

**Southampton Village Environmental Committee  
Zoom Meeting  
Southampton, NY  
March 30, 2021  
5:00pm**

**MINUTES**

The Village Environmental Committee (EC) Zoom meeting was held on March 30, 2021, Southampton, NY at 5:00 PM. Present were Mayor Jesse Warren, Trustee Joe McLoughlin, Miranda Weber, Assistant to the Mayor, Josh Halsey, Peconic Land Trust and EC members: John Halsey, Daniela Kronemeyer and Tom Louthan.

1. Review February 16, 2021 Environmental Committee minutes: The minutes from the February 16, 2021 EC meeting were accepted.
2. Old Town Pond water quality project:
  - Tom Louthan said that a grants application meeting was held with Mayor Warren, Gary Goleski and Jennifer Mesiano Higham. Grant applications were submitted for the wetland water quality project. The total cost is estimated at \$928K, with \$883K applied for from the New York State Green Innovation Grant Program and a \$98K Village 10% match (possible Town Community Preservation Funds). Tom Louthan noted that Holly Peterson is conducting fund-raising with Old Town Pond residents towards Village expense of \$16,300 to cover the costs of the Roux Environmental Engineering wetland proposal, and is coordinating with the Peconic Land Trust. Holly expects to obtain commitments in April.
  - John Halsey explained that the Peconic Land Trust operates as a fiscal agent for funds received from Old Town Pond residents, as the Village cannot accept funds directly. Holly may also begin fund raising for Green Innovation water quality project costs.
3. Environmental priorities: On March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Environmental Committee and Clean Water Task Force provided the Mayor/Board of Trustees with recommendations for their consideration regarding Village 2021 – 2022 environmental and water quality priorities.
  - The environmental priorities contain current cost estimates to aid upcoming budget deliberations. Tom Louthan suggested that the recommendations be shared with the Village Budget & Finance Committee.
  - The Village Wastewater and Sewer District Map and Plan may require an update to 2017 Village Water Quality Study by Stony Brook University for Lake Agawam, Old Town Pond & Wickapogue Pond.

- Mayor Warren discussed the Village 2021-2022 budget and noted that the Village has a \$3.7M operating surplus. One recommendation for consideration by the Board of Trustees is to reserve these surplus funds for environmental water quality issues, including making a down payment on a new Village sewer system. The Board of trustees would also prepare a three-year capital spending plan this year.
4. Environmental Committee web site: Tom Louthan will send updates for the Village web site to Miranda Weber, who will work with Cathy Sweeney to make the changes.
  5. Southampton Arts Center exhibit, eARTh – Artists as Activists: The exhibit will open on April 17 and close on July 11, 2021, featuring artists focused on environmental conservation.
    - Daniela Kronemeyer will be a curator for the exhibit. Sponsors include Drawdown East End, Peconic Land Trust and others.
    - Daniela will coordinate with Miranda Weber, as Mayor Warren and Trustee Joe McLoughlin are interested in participating on a panel in mid-June 2021 (preferably on a Friday) with Town Trustee Ann Welker and others. Daniela will ask Rob Coburn if he is available to participate.
    - Daniela will also work with Miranda Weber to arrange a CCTV live stream of the panel. The Lake Agawam Conservancy has a YouTube video, Saving Our Lake, which could be shown during the panel: <https://lakeagawam.org>. Daniela will contact the Lake Agawam Conservancy and follow up. The Environmental Committee has several water quality slides that can be used for the program materials.
  6. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM. The next EC Zoom meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 5:00pm.