

Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)
Meeting of December 2, 2017

Member Attendance:

Jose Arandia, Co-Chair
Frank Dalene
Dennis D'Andrea, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Virginia Edwards
Barry Frankel, Co-Chair
Carolyn Logan Gluck
Cindy Herbst
Simon Kinsella
Susan Macy
Rick Del Mastro, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Sally Sunshine
Phil Young

Excused Absences:

Kathleen Begala
Bruce Solomon

Appointed Town Official:

Richard Myers, Chairman, Architectural Review Board (ARB), WCAC Chair Emeritus

Elected Official:

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Town Councilwoman, Liaison to WCAC

Members of the Public:

Lynn Cronin
Lori Anne Czepiel
Sara Davison, Friends of Georgica Pond Foundation
Vito D'Andrea
Claudia Diaz
Howard Fine
Arthur French
Denise Fulham
Paul Giardina
Michael Hansen
Laraine Hayes
Sam Kramer
Francine Lembo
Anthony Liberatore
Peter Montalbano
Bonnie Newman-Myers
Daniel Osborn
Mary Petrie

Stanley Redlus
Susan Sampson
Kim Shipman
Pat Trunzo
Steve Tuma
Reine Turner
M/M Jonathan Wainwright
John Winkler, EH Press
Donna Wolfe
Michael Wolfe
Michael Wootton

Housekeeping

The next meeting will be held on January 6, 2018

Minutes

The November 4, 2017 minutes were seconded and approved.

Guest Speaker - Tim Kilcommons, Chief Engineer Suffolk County Water Authority

Due to the need for a larger supply of water in our area, the Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA) has proposed installing a pump station on Stephen Hands Path at a 5 acre county parkland. They will only clear **the land for** what is needed for construction. Two 650 gallon/minute capacity electrically-driven deep well turbine pumps will be installed on the property, along with a control building to house the electrical and chemical feeds. This will be an unmanned facility that will be visited daily during the peak season, and less so in the winter. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will regulate these wells, and require 15% conservation from all water systems, with residential irrigation being the biggest drain on our water supply. In doing so, SCWA has published its water conservation plan that can be found on their website at www.scwa.com. Once complete this pump station will service the South Fork Low Zone (see attachment 1).

The test boring is complete and the water was tested a few weeks ago. No PFC's were detected. SCWA has also approved the layout with the county parks department. The next step will be to compile the water application, which will take up to a month for submission to the NYSDEC. Review and approval will take at least one year. Once approved, the SCWA will publish a public notice, followed by actual construction.

This project is several years into the planning process with already \$100,000 spent, and another \$400,000 as a line item in the 2018 budget for the well costs alone.

Q&A:

Will there be a zone of influence surrounding the wells (member Dalene) - Yes, water will be pulled from surrounding areas to fill space of the water removed.

Did the water sampling test for presence of Hexavalent Chromium (member Dalene)? Mr. Kilcommons will look into this.

Why was this site chosen (member Logan Gluck)? This site was chosen as it was within the zone of demand.

Will the water test result be made public (member Kinsella)OK The test results will be submitted to the New York State Health Department and may be requested.

Can SCWA do more than public education (member of the public Davison)? Ms. Davison has observed leaking and poorly managed irrigation systems and would like to see SCWA spearhead serious water conservation efforts. Mr. Kilcommons stated that the Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system enables SCWA to grab more information and knowledge of how and when consumers are using water. In gathering this information, they contact users to discuss how to better manage their systems through use of rain sensors or soil moisture probes, etc. SCWA is able to see when there is a leak, and will send a letter to the homeowner alerting them to the same. In addition, they carry out water audits. Mr. Kilcommons acknowledged that more can be done.

Can you do more to advocate policy change to drive demand down (member Dalene)? SCWA is already advocating for policy change, and if we are not seeing it in our area already, we will soon.

Can you charge more for consumption over certain levels (member of the public)? A rate structure has been discussed by the Board.

Does data exist that shows inflows and outflows to ensure that the size of the aquifer remains healthy (member Kinsella)OK. Although the Water Authority hasn't generated this data, as part of the permitting process with the DEC, they must look to see what the localized affect of the well will be.

Is it possible for water to go out of the load zone (member Dalene)? In theory the zones are interconnected and any well can put water anywhere there is a pipe connection. From a practical standpoint, the zones are interconnected and if there is low pressure somewhere, another area can support it. In practice however, the pumping station would just supplement pressure inside the zone.

Liaison Report

Water Quality

Of the 246 properties in the Wainscott survey area, 161 have been sampled, 3 refused sampling, 72 have not responded, and 19 samples have been requested and are outstanding. Of the results received to date, 45 showed no detection of PFOS/PFOA, 38 found detection, and 1 found detection above the threshold of 70 parts per trillion. If detection was found, the water will be re-tested. Over 80 homeowners are having water supplied by the Town. It is too early to tell whether any patterns have been found as testing is only 33% complete.

The Town has authorized NYSDEC to lead an investigation into possible PFC contamination at the East Hampton Airport, which should take 3-6 months. The 11 wells on the airport property will now be included within the survey area. The DEC will look into whether these chemicals continue to be used in fire fighting equipment.

Member Kinsella noted that if Wainscott residents have to wait 6 months until DEC have completed their investigation before SCWA can begin planning for access to public water, it could take close to 12 months until Wainscott residents have access to clean drinking water. It is unacceptable to ask Wainscott residents to drink from bottled water for 12 months.

Co-chair Arandia noted that PFCs are currently being investigated, and are not on any hazard list. Member Kinsella noted that PFCs are deemed an unregulated contaminant by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and requested that the attached New York Times article be included within the minutes (attachment 2).

Outbreak of Southern Pine Beetle

7,500 trees have been identified as infested in East Hampton. The remedy is to fell, top and score the infected trees, the cost of which could reach \$160,000. If anyone has a concern about potential infected trees, please contact the Land Acquisition Department at (631) 324-7420. The Town has contracted with subcontractors to assist in flagging and cutting down trees, however due to limited resources, they cannot remove the trees. The Town will waive the fee for taking the felled trees to the recycling center. Member of the public Davison suggested the Town look at what has been done in Southampton and other areas affected by the Southern Pine Beetle on Long Island.

Moratorium

The Town Board has passed a resolution to notice the moratorium for public hearing on December 7, 6:30 at Town Hall. Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez suggested that the WCAC and members of the community submit letters to the Suffolk County Planning Division in support of the moratorium by December 7 to be part of the record.

Deepwater Wind

Work Session Tuesday, December 5, 10am at Town Hall during which Jennifer Garvey from Deepwater Wind will provide an update regarding Beach Lane being the preferred route, as well as an overview of community benefits. This Work Session will be streamed on LTV.

Deepwater Wind will host a holiday open house at its new headquarters located at 524 Montauk Highway in Amagansett this Wednesday, December 6 from 6-8pm.

Noise complaint monitoring system

PlaneNoise, the noise complaint management system used by the Airport is developing a smartphone app, which will use GPS. The presentation given to the Town by PlaneNoise is attached (attachment 3).

Organizational meeting

Jan 2, 2018, 10am at Town Hall - New Board members and the supervisor elect will be sworn in.

A new Town liaison will be assigned to the WCAC beginning with the January 2018 meeting.

Environmental Sub-Committee

Water Quality Testing Update:

Numerous members of the committee and public expressed the need for urgency in testing and gathering results to identify what steps will be taken going forward. Co-chair Frankel asked that Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez continue putting pressure on the DEC. In addition he proposed that the Town begin early planning by identifying a range of potential likely outcomes, so that when a heat map is received and a source identified, they are not starting from ground zero with 6 months of planning. The Suffolk County Department of Health is on the Town's weekly calls with the DEC so they will know where to mobilize from when updates are made available.

Why can't public water be extended as a matter of priority (member Kinsella)? Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez made clear that until the Town can wrap its arms around where the problem is, no action will be taken as there are too many unknowns at the moment. Member Kinsella filed a FOIL request with the Department of Health Services on October 25, but has received no response.

What if people cannot afford to connect to public water (member Macy)? Once the DEC determines the root cause of the contamination, it may determine who pays for the delivery of Town water.

Deepwater Wind:

Member Kinsella expressed his concern that the residents of Wainscott will be contracted into wind generated energy at 2 to 3 times more than cost for the next 20 years, as Deepwater Wind's contract price with LIPA is undisclosed.

Member Kinsella reported that Deepwater Wind did not provide a detailed proposal as promised at the ESC meeting. He has drafted a letter for approval by the committee requesting further information.

In a meeting with Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez on December 1, the Development Manager for Deepwater Winds Long Island operations made clear that their preferred route is Beach Lane as it is the route of least disruption and inconvenience to the community. Deepwater will present this at Tuesday's Work Session.

Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez suggested the WCAC invite Deepwater representatives to come to the January meeting, and publish its attendance in the agenda. As a committee and community, everyone should think about what opportunities may arise and benefits can be gained from Deepwater using Wainscott for the landing.

Wainscott's Scenic Vistas of Pastoral Landscapes:

The WCAC ESC has drafted a letter to the Town as a plea to protect open spaces, particularly farm land as well as scenic vistas. This letter will be amended and circulated for approval.

Traffic Sub-Committee

Chair Emeritus Del Mastro will draft a letter to the Town requesting a no left turn sign off of Wainscott Stone onto 27. The Town will then contact the Department of Transportation.

Town and Committee Updates

Community Preservation Fund

The Star Room property will be purchased as open space/recreational use under the CPF. The Town will be responsible for removing the building and cement, and would welcome suggestions from the community as to what they would like to see there. Chair Emeritus Del Mastro, members Sunshine, Logan Gluck, and Macy, and member of the public Sara Davison will join the subcommittee to explore longterm potential of the property for approval by the committee and inclusion within the hamlet study.

Co-chair Arandia will propose that the CPF look into purchasing the property on Wainscott Hollow Road at the eastern corner, which borders 55 Wainscott Hollow to the North and the Dankowski farm to the South.

Planning Department

Planning Department Work Session - December 6, 6:30 and live on LTV. Wainscott Holdings will be submitting a subdivision review.

Energy Sustainability Town Advisory Committee

Applied Energy Group (AEG) contracted with PSEG to reduce peak energy consumption. During the committee's November 13 meeting, AEG outlined its South Fork Peak Savers program, which promotes the use of LED lighting, and smart thermostats such as NEST. If anyone is interested in a South Fork Peak Saver free energy audit, please contact AEG at (833) 346-2181.

These meetings are now filmed by LTV for public viewing.

ZBA

124 Beach Lane - Seeking variance setback from Town barrier dunes.

Other Business

Osteria Salina abandoned its lease. This property is on the CPF acquisition list. Though it has major infrastructure and septic issues, it may be worth looking at for use as an access point to Georgica Pond, a recreation center, or a children's education center to name a few. What is the longterm vision for this site/what would the WCAC and community like to see at the property?

The WCAC policies and procedures will be redistributed via email to all members.

2018 WCAC meeting dates will be circulated via email.

Attachment 1: SCWA Facilities in the South Fork Low Water Supply

Attachment 2: Rich, N. (2016, January 6). The Lawyer Who Became DuPont's Worst Nightmare. *The New York Times Magazine*. Retrieved November 10, 2017, from <https://nyti.ms/1VI1Tgg>.

Attachment 3: PlaneNoise Presentation