. Matt offered to meet with the Committee to go over their stormwater plan.

Bottlenose Dolphins Visit Hempstead Harbor! On June 27th and for about a week thereafter, 150 to 200 bottlenose dolphins were spotted in the harbor. They were reported to appear healthy and actively pursuing herring. While other types of dolphins have been spotted in the harbor, this is a rare occurrence and it is believed that this is the first time that bottlenose dolphins have been seen. It is thought that cleaner waters have resulted in increases in fish populations which attract the dolphins. Eric and Carol have both reached out to Glen Cove photographer Peter Budraitis for permission to use some of his excellent photos to document this occurrence.

Public Hearing on Land's End FEIS On July 7th Eric and Pasqua Dziadul attended the Village of Sands Point's public hearing on the Land's End Final Environmental Impact Statement. The Planning Board moved to accept the findings statement. The next step is a hearing on the preliminary subdivision approval. It was pointed out at the hearing that the property owner owns the portion of East Creek that leads into the Prospect Point Bird Sanctuary. Eric raised the issue of public access to the sanctuary as it is an excellent canoe and kayak area. Eric was assured that an easement exists through the end of the creek that allows for public access. The largest issue that arose at the hearing involved the provision of a secondary emergency access road for fire trucks onto the site. Several residents felt that it was unnecessary given the width of the proposed road into the subdivision. The Planning Board continued the public meeting until it meets again (most likely in August) in order to allow the village to speak to the fire department.

Ad Hoc Meeting on Land Conservation - on July 9th, Eric represented the Committee on an ad hoc committee initiated by CSHH to address SEA Fund issues, preserving remaining open spaces in the Town, including golf courses that may be redeveloped, such as the North Shore Country Club. This was the second meeting of the committee that includes the Coalition, the United Civic Council of Glen Head and Glenwood Landing, the Town of Oyster Bay, the North Shore School District, the Glenwood / Glen Head Civic Association, the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee and the North Shore Land Alliance. The focus is to examine land conservation vehicles that can be used to save parcels that are critical to preserving the local environment and to develop a town-wide land conservation plan. One interesting outcome of the discussions was the concept of developing a watershed protection overlay district for the entire Hempstead Harbor watershed, similar to the Town of Oyster Bay's Aquifer Protection Overlay District. Such a district would not change the underlying zoning but would require certain requirements designed to protect the harbor's water quality.

Meeting with RXR Glen Isle on comments on DEIS – as an outgrowth of the June 25th public hearing on the Glen Cove waterfront mixed development DEIS, Eric and Bill Clemency met at Glen Cove City Hall with Darren Monti of RXR Glen Isle (the developers) and their engineer, Patricia Ruskan (of PS&S) on July 10th. Eric had circulated a draft copy of the Committee's extensive written comments prior to the meeting and they were discussed item by item at the meeting. RXR Glen Isle expressed a willingness to work with the Committee on its concerns. A copy of the Committee's final written comments is available on the Committee's website.

EPF Grant Workshops and Deadlines – the NYS Department of State will hold a workshop on its EPF grant opportunities at the Perry Duryea State Office Building, 250 Veterans Memorial Highway, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in Hauppauge on July 20th. The NYS Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will hold its workshop on August 4th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Cold Spring Harbor Library. The NYS DEC has announced its grant round but Eric was not aware of any announced workshops scheduled. The deadlines for grant applications are: NYS Parks EPF – September 14th; NYS DOS LWRP - September 16th; NYS DEC Round 10 - October 16th

DEC public meeting on amending regulations on Protection of Waters – the NYS DEC has announced a public meeting on its proposal to amend its Part 608 regulations (Protection of Waters). It will be held on July 21st at NYSDEC Region 1 Headquarters at SUNY at Stony Brook, 50 Circle Road, Stony Brook, New York 11790 from 3 - 5 PM and 7-9 PM. Eric plans to attend the afternoon session. Joel Ziev also plans to attend.

Glen Harbor Partners Site Plan Hearing – the Town Board of the Town of North Hempstead will hold a public hearing on the site plan for the Glen Harbor Partners (“Hin Fin”) condominium proposal at 7:30 pm on August 4th at North Hempstead Town Hall in Manhasset.

Update on Dead osprey found in Glenwood Landing – the DEC has determined that the cause of death was blunt force trauma. Most likely the bird flew into something. Eric mentioned that he was told that directly across the street from where the bird was found is a large silver utility pole. Eric’s theory is that the pole may have been camouflaged against the sky.

Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District

Nothing to report this meeting.

2009 Member Dues Update

Eric reported that to date, he has received dues payments from all municipalities except Nassau County and Roslyn have paid and that he expects Roslyn’s check next week. Nassau County’s is in process.

Municipal and Civic Association Updates

Town of North Hempstead – Fred Pollack reported that on September 21st, NOAA will be coming out to look at the wetlands restoration project in the lower harbor. He also mentioned that the Town has amended its Town Code so that the Town could collect unwanted pharmaceuticals at each of its STOP Programs. He also advised that the Town has installed some new “No Wake” signs in the harbor which others commented at the meeting are very attractive.

City of Glen Cove – Bill Archambault reported that the DEC has provided its final comments on the proposed remedial plan for the Glen Cove Gladsky property. The city will shortly be going out to bid for a company to perform the cleanup. With respect to the Doxey property, the city is waiting for the judge in the eminent domain proceeding to issue his ruling. The city also will have issued a Request for Qualifications for the Herb Hill / Garvies Point Road reconstruction project and is reviewing proposals from consultants to do the engineering design work. The site work on the ferry terminal property is awaiting FHWA (Federal Highway Authority) approval. It will then be advertised in the State Register with construction estimated to begin in October. Finally, the city has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for design services during construction for the Esplanade 2 project. This extends the esplanade through the Mill Pond site.

Village of Roslyn – Len Shaw was unable to make the meeting but did send a report to Eric. Eric reported that the Village has sent a questionnaire on watershed issues to its residents. A copy is attached to these minutes. Once the results are tabulated they will be posted on the village’s web site. It appears at first glance that many people don’t know where to get adequate information on stormwater. Therefore as part of the results there will be a section that provides the info most people are lacking and a list of additional resources including the HHPC web site. The village may also follow up with a mailing of the results to the residents. Len also checked with the Village Clerk about payment of Roslyn dues. She expects the check to be sent out next Wednesday, after the Village Board approves the first batch of payments for the fiscal year at its meeting the night before. Finally, the Village DPW Administrator reported that he was taking action to have the cooking oil drum removed from behind a defunct deli, but as of June 13th, it was still there. The property owner has stated that he has been having trouble getting the company to respond quickly to remove the drum but assures the Village they are coming for it.

Village of Sea Cliff – Dan Maddock mentioned that the Village issued an RFP for a consultant to perform a build out analysis as part of the six month moratorium on building in residence D district and has selected Cashin Associates as its consultant. The Village is finalizing its agreement with Cashin. They will be looking at all sub-dividable parcels in the village.

Village of Roslyn Harbor – nothing to report this month.

Town of Oyster Bay – Aldona reported that the Town held its STOP Program in Sea Cliff on Saturday, July 11th (the 22nd year that the Town has held the event at the Village DPW garage). It was a success with about 300 participants. The Town also held a progress meeting on the Glenwood Landing Amenities Study on July 14th and will be looking to form an advisory committee soon.

Wildlife in the Harbor

Eric reported that in addition to the bottlenose dolphins in the harbor, he received reports from a local resident, Theresa Hauck, that she and a friend had observed what appeared to be nesting activity of diamondback terrapins on the Sea Isle property in Glen Cove Creek. Eric put her in touch with Dr. Matthew Draud of C.W. Post who is an expert on the species. He has agreed to come out and look at the situation. In addition, Ms. Hauck reported that this past weekend, she and her brother were kayaking by the Sea Isle property and witnessed a diamondback terrapin swimming past them and also evidence of piping plovers and terns nesting on the parcel. Eric has sought the assistance of both North Shore Audubon and Huntington Audubon to help document the presence of such wildlife. He is awaiting word back from the organizations. While this is in the North Shore Audubon's territory, one Glen Cove resident, Mary Normandia has expressed interest. She is a former president of the North Shore Audubon and is currently affiliated with the Huntington chapter.

Water Quality and Monitoring Programs

Carol DiPaolo reported that the harbor is "loaded with fish". She stated that she is consistently finding elevated ammonia levels in the harbor and in the creek, which is unusual. This could be due to the increased fish populations. She had also found high bacteria levels in the creek during last week's sampling, both at the mouth and at the head of the creek. While the county's Glen Cove Wastewater Treatment Plant recently was able to eliminate chlorination (due to the installation of a backup generator which will keep the UV treatment system operable during power outages), it is not believed to be coming from the plant as its outfall tests clean. It could be coming from large stormwater discharge pipes at the head of the creek and adjacent to the plant's outfall. During this week's sampling, which occurred earlier the same day, a milky substance was observed coming out of the six foot county discharge pipe to the west of the sewage plant's outfall (the westernmost pipe). It was observed on an outgoing tide and the discolored discharge was floating on the top layer of the water and out toward Steamboat Landing. Carol took photos and samples and called both DEC and Nassau County DPW. The DEC was not interested in the samples but Tim Kelly from Nassau County DPW did come down and observed the situation, although it had largely dissipated by the time he arrived. Carol also reported that the new bulkheading along the north side of the creek has improved conditions as has the fact that the Doxey site has placed jersey barriers inland from their bulkhead and the Redi-Mix concrete plant has moved its stockpiles back to help prevent sand from spilling over into the creek. Bill Archambault reported that he is working with the city's DPW crew to move the salt piles back from the DPW yard.

Shellfish Re-opening

Eric reported that he had a conversation with DEC's Bill Hasback earlier that day. On the chemical analysis - DEC is still waiting for the report from NYS Dept. of Health. The Health Department had a problem with the way that the lab reported the data. Bill received the lab report but could not decipher the results - he needs the health department to do that. Someone in DEC was supposed to straighten out DOS on the way the data needed to be presented. That was two months ago. Bill has not heard back.

FDA Dye Study - the FDA rep is up in Canada now. NCDPW asked DEC for a work plan. FDA is supposed to get it to Bill by the end of the month. The dye study is scheduled for September 28th. Bill will keep after FDA for the work plan.

Radiology - we may need to collect new shellfish for analysis as the samples that we collected and froze are now too old. Bill worked it out that the NYS DOH can perform the analysis. We would need 20 clams from each of two locations. Bill still needs to find out from NYS DOS about their handling procedure.

Water Quality - Stations 6 (outlet of Dosis Pond) and 6.1 (outlet of West creek) show unacceptable levels of bacteria and will be excluded from the opened area. This is not new. These areas show very variable results. Another station, station 21, which is just outside the Garvies Point breakwater just barely meets water quality standards. It may be excluded anyway due to the safety zone that must be placed around the STP.

Sanitary Survey - it is mostly done and will be completed before the rest of the above are finished.

Scudder's Pond Improvements

Eric reported that Cashin Associates has nearly completed a bathymetric study of the pond and is working on the dredging estimates.

Powerhouse Drain Subwatershed Plan

Nothing new to report this month.

Coastal Signage Project

Nothing new to report this month.

Public Outreach

Educational Display at Bryant Library – the Committee's educational display is on exhibit in a glass showcase at the Bryant Library just across from the circulation desk inside the front entrance. It will be there throughout July and August. ***Bill Archambault agreed to look into reserving space in Glen Cove City Hall for the portable display during the month of September.*** Other suggestions were to look into the Gold Coast Library and the Glen Head Community Center.

North Hempstead cable TV spot with MBPC – Eric reported that he and Jennifer Wilson-Pines had put together an outline of three half hour TV spots. ***Jeff Ziev will be setting up a second planning meeting with the Town's video consultant and the public information office.***

Distribution of HHPC golf shirts – Eric distributed the HHPC golf shirts to the Committee members present. They are royal blue with the HHPC logo in white lettering with the objects inside the HHPC letters in red, green, tan and grey.

Other Business

Boat Tour – Joel Ziev suggested that the Committee look into holding a boat tour of the harbor with elected officials aboard the Charles River, which is now based in Manhasset Bay. He reports that the boat holds about 35 persons and can be chartered for about \$15 a head for a 2 to 2-1/2 hour event. He stated that they had done this in Manhasset Bay with North Hempstead Town officials and it really helped the elected officials better understand the issues facing the bay. Fred Pollack concurred. The Committee thought that this was an excellent idea. ***Joel Ziev will find out information on the Charles River and forward it to Eric.***

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 pm

NEXT MEETING: NEXT MEETING: September 23rd at Sea Cliff Village Hall (7:00 pm) NOTES: No meeting in August and September meeting was changed from the original September 16th.



Village of Roslyn
516-621-1961
Roslyn Stormwater Survey

This anonymous survey is being conducted to assess the public's perception of water quality, understanding of stormwater and its impacts and to gauge the effectiveness of the Village's public education and outreach efforts on the subject of stormwater. If there are a number of people in your household, we would recommend sitting together and discussing the questions and formulating your answer together. It may also serve as an opportunity to get children involved in stormwater awareness and its effects on the environment. Please take a few moments to complete the survey and return it to the Roslyn Village hall in the SASE provided. Your answers will help guide the Village's stormwater program, which in turn helps protect the environment. Results will be published on the Village web site when complete.

1. How would you rate water quality today in Hempstead Harbor?

Very good___ acceptable___ some what polluted___ severely polluted___ don't know___

2. Since you've lived in Roslyn, do you think that Hempstead Harbor water quality has:

Improved substantially___ improved somewhat___ stayed the same___ gotten worse___ don't know___

3. Twenty years from now, do you think water quality in Hempstead Harbor will probably be:

Better___ the same___ worse___ don't know___

4. What do you think is the **main cause** of water pollution in Hempstead Harbor today?

Industrial pollution___ lawn chemicals___ air pollution___ sewage___ soil erosion___ don't know___

5. Have you, or anyone in your household, **fished** in Hempstead Harbor in the last year?

No___ yes___ don't know___

6. Have you, or anyone in your household, been **boating** on Hempstead Harbor in the last year?

No___ yes___ don't know___

7. Have you, or anyone in your household, used Hempstead Harbor for **wading or swimming** in the last year?

No___ yes___ don't know___

8. What do you think is the **main reason** that public beaches are closed for swimming on some days in the summer?

high bacteria count___ seaweed or algae___ toxic chemicals___ muddy water___ other___ don't know___

9. Where does your tap water come from?

Great Lakes___ Reservoirs___ Aquifers___ other___ don't know___

10. Do you drink water from the tap in your home?

Yes___ no___

11. Do you filter your tap water?

No___ yes___ don't know___ don't drink tap water___

12. Would you be willing to reduce applications of fertilizer and pesticides to your lawn if it would improve water quality?

No ___ maybe ___ yes ___ don't use fertilizer or pesticide ___ don't know ___ don't have lawn ___

13. Where do you get your information about local water quality?

Television ___ newspapers ___ radio ___ Internet ___ word of mouth ___ local government ___ environmental organizations ___

14. Do you know the meaning of the term **Watershed**?

No ___ yes ___

15. Do you know the meaning of the term **Wetlands**?

No ___ yes ___

16. Do you know the meaning of the term **Aquifer**?

No ___ yes ___

17. Do you know the meaning of the term **Stormwater runoff** ?

No ___ yes ___

18. Do you know the meaning of the term **Remedial Action Plan**?

No ___ yes ___

19. Total number of yes answers to the five "terms" questions.

1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___

20. Do you think people in the community need to learn more about how to keep water clean?

No ___ yes ___

21. How long have you lived in Roslyn?

less than 5 years ___ 5-9 years ___ 10-20 years ___ more than 20 years ___ life long ___ other ___

22. How much formal education have you completed?

less than 8 yrs. ___ elementary/some high school ___ high school / GED ___ 1-2 yrs college ___ assoc. degree ___ 3-4 yrs college ___ BA/BS ___ some grad school ___ masters ___ some grad work ___ doctoral degree / law degree/etc. ___ don't know ___

23. Do you have any questions about water quality?

No ___ yes ___ don't know ___

24. May we contact you in the future with additional questions about water quality?

No ___ yes ___ don't know ___

25. Have you ever volunteered for any projects that help protect water quality?

No ___ yes ___ don't know ___

26. Would you be interested in possibly volunteering for any future projects to protect water quality?

No ___ yes ___ possibly/maybe/depends ___ don't know ___

27. Have you seen the "no dumping" medallions on Village catch basins.

Yes ___ no ___ don't know ___

For the Individual actually completing this form:

Gender of respondent

Male _____ Female _____

Age of respondent.

18-19 _____ 20-29 _____ 30-39 _____ 40-49 _____ 50-59 _____ 60-69 _____ 70-79 _____
80-89 _____ 90 or older _____

Number of people in your household who participated in completing this survey _____

Please return this survey to the Roslyn Village Hall at:

1200 Old Northern Blvd.

Roslyn, NY 11576

Fax: 516-621-1961 Attn: Building Department

Fold Here Last

When Returning – Fold Here First, Then Fold Opposite Panel Over So Village Address Shows

Place tape on edge and mail.