

Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)  
Meeting of September 10, 2016

The next meeting will be held on October 8, 2016

Member Attendance:

Frank Dalene  
Dennis D'Andrea  
Simon Kinsella  
Susan Macy  
Rick Del Mastro, WCAC Chair Emeritus  
Bruce Solomon  
Sally Sunshine  
Cindy Tuma  
Phil Young

Excused Absences:

Jose Arandia, Co-Chair  
Kathleen Begala  
Barry Frankel, Co-Chair

Elected Official:

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Town Councilwoman, Liaison to WCAC

Guest Speaker:

Dan Gulizio, Peconic Baykeeper

Members of the Public:

Melanie Beauclark  
Julie Burmeister, Bridgehampton Citizens Advisory Committee  
Brannon Cook  
Lynn Cronin  
Jim Daigle  
Sara Davison, Executive Director, Friends of Georgica Pond Foundation  
Virginia Edwards  
Howard Fine  
Beth Hagenmayer  
Greg Higgins  
Ben Isaacs  
Sam Kramer  
Judith Lanier  
Ted Lederman  
Marian Lundberg  
Richard Myers, Chairman, Architectural Review Board (ARB), WCAC Chair Emeritus  
Barbara Raeder  
Jeffrey Smith, President, Eastern Region Helicopter Council

Reine Turner  
Jon Winkler

### Minutes

The August 6, 2016 minutes were seconded and approved.

### **Guest Speaker:** Water quality presentation by Dan Gulizio, Peconic Baykeeper

18 years ago, the role of Peconic Baykeeper was created to serve as a water quality advocacy agency. The Peconic Baykeeper's focus is on advocacy, outreach/education, litigation, as well as taxpayer-funded programs.

The decline in water quality is a result of unsustainable land use practices, ineffective sanitary standards, and regulatory failures. It has been 28 years since Suffolk County has updated its sanitary code, and it has the least restrictive standards regarding health department standards out of over 3,100 counties in the US, while being the 81st densest of the counties. In order to affect change, we must look at government decision-making practices. Gulizio provided numerous worrisome statistics for Suffolk County, and stressed the need to fix the government response and process. For instance, instead of planned development districts (PDD) where the cost of developments are shifted from developers to tax payers, perhaps we can look at the idea of a conservancy, using the Central Park Conservancy as a model. Mr. Gulizio will send his presentation to the committee.

### Q&A :

Affordable housing : Gulizio made clear that we shouldn't have to pick between diversity of housing and having clean water. Instead we have to figure out how to balance those needs and look at it on a watershed by watershed basis.

Other models in terms of technologies: Cape Cod – we are learning from their mistakes and practices.

Car wash: With special use permits, it is presumed by the courts that they are approved for use. In order to show otherwise, we have to show a measurable impact associated with the application. Do they meet standards? Is there a numeric basis?

### **Liaison Report:**

#### Car Wash

Senior Planner Eric Shantz' memo is available on the Town's website. The work session is scheduled for this Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30PM, and will be aired on LTV.

Chairperson Reed Jones usually allows members of the public to speak.

#### Traffic

Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez distributed a draft map designating where "local deliveries only" signs would be placed into Town code. Daniel's Hole Road, and the North part of Wainscott NW Road should be included as well.

#### Wainscott Properties

The Judge has not yet ruled.

### Moratorium

Internal discussions and meetings are ongoing.

### **Committee Topics for Discussion:**

#### Car Wash (SI)

Environmental assessment - Shantz has classified the application as a Type 1 action, which requires a higher burden of proof environmentally. When the application was logged, a short form environmental assessment was filed, and the applicant still hasn't filed a detailed/full environmental assessment form. On an ecological front, the car wash falls outside of zoning for watershed area, Peconic estuary, and the statewide area of significance, and therefore has very little legal protection. 97% of chemicals warn of release into groundwater, and of hazard to animals. 50% of chemicals are dangerous to humans.

Traffic - The traffic study submitted by the applicant is flawed, and the numbers don't add up. Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez clarifies that the Board has deemed the application incomplete and is asking for a new site plan to remove traffic from East Gate Road. After submission of a new site plan, a new traffic study would have to be carried out and submitted.

A full environmental impact study, and independent traffic report are needed. The committee stressed the importance of making our voices heard by attending the work session on Wednesday, and drafting letters to the planning board.

Member of the public Marian Lundberg discussed acquiring the property for use as a park with Scott Wilson, Director of Land Acquisition. She was informed that the property had been through the CPF committee and an offer was made, however given the large difference between the asking and appraised price, the offer was not accepted. A private individual could purchase the property, and sell it to the Town, the difference of which could be made up through charitable contribution or donations from locals and others in the community.

Jim Daigle wonders who carried out the traffic study just east of East Gate Road during two weeks in August. Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez will look into this.

Dan Gulizio makes clear that numeric quantifiable standards that are legally defensible are needed in objection to the car wash, rather than generalized objections.

In response to Melanie Beauclark's inquiry as to how to raise awareness and reach a larger number of the public, she was assured that the co-chairs would take issues to other hamlets and CAC meetings.

### Community Award

Following November's meeting, the award will be presented to Pat Trunzo.

#### Moratorium

Member Dalene stressed the importance and timeliness of a moratorium especially in light of potential environmental impact issues that can result from rushed development.

#### Wainscott Charette for business owners

Members Kinsella and Macy have been going door to door and business owners are aware of the upcoming Charette.

#### **Town and Committee Updates:**

##### Energy sustainability committee

A recommendation has been made to the Town Board to adopt a community wide goal for energy sustainability by 2020, and transportation by 2030. Five, six megawatt wind turbines have been installed offshore of Block Island, the first in the country to be completed. A decision is expected any day now on the Deep Water plan which would bring 100% energy sustainability to the east end.

##### Nominating committee

Chair Emeritus Del Mastro will extend an invitation to Carole Slater to return to the committee based on her prior work as Co-chair, expertise of zoning, and very active involvement in the car wash issue. Member Kinsella nominated Carolyn Logan to the committee, and will contact her to request her bio.