

**Southampton Village Clean Water Committee
Village Hall Board Room
23 Main Street
Southampton, NY
March 11, 2020
5:00pm**

MINUTES

The Clean Water Committee (CWC) meeting was held on March 11, 2020 at Village Hall Boardroom, 23 Main Street, Southampton, NY, 5:00 PM. Present were Peter Campbell, Marc Chiffert, Gary Goleski, Jill Kampf, Kevin McAllister. CWC members: Rob Coburn, Josh Halsey, Tom Louthan (by phone), Pete Topping.

1. Review February 4, 2020 CWC minutes. The minutes from the February 4, 2020 CWC meeting were accepted.
2. Final DEC Lake Agawam 2020 Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan. The Village Board of Trustees met on March 2nd for a presentation on the HAB action plan by the DEC and Lake Agawam Conservancy Board members.
 - Comments on the DEC Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan Version 8 are due to Gary Goleski, and the plan will continue to be edited in an ongoing fashion. A joint public hearing with the Village and Town Trustees will be held in early April.
 - Rob Coburn distributed a Fact Sheet on all bodies of water in the Village. This will provide the foundation for a Village-wide water quality improvement plan to be adopted by the Village, as referenced in the HAB action plan, Lake Agawam Priority Projects.
3. Old Town Pond 2020 Management Plan. Tom Louthan is drafting an Old Town Pond 2020 management plan, summary and slide. Rob Coburn and others are assisting, and a draft should be available to circulate to the CWC by March 27, 2020.
 - When approved by the Village Board of Trustees, the management plan will be posted on the Village website by the CWC.
 - After the Old Town Pond management plan is approved, Tom Louthan and Rob Coburn will take the lead on a plan for Wickapogue Pond.
 - Rob Coburn and Pete Topping will develop a plan for Heady & Taylor Creeks and will consult with Shavonne Smith, Director, Shinnecock Environmental Department. Southampton Town CPF funds could be available for a clean water project.

- Gary Goleski gave a summary about the Old Town Pond Green Infrastructure project and stormwater drainage improvements, which would establish bioswales in Old Town Pond – North and Old Town Pond – South. In addition, two Grass-PAVE2 permeable parking areas would be created near current parking areas for Old Town Pond – East, and the Dock/Walkway at the North end would be repaired. A Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program grant was approved on February 25, 2020; the Village will apply for Southampton Town CPF funds for match commitment.
 - Tom Louthan noted that the CWC advised the Village Board of Trustees in January 2020 that an appropriation of \$60,000 for testing, engineering and feasibility studies related to water quality to restore Village lake and ponds should be set forth within Board of Trustees Special Projects, line item A1010.2. If established, this could be used to update the 2017 Village Water Quality study by Stony Brook University, which included Old Town Pond.
4. Hydrogen peroxide, ultrasonic devices for Harmful Algal Bloom treatment of Old Town Pond. Rob Coburn distributed a summary on the effectiveness of using hydrogen peroxide or ultrasonic waves for Harmful Algal Bloom treatment of Old Town Pond.
- In 2018, under the New York Governor’s HAB initiative, the Department of Environmental Conservation piloted ultrasonic devices on two waterbodies in New York State. Ultrasonic devices emit high frequency sound waves that impact cyanobacteria movement in the water column. Based on these preliminary results and additional research questions, DEC is planning to deploy multiple, larger ultrasonic devices on a waterbody in 2020. DEC anticipates that reports will be finalized in Fall 2020.
 - Hydrogen Peroxide/Ultrasonic treatments could be done twice in the summer season, at \$200,000 a treatment. For Lake Agawam, the Lake Agawam Conservancy would pay for 50% and the Village for 50% (DEC does not pay for those treatments). Using chemicals in a lake or pond has to be cleared by the Town & Village Trustees.
5. Dredging options for Old Town Pond. Tom Louthan noted that there is an approved grant for a Lake Agawam dredging feasibility study. Nelson, Pope & Voorhis conducted a survey of Lake Agawam sediment in Summer 2019 and released an initial dredging assessment report in November 2019. Gary Goleski will inquire about including Old Town Pond in the dredging feasibility study.
- Kevin McAllister, President of Defend H2O and a former Peconic Baykeeper, said that DEC has published guidance for dredging,

focusing on sediment type, core sampling and determining the state of the waterbody bottom. The key is to determine the level of contamination and how to best handle the sediment for disposal.

- Kevin McAllister spoke about discharging the Old Town Pond sediments to the Old Town beach. Experts would be consulted on the level of contamination in the sediment and rate of discharge; it may be possible to safely mix the sediment with ocean water. Apparently, the DEC has been involved with some projects on Long Island where there was discharge of sediments into the ocean. Tom Louthan said that there should be a better way to accomplish the dredging of Old Town Pond so as not to disturb the beach and ocean environment.
- Peter Campbell spoke about Z-filter, a filtering and de-watering system that his company uses for lake/pond dredging. Peter advised that the focus should be on the composition of the dredging sediment. If there are low levels of contaminants, through the filtering and treatment process, the science might support discharging the sediment into the ocean. A rigorous study would have to be done so that it is understood what will happen if there is discharge into the ocean.
- Marc Chiffert commented that discharging into the ocean involves many components and careful study. While disposing of sediment into a landfill may cost more because of transportation and other costs, for our community it would be considered as an option.
- Peter Campbell agreed that we need to look at all the options and first determine how deep the sediments are and the composition of the sediment at the bottom. The Z-filter machines have conveyor belts on wheels, and several machines can operate at the same time. He described the process of treating the waste material, which comes off the Z-filter machine, and testing is done to see if additional treatment is needed before filtrate is discharged back into a pond. A DEC permit is required for the filtrate to discharge back into the pond.
- Pete Topping commented that if we could find a way to solve the dredging with less problems, we should do it. Jill Kampf said that we need to do a comprehensive study. Rob Coburn agreed and said that water quality testing had to be done, and the key is to determine the composition of the sediment. Tom Louthan said that the timing is good for the CWC to develop an Old Town Pond management plan and set forth all the options.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM. The next CWC meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at Village Hall, 23 Main Street, Southampton, NY.