

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

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

**Agenda**

**Lucille Dunne  
John Watson  
Co-Chairs**

**Barbara Fair  
Secretary**

**North Sea Citizens Advisory Committee**

**Minutes of January 14, 2014 Meeting**

**Members**

**John Barona**

**Joan Barra\*\***

**Mary Beatty**

**Joan Brennan\*\***

**John Clarke**

**Daniel Gebbia**

**Stephanie McNamara**

**Ann Reisman**

**Frank Palmer**

**Arlene Schroeder**

**Mary E. Topping**

The meeting opened at 7:40 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting were approved.

**Speakers and Guests:** Councilwoman Christine Scalera, Director of Municipal Works Christine Fetten, and Councilman Stan Glinka

**New Business**

**North Sea Watershed Study.**

Councilwoman Scalera and Town Director of Municipal Works, Engineer Fetten presented information on the North Sea Sub-Watershed Management Study being conducted by the consulting firm Horsley Witten Group, of Sandwich, Massachusetts and funded by the Suffolk County Peconic Estuary Program. The purpose of the study of North Sea Harbor and other Town watersheds is to comply with provisions of the Town's Municipal Separate Storm and Sewer System (MS4) permit. In addition to identifying site-specific remedial installations, the Town is required to undertake an educational effort focused on specific concerns.

North Sea Harbor is considered "impaired by pathogens and nitrogen" but is not a "hot spot". The consultant conducted a field assessment in our area, looking for eight locations to install "best management practices" such as vegetative buffers and swales. At this time, the study is "very conceptual" and focuses on roadways. Efforts to reduce impervious pavement is a goal that has to be discussed with the Superintendent of Highways.

Several locations are under consideration. At the Conscience Point Marina and boatyard, there are opportunities to enhance existing drainage and bio-swales. Also suggested are removing the informal boat launching ramp at the Marina, leaving one formal boat ramp and installing a vegetative buffer between the parking area and harbor. Additional measures could include providing pet waste bags to reduce pathogens from that source and placing purple martin houses to attract birds to control flying insects.

Town-owned sites adjacent to roadways and bridges also provide opportunities to create vegetative bio-swales to pre-treat road runoff and mitigate migration of pathogens into waterways. A vegetated bio-swale could be created adjacent to the

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

Alewife Dreen at the intersection of Noyac Road and North Sea Road. Similar opportunities exist at the intersection of Jennings Road and North Sea Road, (although there are possible utility conflicts in that location) and the triangle where Towd Point Road intersects with North Sea Road.

Proposals being considered for sites owned by local community organizations include rain gardens at the North Sea Fire Department field off Straight Path and at the North Sea Community House. These could provide “teaching moments” for other members of the community. However, members raised the question of who would be responsible to maintain rain gardens and whether the installations would interfere with the operations of these entities.

Discussions continued about other sites with potential for mitigating the flow of pathogens into our waterways: the boat launch at the end of Shore Road, the triangle where Towd Point Road intersects with Noyac Road, and the several vehicle paths from the end of Towd Point Road onto the beach, which could be reduced to one, the others being fenced off and planted with native vegetation. Storm water mitigation concepts for additional sites on Fish Cove Road, Cove Road, and Little Fresh Pond Road were also in the consultant’s initial list. Opportunities will be discussed with the Highway Superintendent on Friday, January 17 to see what is feasible.

The membership suggested additional sites deserving serious consideration.

- The Town owns a wetlands-adjointing site off North Sea Road adjacent to the former Jet East nightclub. These wetlands drain into Big Fresh Pond.
- The Peconic Bay terminus of Peconic Bay Avenue may be appropriate for drainage or a swale.
- A swale was supposed to have been installed a buffer on the site adjoining the Market at the corner of Little Fresh Pond Road.
- The Highway Barn on North Sea Road is notorious for flooding in heavy rains. One severe March rainstorm flooded the Barn and equipment with several feet of water and contributing to flooding in the adjacent neighborhood that persisted for over a month making homeowner’s toilets unusable. The Community is concerned that oil, gasoline and other waste entered the waterways during that event and will continue to do so in future heavy rains. Subsequently, at the NSCAC’s urging, the Town commissioned an engineering firm to prepare a mitigation plan. Those mitigation measures have not been implemented and should be considered for funding.

The Watershed Study’s educational component addresses the following topics:

- Pet Waste – dog waste is related to e.coli contamination of water bodies. Everyone should pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly.
- Pest Management – an environmentally sensitive approach to pest management relies less on chemicals and more on habitat modification, crop rotation and natural enemies, such as purple martins and guinea hens, to control insect pests.
- Goose Management – The Town Code prohibits feeding geese on Town property, but geese should not be fed anywhere! Geese prefer to have a clear line of sight to water, and want to be able to walk into the water. A two-foot

vegetated buffer between turf areas and water will often discourage them from feeding on the turf. Other passive means of discouraging geese include attaching Mylar streamers to 3' stakes, 18-36" balloons, remote controlled aircraft, dogs, swans and pelicans (although the latter are rarely seen on Long Island).

Moving onto other topics, the Membership discussed the planned roadway revisions at the Cromer's Market curve and the pervasive problem of speeding on Noyac Road. Suggestions included reducing the speed limit and/or installing street calming measures. However, the solution most strongly advocated by the Membership to Councilwoman Scalera was for vigorous, ongoing enforcement of the existing speed limits, believed to be the only effective way to control speeding.

### **Town Committee Reports**

**Housing.** A recent resignation from the Housing Authority Board leaves the Board with just three members. There are two vacancies to be filled.

**Sustainable Growth.** After many hearings, the Town Council has adopted the Sustainability Plan, now a new chapter of the Towns' Master Plan. Member Ann Reisman reported that Janice Sher in the Planning Department was very helpful during the process. The Town will be looking at activities suggested; more hearings will be required to implement any of the recommendations. The Sustainability Plan can be reviewed online.

**Solid Waste.** The December meeting was cancelled.

**Airport Noise.** No report.

**Unimproved Roads.** The next steps are to develop a draft Request for Proposals for an Engineering Study and to "take the temperature" of residents' interest in road improvements.

**Disabilities.** No report.

**CAC Chairs.** The CAC chairs did not meet.

**Tupper Boathouse.** The Committee will meet Thursday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm.

### **New Business**

**Bamboo.** The explosive growth and destructive impact of certain plant species, including Japanese Knotweed, phragmites, and most varieties of bamboo greatly concerns the Membership. Other Long Island towns have banned planting Bamboo. The Membership plans to study the issue further and investigate whether to recommend a Town-wide prohibition/elimination of bamboo.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

Present: John Barona, John Clarke, Lucy Dunne, Barbara Fair,  
Dan Gebbia, Frank Palmer, Ann Reisman, Mary Topping

Excused: Mary Beatty, Stephanie McNamara, Arlene Schroeder