

WAINSCOTT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



WCAC Meeting Minutes August 5, 2023
In person, Wainscott Chapel

Members of the Committee:

Present: José Arandia, Lori Anne Czepiel, Dennis D'Andrea, Barry Frankel, Anthony Liberatore, Carolyn Logan Gluck, Pam Mahoney, Barry Raebeck, Bruce Solomon, Phil Young

Excused: Hersey Egginton, Sally Sunshine

Elected Official: Deputy Supervisor Kathee Burke-Gonzalez

Members of the Public: David M. Brodsky, Ron Franklin, Marie-José Hunter, Katy Kamen, Judith Lanier, Mike Mahoney, Jaine Mehring, Morgan O'Connell, Chrissy Sampson, EH Star, Jeffrey Smith, Lori Weinstein, Mike Wright, EH Press

WCAC Chair Carolyn Logan Gluck opened the meeting, held in Wainscott Chapel at 9:03 AM. with a special thanks to Councilwoman Kathee Burke Gonzalez for representing the East Hampton Town Board.

There was a discussion about the details of the Wainscott Sewing Society rummage sale, and all were encouraged to donate and attend. Carolyn indicated that the drop off would be Friday August 18, the day before the sale and would check on tax forms.

The Hamptons Pride 3rd annual Tea Dance will be held on August 27 from 4 to 7 P.M. at the Wainscott Green.

Deborah Haab, school superintendent, was invited to speak at the meeting but declined, indicating that she was not prepared to speak and directed us to the information already available on the school website.

Member Jose Arandia informed us of an upcoming Library budget vote on September 23rd. and encouraged everyone to vote.

A card for Councilwoman Sylvia Overby was passed to attendees to sign and pen a note of encouragement.

It was noted that Member Dennis D'Andrea led the recent Pride Parade with his Model A.

Minutes for the last two meetings were approved.

Councilwoman Kathee Burke Gonzalez gave the liaison report. Zoning recommendations and planning are upcoming discussions as well as over clearing and tree protection. There have been nonstop calls to the police for service. Several special events permits have been issued for clam bakes at Beach Lane Beach, the Tea, the ARF Ball, the Honey Harvest Festival at the airport and a surf camp at Beach Lane Beach. It is status quo regarding airport litigation with a pending contempt order and the FAA extending the ruling. Member Arandia questioned how one person could decide what steps are appropriate or not, considering 80% of the community wanted modification of the airport, asking why can't we go back to the original declaration? SEQRA is still proceeding according to Councilwoman Burke Gonzalez. Member Czepiel wondered what was happening to air traffic to Montauk. There were questions about a relationship between Blade and Montauk. Member Liberatore commented on the planes pulling banners over the beach considering the recent crash of a similar plane in NH. That activity is reportedly regulated only by the FAA. The air noise complaint report, an early spring presentation to the board, did not happen this year. The noise consultant is HMMH. It was noted that there are 3 entities that air noise can be reported to.

The Maidstone Gun Club is still closed under a temporary restraining order with nothing changing in the immediate future. Litigation is still in the discovery stage and a T.R.O. modification was unsuccessful. The town is a co defendant and Peter van Scoyoc has recused himself. The 30-year lease between the gun club and the town was negotiated decades ago before many existing houses were there. Member Raebeck stated that the issue is renewal, and the property is a problem in terms of noise, pollution, danger, and lead. He indicated that the lease states that the club cannot pollute. Councilwoman Burke Gonzalez supports police training there and suggested that someone from the police department possibly speak before the WCAC. She indicated that the status quo is not acceptable and substantial modification is needed but there are currently only 3 town board members able to deal with it. Member Liberatore asked if the club could be closed, with the town simply not renewing the lease? The town opposed an environmental review. There should be proof that lead isn't getting into the ground water and town involvement looks bad. Chair Logan Gluck would like community input before the lease is renewed. Jaine Mehring asked if there would be a public hearing or revalue on the property. Member Raebeck indicated that the property was a good location for renewables.

Member Czepiel expressed concern about all the dead trees near the airport. Councilwoman Burke Gonzalez will check on it.

We were encouraged to let the ARB know that we want hearings on properties that are of concern to Wainscott. We should also be aware that 133 Sayres Path and 64 Beach Lane are both coming up before the ZBA on August 15. Jaine Mehring indicated that fines simply are not adequate and mentioned staking of clearing on surveys. Member Solomon asked if a project could be stopped if there is too much clearing. Chairwoman Logan Gluck recognized Jaine's efforts. Jaine feels that the board needs to be supported in their efforts by the public.

Member Liberatore had no report on traffic but reminded us to lock our cars and spoke of a letter to the board to change speed limits to 25 mph.

Chair Logan Gluck has a map of the proposed stop signs, crosswalks, and rumble strips. Member Arandia asked how many people attending have been overtaken on Main Street and the result was close to unanimous. He indicated that the state didn't have a say in the installation of the speed bumps in

Sagaponack and that some stop sign suggestions had been removed from the equation. Member Czepiel recommended we drive to the locations where stop signs have been recommended. Councilwoman Burke Gonzalez offered to have the IT department produce a mockup. There was discussion of the difference between humps and bumps and the effectiveness of rumble strips. Member Arandia would like a compilation to present to the town board, looking to see what we can achieve at the town level. Member Czepiel wondered if the project can be done in stages. It was recognized that Main Street near the school is a big issue. Member Raebeck feels that many of the traffic problems in Wainscott stem from installation of the traffic light at the intersection of Wainscott NW and route 27 and would like to see a roundabout constructed in that location. The postmaster suggested placing a vacant cruiser to help calm speeds.

The meeting was adjourned.