

**Southampton Village Environmental Committee &
Clean Water Task Force
Zoom Meeting
Southampton, NY
November 16, 2021
5:00pm**

MINUTES

The Village Environmental Committee (EC) Zoom meeting was held on November 16, 2021, Southampton, NY at 5:00 PM. Present were Mayor Warren, Gary Goleski, Superintendent, Department of Public Works, Josh Halsey, Peconic Land Trust and EC members: Rob Coburn and Tom Louthan.

1. November 16, 2021 Environmental Committee minutes: The minutes from the November 16, 2021 EC meeting were accepted.
2. Old Town Pond Update: Mayor Warren discussed Old Town Pond developments, focusing on Community Preservation Funds for a wetland and dredging.
 - At an October CPF hearing, the Town WQIP Committee recommendation on the wetland is to have two rounds of CPF funding. For 2021, \$136,500 CPF funds; then over 8-10 months, complete wetland data collection, design and cost projection. In 2022, the Village could bid wetland project on actual cost, and CPF provide additional funding support (CPF funding availability will be higher in 2022, because of the record CPF 2021 year).
 - Roux submitted a proposal of \$136,500 to fund wetland project through design, permitting and construction bidding phase and a proposal of \$79,100 to prepare permitting, design and construction bid documents for dredging Old Town Pond.
 - Mayor Warren suggested that the Committee could consider adding a floating island project for Old Town Pond. Tom Louthan said that the 2020 Old Town Pond Management Plan has a projected a cost of \$50,000 for a floating island project at Old Town Pond. Discussions with Roux Environmental Engineering last summer indicate that the cost could be scaled to \$35,000 and include Old Town Pond neighbors and Southampton student involvement with final installation.
 - Gary Goleski said that installation of the bioswales at the north and south ends of Lake Agawam could begin this month and be completed by Spring 2022. Holly Peterson and Peconic Land Trust representatives could arrange a meeting with Old Town Neighbors in May 2022 to celebrate the bioswale installation.

- Rob Coburn emphasized the importance of having environmental signage posted at Old Town Pond to educate the community about using bioswales for stormwater drainage control and identify native plantings. Josh Halsey commented that Peconic Land Trust has recently added environmental signage a local project and could assist. The Committee could also reach out to the Lake Agawam Conservancy to confer with them on signage.
3. 2021-2022 Environmental & Clean Water Priorities List. The list was reviewed for updates and new priorities.

Lake Agawam:

- Hydrogen Peroxide treatment for Harmful Algal Blooms & Ultrasonic Devices – the first hydrogen peroxide treatment was a good result (paid by the Lake Agawam Conservancy), the second application less so (paid by the Village). The Lake Agawam Conservancy is considering whether to have additional treatments next year and if so, may assume the costs. Also, the performance of the ultrasonic devices is being reviewed.
- Permeable Reactive Barrier – the watershed management plan and groundwater study are being developed by Nelson, Pope & Voorhis. These documents will be important for the Village to include in grant applications, especially to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Gin Lane Project – this month, Mayor/Board of Trustees approved by resolution the Gin Lane project Phase I & 2 plans, and a joint partnership with Lake Agawam Conservancy for additional management and oversight of the vegetation that will be installed at the Conservancy’s sole expense.
- Lake Agawam Dredging Project – testing revealed that the sediment is contaminated with lead and arsenic. Additional work needs to be done by Nelson, Pope & Voorhis to develop options for dredging at the north end of Lake Agawam.
- Algae Harvester – Meetings were held with AECOM representatives regarding the use of an algae harvester by the Village. An algae harvester successfully removed cyanobacteria and toxins during a ten-day pilot program by AECOM in 2019. The algae harvester is portable and could be used at Lake Agawam, Old Town Pond and other Village and Town water bodies.

Village Water Quality Reserve: the surplus of \$3.7 Million will be used to support water quality projects in 2022-2023. Work is progressing well on the Village capital budget and a hearing is scheduled for December.

Sewer District Map & Plan: The 2017 Village Water Quality study by Stony Brook University needs to be conducted in conjunction with the Village Sewer District map and plan, due in April 2022.

- The Village Water Quality study could also be an appendix to a Village-wide Watershed master plan and groundwater study being developed by Nelson, Pope & Voorhis.

Stormwater Drainage: Rob Coburn suggested that there should be additional catch basins installed around the Village to improve stormwater drainage.

- There are heavy flows and flooding during storms, especially at the Hill Street area. Gary Goleski agreed and noted that the Hampton Road area would benefit from the addition of five or six catch basins.
- Rob Coburn will make a recommendation to the Village Comprehensive Master Plan Committee.

Circulation of drafts for EC review: Tom Louthan and Rob Coburn will prepare and circulate a draft of the 2022-2023 Environmental & Clean Water Priorities, along with correspondence to the Mayor/Board of Trustees.

- A summary and chart of projected costs will be included. The final versions should be submitted before the Mayor/Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for December 9th.
- Copies will be shared with the Village Budget & Finance, Comprehensive Master Plan & Climate Action Committees.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM. The next EC Zoom meeting will be scheduled in December 2021.