

**North Sea Citizens Advisory Committee  
Town of Southampton  
164 Fish Cove Road & • 18 Pine Tree Road Southampton, New York  
11968**

**Lucille Dunne  
John Watson  
Co-Chairs**

**631-283-5978 or 631-283-3566**

**Minutes November 11, 2014 Meeting**

**Barbara Fair  
Secretary**

The meeting opened at 7:33 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members**

**John Barona  
Joan Barra\*\*  
Mary Beatty\*\*  
Declan Blackmore  
Joan Brennan\*\*  
Susan Colledge  
Sheila Comparetto  
John Clarke  
Daniel Gebbia  
Mark Matthews  
Stephanie McNamara**

The Minutes of the October 13, 2014 meeting were approved as amended.

**Ann Reisman  
Frank Palmer**

**Arlene Schroeder  
Mary E. Topping\*\***

**Town Committee Reports**

**Housing.** As questions about the “Section 8” program have been expressed in recent NSCAC meetings, a member provided copies of HUD’s 2014 Section 8 income guidelines and “Fair Market” rent schedules for Suffolk County. Families whose household incomes are at or lower than the guidelines may be eligible for rental assistance under the program.

HUD’s 2014 Section 8 calculations start with the Median Income for Suffolk County, which is \$105,100 a year for a family of four. Working from this figure, HUD calculates “Low Income” (80% of the median income) as a maximum income of \$75,200 for a family of four. Similarly, “Very Low Income” (50% of median income) tops out at \$52,550 for a family of four, and the “Extremely Low Income” category (30% of median income) maxes out at \$31,550 for a family of four. For a two-person household, the respective numbers are: Low Income - \$60,200; Very Low Income - \$42,050; Extremely Low Income - \$25,250.

HUD 2014 Fair Market rents are as follows: Efficiency - \$1,033; 1 Bedroom - \$1,309; 2 Bedroom - \$1,613; 3 Bedroom - \$2,097; and 4 Bedroom - \$2,415. Eligible households with Section 8 vouchers must find appropriately sized rentals within these price ranges and pay a portion of the rent equal to 30% of their adjusted gross income. The Section 8 program pays the balance of the rent directly to the landlord.

**Landmarks and Historic Preservation – Tupper Boathouse.**

Paperwork documenting the over \$400,000 grant for Superstorm Sandy repairs to the Tupper Boathouse is expected to come through this month. The Town Engineer, Christine Fetten, and Mark Mathews, AIA, are already working on an RFP for the work. The terms of the grant require the Town to perform the proposed work and then submit documentation to NYS for reimbursement. In the meantime, the State has announced another round of “Sandy” historic preservation grants which the Town may apply for.

**Sustainability.** *Newsday* lauded Town Supervisor Anna Throne Holst for spearheading a regional approach to banning plastic bags. The proposed ban on

\*denotes Seasonal Member  
\*\*denotes ex-officio member

plastic bags is moving forward with a public hearing November 25 to discuss the issue. The focus is on “T-Shirt” type non-biodegradable bags; produce bags and heavier plastic bags with handles would still be permitted. Quite a few local governmental entities, including Shelter Island and Sagaponack Village, have expressed interest in banning plastic bags. The Town is simultaneously pursuing an educational approach in the schools, however as Flanders is in the Riverhead S.D., the message is not reaching Flanders school children.

**Solid Waste.** The DEC has responded to the Town’s Solid Waste Management Plan submitted over three years ago for their review.

**Airport Noise.** Articles have appeared in *Newsday* about the aircraft noise complaints on the East End. There are many complaints from our area; in East Hampton, the most complaints are from Georgica. The Town of East Hampton has suggested that pilots use alternate routes. An earlier grant from the FAA to East Hampton for airport improvements came with certain obligations; these restrictions will expire shortly enabling the Town of East Hampton to set reasonable limits on routes and hours of airport operation.

**Unimproved Roads.** The Request for Proposals (RFP) generated four responses from engineering firms. After disqualifying one bidder and meeting with the remaining three, all bids were rejected. A new RFP will be prepared. In Riverhead, the Town Board voted to take 79 roads into their highway system based on Sec. 189 of the NYS highways law which defines a road as a “highway in use” if the public has been driving over it and the Town has been maintaining it.

**Disabilities.** No Report.

**CAC Chairs.** The group did not meet. However, the Chairs were notified that the Town will be going forward with a lottery to offer septic system upgrades to 19 homeowners.

### **Old Business**

**Little Fresh Pond – Southampton Day Camp Expansion Update.** The SEQRA review for the property is due in January.

### **New Business**

**Future Use of CPF Funds.** The current CPF legislation will expire in 2030. It is widely anticipated that by then most, if not all, property eligible for preservation as open space will have been acquired by the Town. Assemblyman Fred Thiele has proposed that, after 2030, the fund be used for drinking water protection. A guest proposed an alternative: that the funds be used to create a down payment assistance program similar to one implemented in San Francisco, another high-cost housing area. The City of San Francisco offers down payment assistance in partnership with the homeowners to make homeownership affordable for first responders and others.

**Stahecki Property.** A member observed that the owner hasn't done any work since the DEC was there to inspect. Grass clippings, horse manure and Southampton Village Leaves are still being dumped at the property. The CAC is concerned about the tax change to the property to storage when the property has been residentially zoned for many years and was the subject of a \$77,000 fine due to code enforcement violations in the early 2000's. There is even a tap street from the Cove Neck estates subdivision into this property. Additionally, it has been observed that the monitoring well sites which used to have PVC pipes extending about 2 feet into the air have been covered or removed. This property needs to be monitored closely by all departments.

**NSCAC Membership.** The Towns will be re-appointing the membership for the 2015 year soon - a list of everyone who is staying on will be submitted. The group discussed members who have not attended a sufficient number of meetings and the chair will be contacting them before our next meeting;

**North Sea Community Association.** Sally Spanburg will speak to the North Sea Community Association on December 1 about the implications of and process for historic designation for the North Sea Community House. Tom Edmunds of the Historical Museum will also attend to discuss plans for celebrating the 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Southampton's first settlers' landing at Conscience Point. Mr. Edmunds envisions the North Sea community, Town officials and the Shinnecock nation participating in festivities planned for June 13, 2015.

The North Sea Community Association will hold a holiday party and tree lighting celebration at 5 pm November 29. Santa and Mrs. Claus will join the festivities, cookies, hot cocoa, cider, and cheese and crackers will be served. All are welcome, there is no charge.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm

**Present:** John Clarke, Sheila Comparetto, Lucy Dunne, Barbara Fair, Dan Gebbia, Mark Matthews, Frank Palmer, Ann Reisman, John Watson

**Excused:** John Barona, Declan Blackmore, Stephanie McNamara, Arlene Schroeder, Mary Topping,

**Guests:** Justice Phillips, Ray Clare