

Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)

Meeting of February 6, 2016

The next meeting will be held on March 5, 2016.

Member Attendance:

Frank Dalene

Dennis D'Andrea

Rick Del Mastro

Barry Frankel, Co-Chair

Bruce Solomon

Cindy Tuma

Phil Young

Excused Absences:

Jose Arandia

Kathleen Begala

Simon Kinsella

Susan Macy

Sally Sunshine

Elected Official:

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Town Councilwoman, Liaison to WCAC

Appointed Official:

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

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Members of the Public:

Gregg Higgins, issue of development in business corridor, Star Room

Scott Rubenstein, General Manager East Hampton Indoor Tennis

Marguerite Wolffsohn, Director of East Hampton Town Planning Department

Minutes:

The January 9, 2016, minutes were seconded and approved.

Liaison Report:

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez reported that there have been public hearings regarding Daniels Hole Road. In addition; Landscape Details (A locally owned Landscaping Company) wants to lease two parcels of land on Industrial Road in Wainscott from the Town.

Historic News: On February 04, 2016 the Town Appointed the Latino Advisory Committee. At the present time approx. 1/3 of the current resident population is Latino and almost ½ of the East Hampton Schools population is Latino. Co-Chair Frankel asked that the WCAC invite members of the Latino community to the monthly meetings.

East End Motel had been purchased. There were talks of it becoming a night club. The area has been rezoned from Resort to Residential B zoning and now going to the planning board for consideration.

Community Preservation Fund (CPF) –According to Fred Thiele, the CPF is set to expire in 2030 and they are looking into extending it to 2050. A portion of this fund is now being proposed to be allocated to water quality agendas including; water monitoring, retesting programs and developing a project plan.

Committee Member Young said that although he is 100 percent in favor of the CPF, the CPF makes real estate harder to afford for local residents including the Latino community. Committee Member Dalene added that there is a proposal to direct 20 percent of CPF collections to the water protection program initiative. Dalene suggested that maybe a portion of the monies collected could be utilized for a denitrification plant. Liaison Burke-Gonzalez stated; 2nd home owners would not want to come here if the water quality, overdevelopment and scenic vistas are compromised.

According to Liaison Burke-Gonzalez, there have been two new assistant town attorneys hired by the Town. They are; Nancy Lynn Thiele and Hope B. DeLauter.

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Future Guest Speakers -- Upcoming speakers were suggested by various committee members. The suggestions included: March- Rental registry, April- Trustees; May- Police Department and School District Superintendent Stuart Rachlin; June- Peconic Bay Keeper.

Hamlet Studies -- Director of the East Hampton Town Planning Department Wolffsohn explained that in 2005 the Town adopted the comprehensive plan. Hamlet studies are needed to look more closely at the commercial areas, Business Environment Study, Hamlet Study including the Pit. Member Young noted that for his development in Southampton the Town took a year to hire a hamlet-study consulting firm.

Former Co-Chair Del Mastro stated that the gates to the Pit entrances remain open after hours and he submitted several complaints to Ms. Bambrick, she stated that although sited for such, the owners are referring to a site plan. Del Mastro stated; at some point; we need to be more aggressive on those who do not abide by the agreement that was instated by the Town.

As to access to planning information, Ms. Wolffsohn said the Planning Board is on the web. Usually the Planning Board gets to an issue within a month of a submission. One can get on the Towns website and click on the Agenda page; "Planning Board Log" to see what projects the Board will be reviewing. A recently implemented change is; now a deadline is now given to an applicant when submitting a plan. A suggestion from a committee member; Can an applicant add an address of the property including the Hamlet where it is located when submitting a plan, thereby, indicating publicly where a project is taking place.

The Town has hired the firm Dodson and Flinker to evaluate and improve upon the current Town website. This firm has created other websites that include Nantucket and South Hadley.

Indoor Tennis -- General Manager of East Hampton Indoor Tennis, Scott Rubenstein explained that his complex will be reconfigured to include bocci (also spelled bocce), 10 bowling lanes and miniature golf as well as tennis. There will also be a sports bar and lounge, food and beverage area as well as paddle tennis courts. The miniature golf course will have guides and holes that are models of local historical landmarks. 326 parking spaces will be allocated for visitors.

Pay stations -- The airport will have a pay station at which drivers may pay \$10 for 24 hours of parking. Former Co-Chair Del Mastro indicated that Van Wagner, who previous had the interior signage at the airport was bought by Outfront/CBS. They may be interested in assuming the cost of the pay station in exchange for advertising on the pay station.

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Rental registry –Officially adopted February 1st, 2016 online. The registry has had more than 80 landlords registered thus far. Local real estate agents have attended the workshop and a town wide mailing will be implemented addressing the Rental Registry. Liaison Burke-Gonzalez stated that the town was in the process of developing the brochure for the rental registry and a second brochure that will address fire safety along with clearing restrictions.

Committee Member Young suggested the WCAC invite the public to a WCAC meeting that would have a speaker to explain the registry process. This WCAC registry-topic meeting would have to be before May 1, the deadline for registry enrollment.

Building Department: Plans submitted by applicants to the Building Department for 405 & 407 Montauk Highway were informed that they were unable to combine the two lots.

Signage -- The liaison showed the WCAC a proposed sign which read, "334 Deer Were Killed by Motor Vehicles in East Hampton in 2013. Please drive carefully. Town of E.H., Dept. of Land Acquisition & Management." If accepted, the sign would be placed in Wainscott near the town- line, often noted as being the gateway to East Hampton Town. Mr. Del Mastro and ARB Chair Myers objected to the sign following all the work that Committee Member Solomon performed to reduce the sign clutter in the area, he photographically recorded & documented signage on offending road shoulder.

Mr. Myers added it would be distracting to drivers with its long verbiage. To promote a special interest would invite a plethora of requests for public awareness through signage. Mr. Myers, who in addition to being the ARB chair is also a WCAC chair emeritus, explained the WCAC has worked hard to eliminate sign pollution along Montauk Highway. Mr. Myers and others suggested that if the sign is installed there should be a sunset date on the sign's authorization. If, for example, the sunset is three years, at the end of that time there can be a review to see if deer collisions were reduced during the period the sign was standing. If not, the sign is ineffective and should be removed.

Code Enforcement: Former Co-Chair Del Mastro; nothing to report.

CPF: Co-Chair Arandia (Absent) Nothing to report.

Energy Sustainability: Member Dalene: Town Advisory Committee member reported; wind turbines are being considered and or approved to be placed approximately 30 miles offshore. In addition; an on land battery storage facility is being implemented.

ZBA: Public Hearing on January 26th, 2016. Applicant at **15 Wainscott Hollow Rd** applying for a permit to construct a 6600 sq. ft. tennis court within side yard lot line set-backs. Applicants for **31 Association Rd** to tear down a one story residence and construct a new 3976 sq. ft. two story residence, sanitary system and swimming pool with approx.: 1616 sq. ft. of decking and patio on parcel of land containing wetlands and surface waters. Public hearing held on January 5th and extended to deadline of January 26.

Planning Department: Co-Chair Arandia (Absent) nothing to report.

Wainscott Sewing Society (WSS) -- Those who wish to make a donation to the WSS may do so at the March meeting of the WCAC.

End of Meeting.