



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: September 23, 2021, 7:30pm

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Nora Haagenson (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Jill Monoson (Thomaston), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Don Richardson (Plandome), Gary Lewandowski (Flower Hill), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Erin Molyneux (Councilmember Dalimonte's office), Stephen Klyce, Samantha Wilder (Intern), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

The meeting was called to order with a quorum in attendance.

Note: Action items are in **yellow highlight**. *Motions are in italicized underline.*

Discussion & Motion points:

1. *Don Richardson made a motion to approve the meeting transcription by MGR reporting at a cost of \$4.45 per page, not to exceed \$600.* Nora Haagenson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
2. *Kevin Braun made a motion to adopt the minutes of June 17, 2021 as is.* Jill Monoson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
3. Sarah Deonarine gave a brief presentation about the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) project, funded by NYS Department of State's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP), and the sub-committee's process and choice of vendor to develop the WQIP. Presentation slides and notes are attached to this document. *Don Richardson moved to adopt the findings of the sub-committee and move the sub-committee's recommendation to the Town Board for the selection of Nelson, Pope, and Vorhees (NPV) to prepare the Water Quality Improvement Plan.* Nora Haagenson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
4. *Dianne Sheehan made a motion for a budget of \$175 for this year's beach clean-up.* There was a brief discussion about what this added cost is for (additional buckets, scales, and food/water) and

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how much would be enough to cover all the expenses. Nora Haagenson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

5. Sarah Deonarine gave a brief presentation about the Committee's annual water quality monitoring program and the funding from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to support these efforts. The main point is how much effort and expense should be put into completing a 2022 QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan – being developed by Dvirka and Bartilucci on behalf of the Committee). Presentation slides and notes are attached to this document. Discussion followed the presentation and made the following points: Kevin Braun noted that the Director should have a computer dedicated solely to water quality monitoring. Deonarine posed the question, “Is it worth it to amend the contract?” Deonarine estimated that the additional amount should be \$1500 (all of which would be reimbursable by the State), Kevin Braun responded that an amendment to the Town's contract with Dvirka & Bartilucci would not be that hard and that it would be worth it. Both Kevin Braun and Bob Keane iterated the importance of this work and recommended that the QAPP be completed, because then we would have a QAPP, or, put another way, a blueprint, for our water sampling program and for the use of the YSI. **Deonarine to get proposal from DB on how much the additional work would cost and will also make sure to include the additional dollar amount to the State DEC.** This will be presented at the Committee's next meeting.

6. Deonarine suggested that, in order for member representatives to be identifiable at public events, that the Committee purchase logo pins. The Committee was in favor and Jennifer Wilson-Pines recommended that we purchase a larger number so that we could give them out to elected officials on the boat tour. Committee members were also interested in other options, such as clothing. **Deonarine will do research on clothing costs (shirts, vests, etc). and bring to next meeting.** Kevin Braun made a motion to explore the pins and purchase up to \$350 worth. Don Richardson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

7. Deonarine began a discussion on storm drain markers, stating that the Committee has previously bought metal medallions and glue for the member municipalities to affix to storm drains that state “Don't Dump, Drains to Bay” and that someone had asked if we'd do this again. Discussion was

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that it was a good idea. Deonarine will come up with a budget and member representatives will reach out to the municipalities to see how many medallions would be needed and bring that number back to Deonarine.

Updates & Municipal Updates:

- 2021 Dues & IMA – Deonarine has received all 2021 dues payments and signature pages for the IMA (Inter-Municipal Agreement) from all members except Nassau County. Both the 2021 dues payment and IMA are included in one package that is currently in the County’s Procurement office. From there the package goes on the calendar for the County Legislature to vote on.
- Jennifer Wilson-Pines attended LISS CAC¹ meeting by Zoom. The LISS recently developed a system for tracking metrics, which may be something to keep in mind once we complete our WQIP. The second part of the meeting focused on communication and outreach and discussed who the underserved populations are and what the barriers are to reaching them. There is a consultant working on this. Wilson-Pines noted that the EPA [now] has an enormous budget for LISS, but the LISS Management Committee is not routing money into local water quality monitoring programs and harbor groups should make a scene about that. A line item for this needs to get in the budget now or it will never get on the budget. Deonarine will reach out to the other protection committees about this.
- Town of North Hempstead (Kevin Braun): The last storm (Ida) caused a lot of damage and wash-outs and the Mill Pond walls blew in. We’re not sure yet what the detrimental effect on the wetland plantings and sediment build-up will be and there will be more beach erosion and other detriments associated with it. It is still premature to determine if FEMA will pay for fixes as this is a process that takes several years.
- Nassau County (Dan Fucci): The NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reached out to the County in order for DEC to do a treatment in late October (possibly) of the kudzu, an invasive species, in the Baxter Pond area. The County sent “permission to access property” form so that DEC can start doing treatment. DEC is planning a multi-year treatment. The Science Museum of Long Island received a grant to do something similar and DEC is doing the treatment there, too, starting in October.

Upcoming meetings and events:

¹ Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee; see:
<https://longislandsoundstudy.net/about/committees/citizens-advisory-committee/>

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- Next meeting: October 14th
- November 4, January 20
- Beach cleanup: 9/25, 9:30am

Jennifer Wilson-Pines made motion to adjourn at 8:44pm

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