

MONTAUK CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
April 3, 2023

Attendance: 17 present (33 members)

Members Present: T. Berger, T. Byrne, D. Ceva, R. Cortell, C. Cortese, J. Fowkes, B. Grimes, A. Harris, J. Iacono, J. James, D. Monahan, T. Ries, S. Sennefelder, M. Tripp, K. Tyler, M. Waterman, R. Weiss

Members Absent: L. Barnds, J. Chimples, L. Cortese, L. Creegan, T. Creel, T. Flight, D. Freudenthal, S. Kalimnios, D. Hausman, L. Michaels, P. Monte, L. Siedlick, R. Silver, K. Weiss, C. Yula

Guests: Robert Whalen, John Whalen, Richard Whalen, Tom Ruhle, Maureen Cahill, (Playhouse Foundation Board)

Board Liaison: David Lys

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm and the **Minutes** of the March meeting were adopted, upon motion by R. Cortell, seconded by T. Berger.

Community Organizations:

Chamber - J. Fowkes reported that the Eggstravaganza was a success, as was the soup sale associated with the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Community Church - S. Sennefelder reported that the proceeds from the successful rummage sales have made possible construction of a playground for toddlers.

Library - B. Grimes reminded members that the vote on the Library budget and election of a trustee will take place tomorrow (April 4) from 2pm to 8pm at the Library.

Old Business:

Beach Subcommittee - No report.

Airport Subcommittee Report: No report except that the SEQRA scoping process continues.

Councilperson's Liaison Report:

ACOE FIMP/FIMI beach work - The Town is trying to get Montauk added to the FIMI (Fire Island to Moriches Inlet) project while the equipment is nearby and will need to get easements on 19 properties east of downtown in order to do that. That would mean more sand for the western edge of Shadmoor to Umbrella Beach and replenishment by ACOE every 4 years. Hopefully, work would begin in 2023. The Town is cautiously optimistic - "this is as close as it's ever been". **ACOE dredging of inlet** - still pending, project updates are on Town web site. **Annual Beach Renourishment** - bid is going out this week and work should be done by May 29. **Crossovers** that were washed away - still working on design.

West Lake comfort station will be installed next Wednesday with new IA system and fisheries gear storage in the back. **Lions Field IA comfort station** will be completed this week and turf will be installed for Little League. **"Gateway Vista Project"** (at entrance to Montauk) has begun with utility underground work so that poles can be removed. Funding is from Town and State. Goal is to complete by Memorial Day. **Rough Riders** work is underway.

Second House Restoration - this week a bid will go out for resumption of restoration.

Public WiFi - will be installed at several locations, including Ditch, Gin, Gosman's and skate park, at no cost to the Town. Service will be provided by Saunders and will work like airport WiFi. Security cameras can be added. **Beaches** - clean up will start on Thursday at Ditch. The Town still needs summer staff. **Season Prep** - meeting with Chamber and Town enforcement heads will take place on April 5 at the Firehouse at 1:30pm. The public is welcome.

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Upcoming Town Board Agenda Items: Public Hearings will be held on Thursday (April 6) on adding stop signs at S. Elmwood/S. Embassy and on accessory structures and apartments. Work Session will include discussion of coastal erosion structures (“geocubes”) and the Wireless Master Plan.

D. Lys congratulated D. Ceva’s son on his Eagle Scout presentation. He said that Little League starts on April 22 and encouraged the community to come out and cheer for the kids.

Q&A: In response to questions from members, D. Lys advised that: geobags on Downtown beaches will not be removed - they will simply be covered with sand; in order to add Ditch to sand renourishment project, we need to wait for 4 years and the Town has to pay; goats are still being considered for invasives removal; engineers are still working on final design for Industrial Road roundabout; there is no update on Wastewater and he is not aware of any further discussions or committee meetings; he does not know the status of the old substation.

New Business:

Montauk Playhouse - Jen locono, a member of the Playhouse Foundation Board, introduced fellow Board member, Maureen Cahill, and presented on the status of the project. This public-private partnership is close to becoming a reality. Phase 1 - the aquatic center on the first floor is projected to begin this summer with “groundbreaking” on July 4 with work continuing for 18-25 months. The center will consist of a 4-lane lap pool and a smaller pool for kids and wellness activities. Phase 2 of the Playhouse project will be the performing arts/ flexible multi-purpose space on the second floor. The Foundation is in discussions with a professional swim school owner who lives in Montauk to manage the aquatic center. On April 11, Foundation Board Chair Sarah Iuticone will present at a Town Board Work Session and the Town Board will vote to finalize the project on April 20. Dick Monahan thanked David for his support of this project.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm upon motion by A. Harris, seconded by S. Sennefelder.

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 1 at 6pm

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Wilkov Waterman