



**Approved Minutes • Board Meeting • June 16, 2005  
North Hempstead Town Hall**

M A N H A S S E T   B A Y   P R O T E C T I O N   C O M M I T T E E

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**Manhasset Bay Protection Committee Minutes  
Thursday, July 8, 2004, 7:30 p.m. • Law Library, Town of North Hempstead**

**Present:** Chair Jennifer Wilson-Pines, Manorhaven; Vice Chair Mike Prounis, Plandome Manor; Councilman Fred Pollack, Town of North Hempstead; Kevin Braun, TNH Planning Dept.; Tricia Moslin, Great Neck; Jim Davis, Kings Point; Matt Temares, Plandome; Bob Keane, Port Washington North; Shaesta Wahed, Sands Point; Patrice Benneward, Director

Introduction of new director; welcome new members. Beginning in the fall, we'll routinely start each meeting by asking each rep for a brief, informal municipal report of any activities in that community that he/she thinks other committee members should know about.

**Dues:** All dues (June 03 to June 04) are paid except for the county, Plandome Heights and Thomaston; there is about \$30,000 in the bank account. Fred Pollack is working on the county contract, which, when finalized, should lead to the county paying its dues. Fred has also prepared the resolution permitting hiring the new director. Plandome Heights' check is on the way. (Received 7/15)

Next full meeting will be in October.

*Old Business:*

**Storm water reports:** Committee will review municipality's storm water reports with a view to creating a streamline reporting form.

**HarborFest:** Poor morning weather cleared up by afternoon. Attendance was good, but volunteers were scarce. Valerie Egan of Nassau County and Jennifer Wilson-Pines manned the booth all day. MBCP was able to use the county's display equipment. A box of bilge socks was distributed; one more case is left. (West Marine has a community program that might donate more if we want them. Best pitch for distribution: Keep your bilge clean so it doesn't smell. Bilge pamphlet should be reprinted and distributed with the socks.) Possible methods of distribution: Harbor patrol and marinas. Fred Pollack will follow up on harbor patrol method. If this fails, Matt Tamares and Tricia Moslin are interested in distribution via marinas. *Qualifies for storm water report credit.*

**Geese Peace report:** This spring Nassau County initiated a pilot program, known as Geese Peace, designed to humanely reduce the geese population. In the wild, the geese population doubles every 5 years. Geese Peace involves two phases: reducing the number of hatched goslings and site aversion. The program is approved by groups such as the Human Society and

the National Audubon Society. The gosling population is reduced by oiling the eggs, which prevents fetal development by limiting the exchange of oxygen; a float test is used to determine if it is early enough for this practice to be humane. Site aversion involves encouraging geese to abandon a site by making them feel unsafe at that location. This is accomplished by chasing them in a coordinated manner using various methods, including trained dogs with certified handlers. Site aversion must be done before molting so that the geese can fly, and thus relocate to a more appropriate spot. Molting begins in late June; the birds are flightless to the beginning of August. The idea is that the birds know where north is and may ultimately decide to return to traditional breeding grounds in Canada, although they are still likely to winter on Long Island. Bob Keane and Matt Temares are interested in getting more information. Jennifer Wilson-Pines and the team she was involved with oiled 125 eggs this season on the peninsula. Whitney Pond & Manhasset Valley had a minimum of 12 nesting pairs. Baxter Pond had about 3; Mill Pond had about 2. *Qualifies for storm water report credit.*

**Status of grants:** We have two pending grants. The first has 3 components (stenciling, stream bank restoration at Stannards Brook, and water quality monitoring). The second is to evaluate volunteer water quality monitoring methods that are currently being used around the Sound in order to establish scientific standards. Both are for about \$20,000 each.

Patrice and Jennifer met with our DOS representative on the first grant. The priority over the summer will be to get the stenciling materials lined up. One of our first fall projects will be to implement stenciling, which will require volunteers. Matt can have Plandome do stenciling. The Stannards Brook components will require coordination with Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington, which has recently started to focus on the park.

Patrice is in touch with Jen Thalhauser and our DOS rep on the water quality monitoring standards grant. We had an extension on the contract that did expire, but it may be possible to reactive the agreement so that we can get going.

The Long Island Sound Study Small Grants Program is coming up. Patrice Benneward hopes to attend a workshop on July 20. There's been discussion of applying for funding to do a children's website. You can apply for up to \$5,000. Fred Pollack suggests consulting with TNH Management Information Systems.

### *New Business:*

**EPF 2004/05 grant support letter:** Patrice Benneward completed an EPF grant (\$64,000, including match), with help from Fred Pollack, Kevin Braun, and the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee, for signage around the bay based on a design established by HHPC through a previous grant. Please send letters of support. You can send directly to DOS, but please also send copy to Patrice Benneward.

**Establish sub committees:** The subcommittees below were formed with the tentative members working outline of tasks noted. Meetings will be scheduled for September.

Communications/Education/Outreach—Jake Eisenman, Leon Korobow (Great Neck Parks District), Dan Fucci, Ken Arnold, Deb Celebre, Bob Keane (especially interested in web)

Ongoing public awareness of MBPC activities (press releases, photos, etc); identify venues for distributing information (libraries, festivals, clean ups, marinas, etc); website content (executive summary of Water Quality Plan; watershed/subwatershed maps—including where do you live); list of finished products; availability of project information at libraries, where to find links; hot

topics (beach closing, hypoxia, etc), dictionary of terms and acronyms.

**Funding/Grants from Nongovernment Sources**—Ray Keenan, Mike Prounis, Shaesta Waheed

(Nongovernment funds can be restricted and deposited into the environmental trust fund).

Identify funding sources and endowment opportunities for current and/or future activities (Sound Garden, probe monitor, water quality volunteer monitoring, website, etc); fundraising activities; sponsorships (beach cleanup, lectures, etc).

**MS4 Coordination**—Jennifer Wilson-Pines, Kevin Braun, Jim Davis, Bob Keane

Integrate village matrix activities, streamline reporting, model legislation, liaison with nontraditional MS4s, resource sharing hurdles (unions, insurance, etc)

**Dredging**—Joel Ziev (TNH Water Advisory), Steve Wachter (TNH Waterfront Advisory), Jake Eisenman, Jennifer Wilson-Pines, Matt Temares, Tricia Moslin

Explore next steps for addressing dredging needs.

**Sound Garden maintenance needs (short & long term):** There is enough money in the bank to hire someone to do some immediate maintenance but a long term solution is needed. Some thoughts for the garden include finding a local garden supplier to sell native plants and post a sign at the garden and on the website. Having a garden supplier do a demonstration at next year's Harborfest.

*Resolution:* To spend up to \$1,000 for weeding and mulching the Sound Garden while a permanent solution is researched.

A motion for the above resolution was made by Mike Prounis, seconded by Tricia Moslin, and unanimously approved by all present.

***Letters of support:*** *The committee frequently receives requests from member municipalities for letters of support. We need a policy.*

*Resolution:* *The MBPC director, chair, or vice chair may write letters of support on behalf of the committee for grant applications by member municipalities for applications that are in keeping with the MBPC mission.*

*A motion for the above resolution was made by Bob Keane, seconded by Matt Temares, and unanimously passed by all present.*

**Current issues:**

**Dredging:** There is a DOS alternative dredge disposal conference July 20 (*qualifies for storm water report credit*). MBPC had dredge needs survey done about 3 yrs ago. Patrice will attempt to locate the summary for circulation to members. Maybe Joel Ziev can give a presentation on dredging in fall.

**NYC proposal to use the Lloyd aquifer for storage by infusing it with water:**

This is an issue the committee should follow.

**Library presentation:** Tom Anderson, author of *This Fine Piece of Water: An Environmental History of LI Sound*, will give a presentation at the Port Washington Library, on Tuesday, August 10, at 7:30p. Committee members can take credit for the presentation, which was arranged through Jennifer Wilson-Pines. Please publicize in your Village. *Qualifies for storm water report credit.*

Bob Keane passed out material from the recent storm water conference. *Qualifies for storm water report credit.*

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