

**Southampton Village Environmental Committee &  
Clean Water Task Force  
Zoom Meeting  
Southampton, NY  
September 14, 2021  
5:00pm**

**MINUTES**

The Village Environmental Committee (EC) Zoom meeting was held on September 14, 2021, Southampton, NY at 5:00 PM. Present were Gary Goleski, Superintendent, Department of Public Works, Josh Halsey, Peconic Land Trust and EC members: Rob Coburn, John Halsey, Tom Louthan and Holly Peterson.

1. Review August 17, 2021 Environmental Committee minutes: The minutes from the August 17, 2021 EC meeting were accepted.
2. Review letter to Town of Southampton Community Preservation Manager in support of Old Town Pond water quality project: Rob Coburn suggested that a detailed reference be added to the letter about the Old Town Pond 2020 Management Plan that was approved and adopted by the Village Mayor and Trustees in December 2020. The plan includes a constructed treatment wetland project as a recommended action item.
  - Tom Louthan will revise the letter, submit it by mail and email it to the Town Community Preservation Fund manager.
  - Old Town Pond Neighbors plan to submit a separate letter to the Town supporting the wetland. Rob Coburn and Holly Peterson will coordinate approval of a letter by the neighbors via email, and for those who agree, will add their names as signatories.
3. Establish Featured Project for Old Town Pond restoration donations on Peconic Land Trust web site: John Halsey said that Peconic Land Trust has started to organize an Old Town Pond donation web page on their site.
  - Holly Peterson has held meetings with Old Town Pond neighbors over the last three weeks and may set up a Gmail account for group communications. Holly suggested that the Featured Project could be called "Restore Old Town Pond."
  - John Halsey requested some narrative about the first steps to restore Old Town Pond. Rob Coburn and Holly Peterson will prepare a few paragraphs on the Old Town Pond dredging study and sediment removal, Green Infrastructure project for planting bioswales and Old Town Pond water quality project, which includes a constructed treatment wetland. These projects involve over \$3M in potential grants, with a projected Village match of over \$300K.

- Old Town Pond Neighbors want to be part of the solution and a goal for the group could be to provide \$150K towards the Village \$300K match, and beyond if needed.
- Donation buttons will be set up at different levels from \$100 to \$2,500. A separate link with several higher levels for more substantial donations will be available as well.
- Gary Goleski suggested that an Old Town Pond donation flyer could also be displayed at Village Hall.

#### 4. Next Steps:

- Tom Louthan mentioned that Charles McGuckin, Roux Environmental Engineering, and Peter Campbell, Z-Filter Environmental Solutions, are preparing an Old Town Pond dredging plan with additional testing requirements for the Village Mayor/Board of Trustees.
- Gary Goleski noted that Chic Voorhis, from Nelson, Pope & Voorhis, may make a presentation on dredging Lake Agawam at the September 21<sup>st</sup> Mayor/Board of Trustees meeting.
- Gary Goleski reported that the Old Town Pond bioswale planting is on track for the north and south ends in November 2021. Gary is very pleased that several Advanced Placement students from Southampton High School have requested to assist with the bioswale installation.
- Rob Coburn suggested that there may be an opportunity for Old Town Pond Neighbors to promote the installation of a floating island in 2022. The involvement of Advanced Placement students from Southampton High School and Old Town Pond Neighbors, would be welcomed. Additionally, a block party could be held in May or June 2022 at Old Town Pond - North to celebrate the bioswale installation and other first steps to restore Old Town Pond.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM. The next EC Zoom meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at 5:00pm.