

MONTAUK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 6, 2022
Via Zoom

Attendance: 27 present (41 members)

Members Present: B. Akin, J. Allen, L. Barnds, T. Berger, J. Chimples, R. Cortell, C. Cortese, L. Cortese, L. Creegan, T. Creel, D. Freudenthal, B. Grimes, A. Harris, D. Hausman, B.J. Howard, J. Iacono, J. James, S. Kalimnios, D. Monahan, P. Monte, T. Ries, S. Sennefelder, R. Silver, M. Tripp, K. Tyler, M. Waterman, C. Yula

Members Absent: F. Brooks, S. Brooks, J. Buklad, T. Byrne, D. Ceva, S. Conway, H. D'Agostino, J. Evans, L. Daunt, J. Fowkes, L. Siedlick, K. Weiss, R. Weiss, Z. Zweig

Guests: Laura Tooman (CCOM), Michael Wright (Press), Tim Treadwell (TOEH Marine Patrol), Chris Poli, Richie Winick, Philip Ha, Laura Michaels

Board Liaison: David Lys

Minutes of the April and May meetings were adopted upon motion by R. Cortell, seconded by L. Creegan.

Letters: None

Community Organizations: L. Tooman reported for **CCOM** on the success of the May 21 Second Annual floating wetlands installation in Fort Pond with funding from the Town. She mentioned the Town septic rebate and ongoing work on storm water drainage into Fort Pond. Upcoming events include table at Farmers' Market each Thursday, South Lake water quality open house 1-3pm on Friday, June 10, and SUP/Kayak Paddle on Fort Pond on Saturday, June 18 at 10 am.

Special Presentation by Tim Treadwell, Senior Harbormaster: Following the retirement of Ed Michels, T. Treadwell, a long time member of Marine Patrol, has recently assumed the role of Senior Harbormaster. He reported that **Beach Fires** are an ongoing issue and high priority for Marine Patrol who check every beach fire and speak with people about the Code requirements, but it is difficult to comply with regs about water and debris removal and hard for Marine Patrol to enforce. He believes the regs should be changed to make compliance and enforcement easier. **Beach raking** takes place in downtown Montauk on Monday and Friday and in Ditch on Tuesday and Thursday. **Staffing** issues experienced last year have been addressed by hiring 3 new harbormasters and Treadwell believes that will work. Four officers will be on duty during the day and two at night (week nights until 2am and weekends until 4 am) focused on beach fires. Marine Patrol has two boats on Lake Montauk and two boats in 3 Mile Harbor addressing mooring, safety and search & rescue. **Illegal fishing** has been an issue lately with shellfish poaching last night in Napeague Harbor by 12 people from the City and ongoing lighted night squid fishing in Rod's Valley. The Town Board is in the process of amending the Code to address the night squid fishing using combustible generators which is not currently illegal. The new Administrative Bureau, which is expected to become effective on July 1, will make enforcement of violations more efficient for enforcement officers, enabling them to spend more time in the field. Contact information: ttreadwell@ehtpd.org; 631-537-7575

Old Business:

Beach Subcommittee Report: R. Cortell reported on ongoing concerns relating to beach signs (Town still working on this pending beach smoking ban), garbage pick up at Ditch,

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staffing (will improve Code enforcement), Ditch comfort station (fixed). A request was made for signage on Old Montauk Highway warning no bikes and skateboards permitted on sidewalks for safety reasons. MBPOA has raised concerns with the Highway Department and D. Lys about Verizon damage to dunes and request that the damage be repaired.

Airport Subcommittee Report: T. Creel reported that the Subcommittee had three areas for consideration: 1) they question the premise for Supervisor Van Scoyoc's quoted statement that the majority of Town residents want change to the EH Airport status quo; 2) they ask about the status of the lawsuits filed against the Town, what changes have been made despite the temporary restraining order (TRO) issued by a judge on May 16 against closing the airport, and whether and how the Town will monitor traffic at the Montauk Airport if the EH Airport becomes private; and 3) they ask about the status of Town contact with the owners of the Montauk Airport. D. Lys responded that there will be an update on the airport situation at tomorrow's Town Board meeting, that the Montauk Airport may be able to track airport operations, and that there is no update on contact by the Town with the owners of the Montauk Airport. All activities relating to SEQRA are on hold due to the litigation.

Upon motion by T. Creel, seconded by R. Cortell, and following discussion, the following was adopted on a vote of 19 yeas, 1 nay and 5 abstentions:

Resolved, that the Montauk Citizens' Advisory Committee opposes changes at the East Hampton Airport which will substantially increase flight traffic to Montauk Airport.

Councilperson's Liaison Report: At tomorrow's Town Board meeting, there will be an update on the East Hampton Airport as well as on piping plovers and on "All Hands on Housing". There will be a discussion of long term strategy to create affordable housing units for rent and ownership. There will be a referendum in November to impose a 1/2% transfer tax on home sales over \$1 million to be used for affordable housing. Public input is being sought on the design of the new Senior Community Center to be built on Abrahams Path. Beach update - sand replenishment took place just before Memorial Day weekend; lifeguards will be on duty 9am-5pm on weekends until June 18 when they will be on duty 7 days a week. STOP collection at EH Recycling Center will be on June 25 from 9am to 2pm. Suffolk County has asked the FAA to disable 2 GATR pole lighting. Public hearings are taking place or have recently taken place regarding proposed bans on night fishing and combustible generators and CPF acquisition of 66 East Lake Drive. Beach smoking prohibition has been approved. Downtown parking changes have been approved to make a small number of time limit changes - there will be no paid parking changes this year. Chief Sarlo is looking into acquiring license plate readers for Town-wide use. Energy sustainability - LED street lighting will be changed and the public is invited to weigh in on the test lights on display at Atlantic Beach. Suffolk County Revitalization funding is being sought (\$70,000) to pay for ADA curb cuts and paving on the north side of Carl Fisher Plaza as well as WiFi and electrical hook ups for events. CARP has been unveiled and D. Lys recommends that everyone look at it. Hamlet discussions will begin in September. Montauk Library renovation is a "treasure for Montauk".

New Business: Discussion about four building lots at Ditch on the former site of East Deck.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm upon motion by B. Grimes, seconded by J. Chimples.

The next meeting will be held on July 11, 2022 at 6pm. TBD whether the meeting will be in person or on Zoom.

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Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Wilkov Waterman