

MONTAUK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 2, 2022

Attendance: 20 present (41 members)

Members Present: B. Akin, T. Berger, J. Buklad, T. Byrne, D. Ceva, R. Cortell, C. Cortese, L. Cortese, T. Creel, J. Fowkes, J. Iacono, D. Hausman, D. Monahan, S. Sennefelder, L. Siedlick, R. Silver, M. Waterman, K. Weiss, R. Weiss, C. Yula

Members Absent: J. Allen, L. Barnds, F. Brooks, S. Brooks, J. Chimples, S. Conway, L. Creegan, H. D'Agostino, L. Daunt, J. Evans, D. Freudenthal, B. Grimes, A. Harris, B.J. Howard, J. James, S. Kalimnios, P. Monte, T. Ries, M. Tripp, K. Tyler, Z. Zweig

Guests: Michael Wright (The Press), Laura Michaels, Susan Harder (NY State rep to International Dark Skies Assn.)

Board Liaison: David Lys

There being no quorum, **Minutes** of the April meeting were tabled.

Letters: Email received from Tracy Stoloff regarding the tree removed from the front of 716 Main Street in 2020. She was told that MVA is unable to replace the tree, so she is willing to raise funds and requests that the Town participate in covering the costs (the Supervisor told her thought the Town might provide some funds). This was discussed as part of New Business.

Community Organizations: J. Fowkes reported for the Chamber that the Farmers Market will begin on 6/9 from 8:30 am to 1 pm with 45 vendors and continue each Thursday during the season. K. Weiss reported that MVA is collecting member dues and asks that people who wish to make donations visit Montaukvillageassociation.org. Laura Tooman reported for CCOM via email that upcoming CCOM events are as follows: Saturday, 5/7 Lindsay Morrison Walk; Thursday, 5/12 Webinar on Restoring Fish Passage to Big Reed; and Saturday, 5/21 Floating wetland install at Fort Pond - Volunteers Needed - please sign up at <https://www/preservemontauk.org/events>.

Special Presentation on Dark Skies by Susan Harder. The goal of Dark Skies is to reduce unnecessary night lighting and to make common sense updates to the 2004 lighting code to do so. Code violations should be referred to Kevin Cooper of Code Enforcement. She asked that the MCAC endorse the proposal to modify the Code to reflect the "Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting" she shared with members.

There being no quorum, no resolution was adopted. However, a majority of those present at the meeting endorsed the Five Principles.

Old Business:

Beach Subcommittee: R. Cortell reported: Garbage collection - referred to the Sanitation Department; Code Enforcement has staffing concerns; Chief Sarlo wants a unified rescue barn in Montauk to position equipment closer to the beach, and that is pending - quad vehicles have been purchased and are being stored at the Playhouse; Beach Fires - implementation of new rules pending - unclear what Town Board will do; Smoking ban on beaches - public hearing to take place on 5/19, Town Board and Town Trustees must approve; Lifeguards - it is difficult to hire in competition from the Village. Other issues discussed: Shadmoor Dunes - paths are being created to dunes, D. Lys will ask for action; Beach Vendors - need outreach re: trash can requirement because many do not have even one trash can; Garbage - need carry-in-carry-out signs at beach entrances, D. Lys said that Marine Patrol is cleaning up signs and removing fake ones to ensure that signs are only those that are needed and enforceable; QR

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code can be displayed that will take visitors to the Town's beach web site, D. Lys said that Parks & Recreation web site has been revamped and beach fire rules are there.

Airport Subcommittee: There was an extended discussion regarding concerns about potential diversion of flights from EH Airport to Montauk once limits are imposed and what, if anything, can be done to mitigate the resulting impact on East Lake Drive. In response to questions about whether the Town has been in contact with owners of the Montauk Airport, D. Lys said they are. L. Cortese asked what would happen if the SEQRA study shows harm to Montauk.

Other: Wastewater location was discussed; Code Enforcement staffing is now stable; Downtown paid parking is on hold because kiosks are not available.

Councilperson's Liaison Report: Airport - FAA has taken action to prepare for the new airport and things are on schedule for the new airport to have the same operational capacity with less operations; Beach Sand Replenishment - work will begin in the next two weeks at a cost of just under \$600,000. ACOE target for completion is 5/15, although the Town Board wants the completion to be closer to Memorial Day; Littering - K. Cooper will reach out to Montauk businesses about their responsibility for litter on their property; LIRR Station - MTA wants the Town to take over enforcement at the station, they have removed vehicles and vegetation; Star Island docks are to be replaced; West Lake comfort station - work delayed until after the summer due to required NYS approval; CARP - draft report was issued after 6 years of work and is available online, members were urged to read it; Hopper - will not be funded by the State this summer, the Town will spend \$120,000 to support one route because the Town Board believes this is an important service; Rough Riders - work to ameliorate flooding has been approved by the Town Board and is moving forward; Two Surf Schools at Ditch have been approved; Outdoor Dining - has been approved for 3 years, but no tents can be erected without a special permit; 2021 EHPD annual report has been released by Chief Sarlo; GATR lights - Town will ask the County to get a waiver from the FAA for the lights.

There was extensive discussion of the dangerous generator lights used by non-locals to fish for squid at Rod's Valley at night. D. Lys is very aware of the situation. Nature Preserve Committee, via a management plan, needs to make changes which can then be enforced.

New Business:

R. Silver reported on activities of the Town Energy Sustainability Committee, including that education and compliance are needed in connection with the new leaf blower regs banning gas blowers and all Sunday leaf blowers from 5/20 to 9/20.

K. Weiss asked about charging stations for hybrids.

Laura Michaels spoke about storm drain run off into Fort Pond.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm upon motion by R. Cortell, seconded by R. Silver.

The next meeting will be held on June 6, 2022 at 6pm. TBD whether it will be via Zoom or in person.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Wilkov Waterman