

WAINSCOTT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC) Meeting of April 6, 2019

Member Attendance:

Carolyn Logan Gluck, Co-Chair
Susan Macy, Co-Chair
Jose Arandia, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus
Dennis D'Andrea, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Barry Frankel, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus
Rick Del Mastro, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Lori Anne Czepiel
Michael Hansen
Anthony Liberatore
Bruce Solomon
Phil Young

Excused Absences:

Frank Dalene
Sally Sunshine
Cindy Herbst

Elected Officials:

Jeff Bragman, Town Councilman, Liaison to WCAC

Members of the Public:

Lynn Arthur
Joseph Barr
Laila Barr
Sara Davison
Mark Evans
Deb Foster
Marshall Gluck
David Gruber
Linda James

Si Kinsella
Sam Kramer
Pam Mahoney
Mike Mahoney
Richard Myers
Gordian Raacke
Alex Reed
Francesca Rheanon
Leana Ribors
Lois Sachs
Rich Silver
Mitch Solomon
Lisa Solomon
William Sullivan
Pat Trunzo
Krae VanSickle

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Carolyn Logan Gluck, Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 9:08 am.

March 6, 2019 minutes

The March 6, 2019 minutes were seconded and approved.

Richard Myers—He asked the meeting to acknowledge the passing of Edwin Geus, an important member of the community whose Memorial Service is later this morning. Chair Emeritus Rick Del Mastro and Co-Chair Emeritus Jose Arandia shared their thoughts.

Liaison Report: Jeff Bragman

Moratorium

Councilman Bragman noted that the most recent moratorium extension technically was not approved because request was not referred to the Suffolk County Planning Commission sufficiently ahead of time. The Town is in the process of addressing this and, if necessary, can override the Planning Commission's recommendation with a super-majority vote.

Hamlet Study

Mr. Bragman estimated that the study would be approved in May. He noted that he had reviewed proposed revisions to the study, that were scheduled to be considered at the next meeting on April 16. He noted that there was some controversy about the possible elimination of the recommendation to rezone the western part of the commercial center from Central Business (CB) to Limited Business Overlay (LBO) and stated that he supports retaining the recommendation.

Wainscott Sand & Gravel

Mr. Bragman noted that the ball is in the applicant's court to prepare an environmental impact statement. He added that a hydrogeologist firm had been retained by the DEC to develop a protocol for the testing of the sandpit.

Member Anthony Liberatore asked about a story in the East Hampton Star about the reversal of the DEC decision with respect to SandLand in Noyac and the possibility of the Town joining a lawsuit about the issue. Mr. Bragman noted that he was involved in the suit on behalf of a client-and therefore had a conflict. Discussion ensued about the matter.

Member Michael Hansen then asked about the timing. Mr. Bragman reviewed the process and stated that it is not a quick or easy process. He added that the Town is aiming to approve the Hamlet Study by May and that the moratorium, when-approved, would run past May to July 1.

Chair Emeritus Del Mastro then proposed that, in light of the EH Star article, the WCAC prepare a letter reinforcing the WCAC's prior position. Co-Chair Logan Gluck asked Mr. Bragman to help the WCAC better understand what permissions the Pit owner has and what are the approved activities at the Pit, and how that relates to the Noyac situation (that is, whether the DEC's decision to permit mining at SandLand applies or impacts the Wainscott property).

Member Hansen noted that his daughter was in a photo on the front page of the same issue of the EH Star.

Mr. Bragman then reported on a recent call he participated in with the relevant local and state governmental agencies: (1) the DEC has engaged in more cooperative discussions with the owners; (2) the Wainscott site will be tested, and the DEC and owners are discussing the protocols (who will take, test and evaluate the samples) and the extent of the DEC's involvement and monitoring; (3) it is expected that it will take another few weeks for the DEC and owners to work out the details.

Scenic Conservation and Agricultural Easements

Mr. Bragman reported that he had prepared, in consultation with the Town planning department, a draft of proposed changes to the relevant easements laws, to ensure that planning board is aware of any such easements or purchases of development rights on or adjacent to any property with an application before the planning board. He noted that, while such board does not have direct jurisdiction over these kinds of easement issues if they are aware of such easements at or near the subject property any approvals they grant can take into account the necessary review and protections. Mr. Bragman anticipates that the changes would be presented to the Town Board in one of the next couple meetings.

Co-Chair Susan Macy then raised some questions about hedges along Town Line Road. Mr. Bragman noted that Lisa D'Andrea of Natural Resources has been developing a map

of scenic easements throughout the town, but that no information or record yet exists of agricultural easements or purchases of development rights (and he noted that Ms. D'Andrea will try to research and add to her records). Mr. Bragman also noted that there is discussion at the Town about having the planning department conduct an annual review of these issues.

Next Mr. Myers, Chair of the EH Architectural Review Board, then discussed issues about permissible landscaping that may also be relevant. Member Mr. Liberatore then asked if, when a property is for sale, is it possible to condition approval of transfer on fixing/returning the property to the state of the applicable scenic or agricultural easement, to which Mr. Myers stated his belief that this could become part of the approval process. Mr. Bragman stated that he would follow-up on these issues.

Peak Savers Proposal to EH

Mr. Bragman then discussed a program proposal that had been presented to the Town last week by Peak Savers. He questions the Town's allowing PeakSavers to use its generators to meet peak demand over the summer since this does nothing to reduce the Town's carbon footprint. Co-Chair Emeritus Barry Frankel posed some questions about the Peak Saver issue.

Mr. Bragman outlined the location of several sites within the Town noting the generator by the police station in Wainscott is a diesel generator. Another question was posed by about whether there are plans to provide public notice and input on the Peak Savers proposal, and Mr. Bragman indicated that Peak Savers requested a Town decision by May 1, and he was not sure there would be any such notice.

Community Choice Aggregation

Guest Speaker Linda James, Chair of the Environmental Sustainability and Resiliency Committee, first thanked Member Frank Dalene for serving as WCAC liaison to ESC and acknowledged Member Hansen's contributions as well.

Ms. James next introduced Gordian Raacke, the Executive Director for Renewable Energy Long Island. Mr. Raacke introduced the Energize East Hampton portfolio and then explained how the way power is sourced and delivered at present would differ under CCA. He pointed out the customer would have a role in selecting power sources under CCA. Mr. Raacke also discussed the history and rules of CCA in NY State and the need for LIPA and the Public Service Commission to authorize CCA on Long Island. He summarized how EH could meet its renewable energy goals under CCA through Renewable Energy Credits and contracts for local renewables and programs.

Mid-way through the presentation, Co-Chair Logan-Gluck recognized member of the public Deb Foster to address the concept of a Limited Business Overlay (LBO). Discussion of how this applied specifically to Wainscott followed. Mr. Bragman noted that affected properties would be designated "pre-existing, non-conforming." Member

Phil Young questioned whether the Town would recompense the owners. Member of the public Pat Trunzo expressed his objection to the proposal. Member Solomon noted the marketplace is changing due to a rise in internet purchases.

Following this discussion Mr. Raacke completed his presentation followed by a short Q and A.

Wainscott Green

The sub-committee met with Supervisor Van Scoyoc who will try to move the process along in order to have the park ready for use this summer. The Nature Preserve Committee is developing a management plan and a public hearing will be held on May 18.

Rest Stop

Member of the public Davison discussed the rest stop west of Il Mulino, and discussions with the Department of Transportation and other stakeholders about ways to minimize pollution there.

Community Awards

Chair Emeritus Dennis D'Andrea asked committee members to begin suggesting candidates for the Community Business Award. Any suggestions should be sent out to the entire WCAC so all can benefit from the ideas of others.

In addition, everyone should think about whether the annual cookout should be in June or July.

Speed Signs, Beach Warning Signs

Chair Emeritus Del Mastro reported on progress to acquire the digital speed signs. He will draft a letter for co-chairs to sign pledging to the Town the funds needed for its purchase. He also noted that the Town will post a sign at Wainscott Main Beach warning visitors that the beach is unprotected (that is, by lifeguards). The sign will read, "Caution unprotected waters."

In addition, Member of the public Mahoney noted that Deepwater Wind has not yet carried out any of the test bores along the proposed cable route and wondered whether the Town approval for this work was still in effect given the expiration of the date by which the work was to be completed: March 31.

The meeting concluded at 1pm.

Next Meeting: May 4, 2019, 9am, Wainscott Chapel