

HEMPSTEAD HARBOR PROTECTION COMMITTEE

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

Sea Cliff Village Hall

January 8, 2014

NOTE: ACTION ITEMS ARE IN **ITALICS**. MOTIONS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN GRAY.

Attendees: Tom Powell (Chair – Sea Cliff); Kevin Braun (North Hempstead); Eric Swenson (Executive Director); Abby Kurlender (Roslyn Harbor); Sean Jordan (Oyster Bay); Catherine Chester (Sands Point); Len Shaw (Roslyn); Carol DiPaolo (Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor); Joel Ziev (North Hempstead); Dan Fucci (Nassau County); Karen Reichenbach (Flower Hill); John Mirando (Sea Cliff);

Call to Order

Tom Powell called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 pm.

Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of November 20, 2013

Len Shaw moved to approve the minutes of the November 20th meeting minutes. Tom Powell seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously approved them.

Reminder of 2014 Meeting Dates

Eric reminded the Committee of the following meeting dates for 2014. All are Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at Sea Cliff Village Hall:

January 8 (*annual member dues proposed*)

March 12 (*annual member dues adopted*)

April 9

June 4*

September 10

October 8

November 19

Note that on some dates, the meeting will be held in the Library.

* note: the Committee had approved June 18th but this was subsequently changed due to the Executive Director being away on the original date.

Administrative / Organizational Issues

Proposed 2014 Annual Dues – Eric reminded the Committee that under the Inter-Municipal Agreement, the Committee the annual dues are proposed at the January meeting and then provide members at least 60 days to review them and decide whether to continue as members of the Committee or withdraw. He further stated that the proposed annual dues for the 2014 calendar year are the same as for the past several years (since 2007). See the attached breakdown. A motion was made by Kevin Braun to accept the proposed dues. Dan Fucci seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. **Eric will send out formal dues notices.** The

dues will then be adopted at the March 12th meeting. As usual, the Committee will accept payment after the municipality's fiscal year begins.

Possible Meetings with Mayor Spinello and Supervisor Bosworth – Eric noted that there are new administrations at two of the Committee's members – Glen Cove and North Hempstead and that he will be setting up meetings with the new elected officials to brief them on the Committee's activities. **Anyone wishing to join in these meetings should advise Eric.** Joel Ziev suggested that perhaps the Committee could hold one of its upcoming meetings at the Town of North Hempstead Town Hall and invite Supervisor Bosworth. The Committee liked that idea. **Joel will arrange for one of our meetings to take place at North Hempstead Town Hall.** Eric also noted that Bill Archambault has left the City of Glen Cove and has been replaced by Jim Byrne (former Town of Oyster Bay DER Commissioner as well as former DPW and Parks Commissioners).

Updates, Announcements, Reports, Reminders, & Upcoming Events

Eric Swenson made the following updates, announcements, reports and reminders:

- NYS DEC has issued a ***Final Retrofit Program Plan Guidance Document for Pathogen Impaired Watershed MS4s on Long Island***. He noted that while these reports were due over a year ago, the information may be useful. It can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/92910.html>.
- USEPA's Faster-Cheaper-Greener Webcast: *Building Green Infrastructure, Jobs, and Wealth: The Prince George's County, Maryland Urban Stormwater Retrofit Public Private Partnership (P3) Model* - will air on January 13, 2014, 1:00 - 3:00 pm . There is no cost.
<http://mp118885.cdn.mediaplatform.com/118885/ml/mp/4000/5345/5417/32006/Lobby/default.htm>
- The L.I. Sound Study will be holding a public meeting on it's revised L.I. Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (a 20 year plan for Long Island Sound) on February 26th at Yes We Can Community Center, Westbury 1:00 to 3:00 pm and 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Joel Ziev stressed the need for everyone to attend. It is important that this plan reflect our priorities and goals as these often translate into grant opportunities.
- The Town of Oyster Bay, the 3 protection committees and Friends of the Bay will be holding a CESSPOOL Conference for Local Government Officials will be held on March 25th at Old Bethpage Village Restoration. The event will serve both as a "Onsite Wastewater Treatment 101" and an education on the latest technologies for dealing with onsite wastewater and how other communities in the northeast have addressed local wastewater problems. Registration information will be provided soon.

- The same team will also be conducting 2-day CESSPOOL Training Sessions for Septic Companies and Local Government Officials – April 23rd and 24th. These sessions will include both classroom and field training and result in the opportunity to be certified in wastewater system inspection (a first on Long Island). There are only a limited number of registrations for these sessions so sign up early. Registration information will be provided soon.

Scudder's Pond Subwatershed Improvements

John Mirando reported that Galvin Brothers has begun work at Scudder's Pond and that the work is proceeding and is expected to be completed by the end of April. Currently phragmites is being removed and dredging is expected to begin the week of January 13th. About 40% of the phragmites have been removed so far. A second progress meeting with the contractor has been scheduled for January 13th. He also noted that 8 out of the 9 homeowners have so far granted temporary easements to the Village for this work.

Powerhouse Drain Subwatershed Plan

Eric mentioned that he had forwarded the model local law to DOS on the day after the last meeting and has yet to receive any comments back. He followed up with DOS and they stated that they will be reviewing it and getting back to us. This is the last component prior to us closing out the grant.

Water Quality and Monitoring Programs / Shellfish Opening

Carol DiPaolo stated that she has now conducted 7 weeks of the winter sampling at the Scudder's Pond outfall and at Powerhouse Drain. She will continue to collect the Powerhouse Drain samples (which are not required under our grant) as long as she can given the demolition of the adjacent power plant. She has also worked out a schedule with Fuss & O'Neill for the production of the 2013 Annual Report which will include the winter sampling results. She also worked with the Nassau County Department of Health Laboratory to revise the spreadsheet to accommodate the winter sampling. She also reported that the Town of Oyster Bay's water sampling boat is back in service with a new engine. Following the last meeting, Carol received the go-ahead from the Village of Sea Cliff to purchase a new water meter but before doing so, she would like to meet with the YSI (manufacturer) representative to go over the models and options. That meeting should take place shortly. Kevin Braun asked if we need to revise our QAPP in order to utilize the new meter. **Carol will check with EPA to see if a revision to the QAPP is necessary.**

Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee

Joel Ziev mentioned that a set of public meetings will be held on February 26th on the Long Island Sound Study's revised Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) at the Town of North Hempstead's Yes We Can Community Center, 141 Garden Street, Westbury at 1:00 to 3:00 pm and 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The meeting is being co-sponsored by the Town of North Hempstead and the three protection committees. These are the only public meetings that will be held in New York. He stressed the need to attend as the goals and priorities in this 20-year plan serve as the basis for federal grants. **Eric will send out a separate notice about the meeting.**

Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District

Eric and Kevin updated the Committee involved on the following District projects:

- Cedarmere Invasives Removal Project – a meeting was held with Nassau County Parks and DPW on December 10th to plan an invasives removal project for plants growing in the pond at Cedarmere. Brian Zimmerman from the District is the point person. A plan is being developed for a one-day cleanup aimed for late spring / early summer. Volunteers will be needed for the cleanup.
- Tree and shrub sale – The sale will take place in April with orders due by March 12th. This is a great opportunity for municipalities to purchase trees and shrubs at very low cost and which can be planted and then grown to full size for relocation around the municipality.
- 3rd Annual Green Infrastructure Conference – work continues on this one-day conference which will be held on June 11, 2014 at the Yes We Can Community Center in Westbury.
- WQCC Update and Website Funding Request – Eric mentioned that the Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) has met and further defined its role to serve as a clearinghouse for all of the ongoing water quality work being conducted by the two counties; water districts; citizen groups and others. This is a big focus at present and even those involved are not fully aware of what the others are doing. The WQCC felt that a starting point would be to get a website up and running. However, the grant that is funding the creation of the WQCC does not earmark funds for this. As such, it is up to those involved to fund it. Costs are expected to be somewhere in the \$100 to \$150 range. Eric requested that the Committee approve an expenditure of up to \$50.00 for this purpose. Tom Powell moved to approve up to \$50.00 for a contribution toward the expenses of developing the website and reserving the name(s). The motion was seconded by Len Shaw and approved unanimously.
- Hempstead Harbor Wetland Restoration – Kevin noted that the District has also approved the funding of a phragmites removal program in the North Hempstead's wetlands restoration project in the lower harbor (provided that state funds are available to the District). This will involve wicking of the phragmites with an herbicide (glyphosphate).

C.E.S.P.O.O.L. Project Update

Sean Jordan and Eric noted that a kickoff meeting was held with SUNY Stony Brook to begin the professional public opinion telephone survey and that the list of questions for the survey are nearly complete. The survey should begin in about a month and be completed this spring. In addition, progress is being made on the municipal officials conference and the onsite training and certification sessions (see announcements above). Eric also noted that on the municipal officials conference, the organizers have decided that the conference would be greatly enhanced by bringing down one or more persons from the University of Rhode Island who are in the forefront in the northeast on dealing with septic systems and issues. They are willing to come and speak but would require travel expenses. These are estimated to cost around \$450.00. Eric requested that

the Committee approve an amount up to \$150.00 to contribute along with the other protection committees and Friends of the Bay to cover these costs. Tom Powell moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$150.00 in contribution toward these travel expenses. Len Shaw seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Coastal Signage Project

Kevin Braun noted that he has received a request from our signage designer (Paul Singer Designs) to pay him his final payment. He advised Kevin that the Department of State OK'd the payment and stated that they would reimburse the Town once the Town paid him. Kevin is awaiting confirmation of this and also details as to whether the Committee can proceed to fabrication of the signs. If the DOS still requires changes to the signs and we have paid Mr. Singer in full, we may be stuck with additional un-reimbursable costs. Mr. Singer has stated that he would make the revisions at no additional cost but we are unclear as to the extent of revisions (if any). It was decided to hold off on paying until our questions of DOS are resolved.

Municipal Updates

Roslyn – Len Shaw stated that he had nothing to report for the Village but that there has been a lot of activity at Cedarmere recently. The County has been repairing and painting the interior and exterior of the main house and that a Designer Showcase will be held there this Spring. He also noted that Franklin Perrell has left as the Director of the Roslyn Landmark Society.

Roslyn Harbor – Abby Kurlender stated that she had nothing to report.

Flower Hill – Karen Reichenbach also had nothing to report.

Town of North Hempstead – Kevin Braun mentioned that the shoreline trail work has been delayed until the summer. Permits and the contract are in place and funding is being pursued. He also noted that the Town's Blueway Trail grant is being closed out. The next steps will be to find the funds and begin the implementation.

Town of Oyster Bay – Sean Jordan reported that the Town is working on the components of the CESSPOOL grants (see above) and that he recently attended a meeting of the South Shore Blueway Trail Committee.

Sands Point – Catherine Chester had nothing to report.

Sea Cliff – John Mirando mentioned that the Glen Harbor Partners (Hin Fin) developers are moving forward with their plans to run the sewer line to the Glen Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility. This may help with the Village's plans to connect the downtown (Sea Cliff Avenue) area to the sewer line. The developer's sewer line will be a 4 inch pipe over 10,000 feet long with a capacity of 90 gallons per minute.

Nassau County – Dan Fucci had nothing to report.

Other Items

Kevin Braun noted that the Town has gotten a few calls regarding companies offering “sewer line insurance” which apparently covers onsite wastewater systems (septic systems and cesspools) for catastrophic failures. Tom indicated that sometimes water companies offer this type of insurance.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm

NEXT MEETING: March 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm at Sea Cliff Village Hall. NOTE: 2014 MEMBER DUES WILL BE VOTED ON AT THIS MEETING