



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Draft Minutes: March 20, 2025, 7:30pm

Town Hall, Law Library

220 Plandome Rd, Manhasset

Attendance: Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Nora Haagenon (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Maria Branco (Baxter Estates, alternate), Mayor Randall Rosenbaum, Gary Lewandowski (Flower Hill), Charlie Interrante (Nassau Co), Tom Lang (Plandome Manor), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Jeff Stone (Manorhaven), Samantha Wilder (Water Quality Coordinator), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

Meeting was called to order at 7:40pm without a quorum in attendance. As such, all motion items were tabled until the April 10, 2025 Committee meeting.

Discussion & Motions:

The draft minutes of February 13, 2025 were edited to clear up confusion regarding the match on the Water Quality Improvement Plan Grant. The updated minutes will be circulated and posted online.

Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)¹ :

- The grant contract with NYS Department of State was extended to January 31, 2027
- We are targeting May for the first public meeting at Manhasset Library
- Any last comments/edits on the current draft sections, get them in ASAP

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit assistance: In order to be as effective as possible, the Directors of the four Long Island Protection Committees prepared a questionnaire for all the municipal members to complete to determine how the municipalities are doing with compliance and what they need the most help with.

- The “assistance” questionnaire went out to all Committee members last week
- Responses are requested by April 11th
- April 1st – MS4 Annual Reports and Interim Progress Certification are due to the State Department of Environmental Protection

A consultant for the Tampa Bay National Estuary Program put together a National Estuary Program support letter and is requesting people to sign-on to it. The Committee expressed the desire to have Deonarine sign-on to the letter officially, but to also have her prepare a support letter that would be sent by the Committee directly to the various Federal Representatives and the current EPA Administrator. The official votes will be held at the April meeting.

Deonarine requested help for the annual Harbor Fest event at Town Dock in Port Washington on Sunday, June 1st. The event is all day long and can be difficult for one person to manage. If you can volunteer to help, please let Deonarine know.

¹ *This project was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.*

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
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Updates, Reminders, & Municipal Updates:

- [River Herring \(Alewife\) monitoring](#): The Long Island Sound Study and their partners are looking for volunteers to monitor for signs of river herring at four locations around Manhasset Bay (Manhasset Valley Park, Leeds Pond, Baxter Pond, and Mill Pond). There is a virtual training on March 25 at 6pm, details are on the last page of these notes.
- Saturday, March 22nd at 11am is the Committee cleanup of Mill Pond
- Long Island Sound Study Stewardship Draft Strategy is out for public comment until May 9th. The first virtual meeting was this week where they introduced the strategy and went over some case studies. The next virtual meetings are on April 24th and June 4th and [registration](#) is required for each.
- Great Neck Water Pollution Control District Tour will be in May – please fill out the poll
- LISS Sustainable and Resilient Communities’ Resilience Planning Support Program – Deonarine had a call with Sarah Schaefer-Brown to go over the Committee’s application and offer some clarification. Final determinations are not expected until April.
- April 1st – MS4 Annual Reports and Interim Progress Certification are due to the State Department of Environmental Protection
- Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP), Federal Shellfish Seeding Grant, Water quality report Request for Proposals; Seabin – no updates
- Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC²)
 - A report on their public survey coming soon
 - There were changes to the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) after the language had been approved by the LISS Management Conference. In response to Presidential Executive Orders, all references to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and climate change were removed. As such, LISS had to go back to the authorizing legislation (Clean Water Act and the National Estuary Programs Act) to figure out workarounds. The EPA assured that the CCMP still captures what we wanted to achieve with this revision.
 - The Long Island Sound Reauthorization Act was not passed by Congress last year, so it is being reintroduced again this year. If the Act is passed, then it becomes harder for funding to be cut to the LISS.
 - This summer (August 15th) is the 40th anniversary of the LISS and they are looking for ideas of events. They are also looking for event hosts. **If anyone has any ideas or if the Committee wants to host an event, let Deonarine know.**
 - Communications update: LISS is trying to grow their social media presence and is doing quite well. They are also likely to start a “Science Saturdays” series.
 - The CAC meeting also included presentations on two LISS-funded research projects
- The Science Museum of Long Island (SMLI) will be hosting a spring cleaning tag sale on Sunday April 6th from 9am to 12pm in order to make room for new programs. Some of the items that will be for sale are still brand new in box.
- The Town of North Hempstead has several programs happening for residents:
 - **Shrink Wrap Recycling**: every day in April from 8am to 1pm, you can drop off your clean used shrink wrap at Manorhaven Beach Town Park for recycling.

²MBPC is a member

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- **Native Tree Seedling Giveaway:** The Town received funding from the National Wildlife Federation's Trees for Wildlife program to provide free native tree seedlings to Town residents. Seedlings will be available on Friday, April 4 from 11 am to 2 pm and Sunday, April 6 from 10 am to 1 pm at Clark Botanic Garden, 193 IU Willets Road, Albertson. A planting demonstration will occur at 11:30 am on both days. For more information visit: <https://www.northhempsteadny.gov/np>
- **Rain Barrel and Composter Sale:** Orders must be placed through the website: NorthHempstead.compostersale.com and must be placed by end of day on Tuesday, April 22 (Earth Day!). Pick up is at Clark Botanic Garden, 193 IU Willets Road, Albertson on:
 - Friday, April 25 from 12 pm to 6 pm
 - Saturday, April 26 from 10 am to 12 pm
 - Sunday, April 27 from 10 am to 12 pm

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Next Meeting: April 10
- Upcoming meetings: May 15, June 12
- Upcoming events:
 - Mill Pond, Port Washington Cleanup on Saturday, March 22nd at 11am
 - Shrink Wrap Recycling, April
 - Port Washington Library Earth Day Event, April 26th 2pm
 - Harbor Fest, June 1st
 - LISS Stewardship meetings April 24th and June 4th

Kevin Braun made a motion to adjourn at 8:33pm

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MONITOR LOCAL STREAMS!



Every year around springtime, river herring and American eels make their way upstream and we need the help of volunteers to keep an eye out for them!

Join our virtual training to learn how you or your group can join:

MARCH 25, 2025

6:00PM-7:15PM

REGISTER HERE:



[HTTPS://SEATUCK.ORG/VOLUNTEER-RIVER-HERRING-SURVEY/](https://seaturck.org/volunteer-river-herring-survey/)



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



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