

Amagansett Citizens' Advisory Committee
June 13, 2022
Regular Meeting – American Legion Post 419

Members Present: Rona Klopman(Chair), Vicky Littman(Vice Chair), Jaine Mehring, Michael Diesenhaus, Michael Jordan, Gail Jordan, Lena Tabori, Seth Turner, Dana Kalbacher, Carl Hamilton, Tom Fields John Broderick, Tina Piette, James MacMillan, Britton Bistran, Amanda Merrow

Guests: Georgette Moliterno, Nohmi Edwards, Donald Sinnott, Donna Randazzo, Norman Edwards, Cindy Pavia, Bernhard Kiembock, Kim Shaw, Head of Natural Resources

Liaison: Peter Van Scoyoc

Press – Irene Silverman: East Hampton Star, Michael Wright, East Hampton Press

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes-

Tina Piette motion, and Jaine Mehring second. (unanimous)

New Business

Guest -Kim Shaw – Director of Natural Resources Department – Lighting Plan for Amagansett

Kim Shaw presented to the Amagansett Community Advisory Committee information relating to an initiative by the Town of East Hampton in conjunction with the New York Power Authority to convert all street lights to LED. Rona also mentioned the Lighting Sub-committee of ACAC, chaired by John Broderick. Kim shared the draft plan that was received earlier that day, and the things such as the design narrative, analysis, costs, scope 1:1 fixture replacement, and the photometric renderings designed to enhance safety. Once the plan is reviewed, it will be shared with committees. One recommendation is to have uniform light poles. The timeline for the light project is Fall 2022 – or latest Spring 2023. People were encouraged to take a survey – there are lights at Atlantic Beach, and sign with QR code for the survey.

Meeting participants asked a series of questions, and Kim responded. Topics of discussion were environmental sensitivity, metal/wood poles, Bunker Hill example, costs, power sources, excavation, and the work of the committee. Kim Shaw told the group, “You got bad information,” (referring to the lighting committee information about placement of streetlights in Amagansett). Kim mentioned that they now have current information that is more useful. John Broderick asked about the parking lot (not included), types of lights, and scope of work. Peter Van Scoyoc talked about LED lights, Dark Skies, and historic lighting. Seth Turner asked if the savings from switch to

LED would provide savings to pay for the initiative – Peter said, “Yes,” and indicated that the Montauk switch to LED paid for the costs in 5 years. Tina Piette brought up that that was public/private initiative. James MacMillan discussed lighting on the lanes and “light trespass.” Rona mentioned the tax bill indicates a cost for the lighting district – and this brought up a spirited conversation. Mike Diesenhaus asked about the project being bonded, and current charge (taxes) being for consumption. Kim then shared that the modern systems would have a “dashboard” and this could streamline repairs and replacements. John Broderick talked about the lighting in East Hampton, and asked if that was the goal. Jim MacMillan shared that the manufacturer of the lights for Amagansett Square offered to set up a light for consideration.

Kim Shaw’s presentation ended at 7:19 pm.

South Flora/Dolphin Drive Parking

Peter Van Scoyoc mentioned that there is no recommendation before the Town, and that based on issues in 2015 there is no need to revisit this matter. Rona mentioned that a presentation at the Springs CAC by Councilman Lys led to a request for a presentation at ACAC by residents.

Nohmi Edward had a photo distributed of Dolphin Drive Dune, Napeaque, and began to discuss issues of parking in that area. Tina Piette challenged the presentation, leading to Rona to state that Tina was being disruptive, and that she would need to leave the meeting if she could not be quiet.

A presenter (Norm?) continued to discuss issues of parking on Dolphin Lane, including the Nature Preserve, protected species, traffic on the dune, local water relocation plan, and risk of sea level rise.

John Wallace continued with the presentation, discussing the history of parking in that area. Peter Van Scoyoc raised a question on the relevance. Again, a spirited conversation was held.

Britton Bistran asked that the record reflect a concern about the safety and the number of drowning deaths in the Napeaque area. She mentioned 420 hotel rooms in that area, and feels a public beach with lifeguards could be beneficial. Britton mentioned the use of CPF funds to reinvigorate a public beach. Tina Piette agreed that the Town seems under resourced in parking and lifeguarded beaches.

Open Meeting Law/Discussion of Hybrid Meeting

Rona apprised the group that there had been some discussions about hosting a hybrid meeting. It is felt the best method, if desired, would be to work with LTV; however, there is a cost and a scheduling issue. Peter Van Scoyoc mentioned that it seems as though ADA compliance may drive the need for virtual meetings going forward. Mike Diesenhaus felt that the default for a meeting – if hybrid is not possible – should be for a

Zoom meeting. Carl Hamilton raised a concern, that some people will not participate in virtual meetings.

Liaison Report

Peter Van Scoyoc spoke of the upcoming work session, including promotions for four police officers. Peter also discussed the community housing plan, the leaf blower ban and the QR code for the survey for lighting.

Carl Hamilton asked Peter about parking at the Ocean Dunes complex, and the tour buses which park in front of Stephen Talkhouse “all day long.”

Old Business

Lighting Subcommittee – already discussed previously in meeting

Amagansett Mail Delivery Update – Jim MacMillan informed ACAC that information was sent to Fred Thiele’s office, and an appeal has been sent to Connecticut.

Amagansett School Update – Seth Turner thanked the Town of East Hampton for providing traffic control officers for the school year, as it has allowed for the school to have crossing guards each day. This was helpful as there has been construction on Main Street near the school, which has made this more important this year. Seth also discussed school safety, and initiatives taken to harden the school and improve the safety for all students and staff. On May 4, 2022, all East End schools and police departments met at Amagansett School to review school safety, and to make plans for drills and training.

Irene Silverman then asked about the construction – and was informed it relates to drainage. Carl Hamilton asked if the debris left for staging near the Atlantic Beach parking lot will be removed (Peter believes so – but will confirm).

Planning/Zoning Board Report – Jaine Mehring updated ACAC on relevant issues. A discussion about work at the Devon Yacht Club in Wainscott was held.

Rona announced that there is a Blood Drive at the American Legion on Monday, July 11th – and so the ACAC Meeting will be held at Amagansett School on July 11th.

At 8:22 the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by ACAC member Seth Turner