

Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)
Meeting of May 7, 2016

The next meeting will be held on June 4, 2016

Member Attendance:

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

Excused Absences:

Kathleen Begala

Elected Official:

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Town Councilwoman, Liaison to WCAC

Invited Guest Speakers:

Superintendent Stuart Rachlin
Police Chief Michael Sarlo

Members of the Public:

Brannon Cook
Joan Schlank
Patrick Sheeran
Carole Slater, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Jeff Smith, Airport
Diana Weir, Planning board
Laura Weir, EH Press

Minutes

The April 2, 2016 minutes were seconded and approved.

Wainscott Speaker Presentation:

State of the Hamlet with Chief Michael Sarlo

The Police Department is working hard to manage resources in effective and efficient ways to deal with all the changes, and and at the same time adapt to growth in the area. As a police department they use the following management principles: 1 – focus on public safety and enforcing laws that impact the community the most; 2 – put resources to play to address these; 3 – use data, feedback from the community and historical data to ensure these resources are disseminated at the appropriate time. Despite financial difficulties over the past few years, Chief Sarlo feels like they are in a position to increase staffing, personnel and move resources where they are needed. Three (3) extra positions have been budgeted for this summer, but these officers will not be seen until next summer due to training etc. Despite a decrease in command staff due to retirements and no one to fill their positions (officers must have 2 years in rank and the exam is given only once every 2 years), more bodies will be put on patrol staff. There are five (5) uniform patrol positions, and each will have one more officer than last year.

Parking on Bathgate – The police department was used as a resource in this process; they made observations and recommendations based on data. They found that traffic on roadways around the industrial area (including Bathgate) have grown and need addressing. While taking into consideration respect for neighbors, access to businesses and safety, the proposed parking on Bathgate was approved. A traffic control officer will be assigned to Wainscott this summer from 10am-3pm to patrol Bathgate, the beaches and other areas. Pink warning stickers will initially be issued, followed by summonses. Committee Member Young made clear that despite being on the committee, no one spoke to him prior to putting the proposed parking into effect, and expressed his belief that this decision should have been put on hold until completion of the Hamlet Study. Chief Sarlo was under the impression that he did have input from local businesses, and makes clear that the goal as a municipality is to make adjustments as they see necessary in a timely fashion and not to harm businesses. He emphasizes that this can be revisited post Hamlet Study, and it is not forever.

Back-road traffic and speed - As a result of the growth of the commercial district on 27 resulting in increased traffic on the back roads, Chief Sarlo sees traffic and speed on the back-roads as the biggest problem facing Wainscott currently. The roads are not designed to handle the increased traffic - down through Town Line Road, up Wainscott Main Street and back up via Wainscott Stone Road - it's creating a challenge. The department is using speed trailers to alert them to where patrols are needed. Member of the public Slater would like to remind Chief Sarlo that traffic is also present to the north of the highway as well.

Stop signs – Committee members inquired as to whether stop signs at the left turn from Town Line Rd onto Wainscott Main St., and on Wainscott Main St and the junction of Beach Lane would be considered. Chief Sarlo clarifies that these requests are funneled through Steve Lynch and the Department of Transportation.

Carwash – Chief Sarlo has not been brought in formally to consult on the vetting process of the carwash.

Lower residential speed limits-

Mounted signs – The mounted speed signs throughout the hamlet can be put up for a short period, taken down, and relocated. These signs cost \$2,500, come with a 2 year warranty and access to data. Money for maintenance and data must be earmarked. Chief Sarlo is currently working with the Towns Attorney and town agents to determine the legal process to allow funds for these signs to be raised by committees, the community, etc. The committee asks to be notified if/when this process is approved.

2016-17 School Budget with Superintendent Stuart Rachlin

Chair Emeritus Del Mastro inquired as to the statistics regarding the success rate of the school providing validation of keeping the same in place. While taking into consideration privacy of the students, Rachlin stated that performance on state assessments are above the norm of the school and often the State. In addition all 8 graduating seniors from Wainscott will be graduating with regents diplomas this June.

CDCH will be closing at end of year. Approximately 100 students will be disseminated from East Moriches to Montauk. Wainscott may take in 2 students (1 with special needs), which means a savings for Wainscott.

This year there are 20 students, next year there will be 27, which will be a squeeze being as the lunchroom cannot accommodate so many students. Along with hiring an extra TA, recess and lunch will be split, and bulky furniture will be removed to accommodate this growth. Going forward the district has to be more proactive in finding out how many students will be entering pre-K each year. Residents of Wainscott must be accepted to the school, however if parents agree, students can be tuitioned to East Hampton. Rachlin would explore the possibility of renovating the old building to accommodate more students if the district runs out of space.

As the result of several initiatives, Wainscott residents now have the choice to attend either East Hampton or Sag Harbor schools. This is a 5-year resolution. Sag Harbor will provide transportation for free and will cost 8,000 less than East Hampton.

Liaison Report:

Status of Guest Speakers at Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, June 4 – Water quality presentation by Dan Gulizio, Peconic Baykeeper

Wainscott Properties

The Town is due back in court on Monday, May 9 at which time they will ask for all former charges to be reinstated due to repeated violations. A member of the public suggests truck traffic be banned on local streets, with the exception of local delivery.

Airport

The case is before the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and has been fully briefed. Oral argument is expected to be set for Monday, June 20, with an answer possible before the end of the year. The control tower will open on May 23, and the same noise abatement routes will go into effect. \$10/day paid parking will be implemented on June 1.

Hamlet Study

The attached flyer has been distributed outlining a two-day Wainscott Hamlet Charrette as a precursor to the hamlet study. There will be an open discussion, and written input will be accepted from those who are unable to attend at ehamletstudy@gmail.com. Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez asks that everyone forward this info to friends, and will send a mailing to residents and businesses once the database is received from committee member Frankel.

Rental registry

Enforcement began on May 1. Over 2000 rental registry permits have been issued to date. The pre existing code enforcement complaint form can be used to file complaints online.

Press release re: Cyrils

Following a 3-day trial in justice court, the jury found Cyril's guilty of 45/47 charges of violating EH town code. Sentencing is scheduled for June 20. Earlier this week the Town entered into an agreement with the owner of the property who paid a 60,000 fine and agreed to all stipulations, including an occupancy limit of 150 people.

Committee Topics for Discussion:

Hamlet Study

The draft recommendations were seconded and approved, and will be sent to the Town Board, cc'd to the Consultants and Marguerite Wolffsohn, Planning Director ASAP. These recommendations will be revisited and edited as needed for further discussion and vote following the two-day Wainscott Hamlet Charrette on May 20 & 21.

Minutes

Committee members Kinsella and Sunshine suggest members submit a short sentence/summary of their monthly topics. This is not meant to lengthen the minutes, but rather to speed up the minute taking process and improve accuracy. General consensus is that less is more, and that the minutes should be streamlined and concise.

Earth Day Cleanup Planning

Seeing as it was a holiday weekend in the off-season, turnout was low with only 4 people in attendance. The suggestion is to carry out another effort in season in conjunction with the Parks Department, with increased outreach. Committee member Solomon was presented

with the “trashman of the year” award for going out on his own and filling 4 trash bags from the Post Office to Town Line.

Town and Committee Updates:

Planning Department

Car Wash - Given that the applicant does not own the property, the current application is almost a pre-application to explore what kind of pushback will be encountered. A carwash is approved for this site as a central business (CB) site. The proposed site includes a u shape configuration, which could lead to patrons of the carwash lining up on East Gate. East Gate also has a CB component from 27 half a block down past Ardsley and before Cowhill. The CAC’s concerns are for safety of the surrounding residential neighborhood, as well as this potentially being the first visual impact to Wainscott, which does not mesh with the hamlet study objectives (see attached article from The East Hampton Press, May 4, 2016). Co-Chair Arandia is going to draft a letter to the Planning Board, and encourages individuals to base their letters on the same. It is important that we as community present our feelings to the town planning board, and do so in manner as to not come across as prejudicial to any business. Member Young pointed out that for the past 30 years the Town has encouraged businesses to move parking and traffic to the back, off Highway 27, but that the proposed car wash does exactly the opposite – it creates greater traffic on Hwy 27.

Other Business:

A property 544(?) Wainscott NW Road (5.5 acrea parcel which was vacant) has been purchased by the Community Preservation Fund.

Sustainability – Member Dalene – Climate Action Plan was adopted by the Town which is part of a NYS program.

Planning Dept. – Co-Chair Arandia – Bowling Alley has been asked to perform a traffic study which is to be built on existing space (on the current tennis courts).

Planning Dept. – Co-Chair Arandia – Wainscott Wobbles II has applied to the ZBA with another proposal which is what they are calling a “unit structure”, but which remains commercial with the option to join the two (2) structures and parcels into a single structure. More information is to follow.

Nominating Committee – Member D’Andrea – politely informed Michael (?) that it would be inappropriate for him to become a Committee Member given his time constraints. John (?) could not become involved due to personal reasons.

Trustees Liaison – Member Kinsella – Wainscott Pond is now included in the Town Trustees water quality study.

Car Wash May Be All Wet

Wainscott residents
question project

BY MICHAEL WRIGHT

A proposal for a car wash on the site of the former Star Room nightclub in Wainscott was brought before the Town Planning Board last week, and raised concerns among some in the community.

In contrast to plans for a car wash on a property adjacent the town dump on Springs-Fireplace Road, which was met with tacit support from most board members last month,

the Planning Board highlighted complicating factors facing the would-be developer of the Wainscott proposal, including traffic flow along Montauk

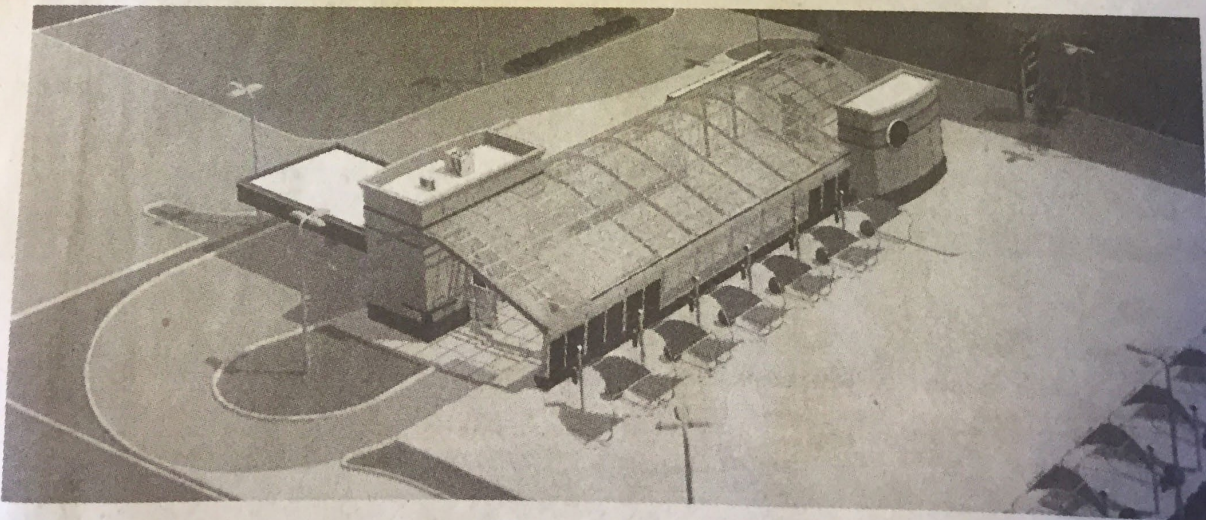
Highway and the residential East Gate Road.

"I don't want to be discourag-

See **CAR WASH**, Page A11



MISAO GRIVAS



A design sketch of a proposed car wash on Montauk Highway in Wainscott.

You're Invited



Who: Residents and Business owners who care about the future of Wainscott

What: **Wainscott Hamlet Charrette:**
A Two-Day Planning and Design Event!

Where and When:

Public Walking Tour

10:30 AM Friday, May 20th

Meet on the sidewalk in front of Home Goods, 368 Montauk Highway

Public Workshop

6:30 PM Friday, May 20th

Local TV, Inc., 75 Industrial Road

A chance to work with us and share your ideas and opinions about what's working well, what needs to be fixed, and how best to foster a vibrant commercial center in Wainscott.

Public Visioning Workshop

9:00 AM - Noon Saturday, May 21st

Local TV, Inc., 75 Industrial Road

Work with your friends and neighbors to explore ideas for traffic, parking, sidewalks, open space, and mixed-use redevelopment in the center of Wainscott.

Why:

The charrette will be an intensive multi-day planning and design exercise leading to a vision for the future of Wainscott's commercial heart. It's part of a larger town-wide study focused on the commercial areas within East Hampton's six hamlets. We need your input to better understand how the area works today, and how it can function better in the future. You are welcome to attend any or all of the events listed above.

Please RSVP: [East Hampton <ehhamletstudy@gmail.com>](mailto:EastHampton@ehhamletstudy@gmail.com) All are welcome at any of the meetings.