

East Quogue Citizens Advisory Committee

Minutes of April 15, 2015

Present: Joan Hughes, Carol Combes, Richard Combes, Geraldine Jack, Tom Jack, Joyce Roper

Guests: Lynn Arthur, Scott Carlin, Ron Kass, Bill Kearns, Julie Lofstad, Sheila Lyons, Barbara Marks, Kevin McAllister

OLD BUSINESS

- Minutes of the March 11 meeting were accepted.
- There will be a scoping session for The Hills project on Tuesday, May 5, at 6pm in Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

- Lynn Arthur, of the Southampton Town Sustainability Committee, thanked the supporters who were present for endorsing the ban on plastic bags in Southampton Town. The campaign is called "*We Bag to Differ*". The ban goes into effect on April 22, 2015, and she asked us all to remind and inform others of this information. She provided us with reusable bags and posters, and notified us of promotional videos that will be on the Town website. Stores will have different protocols for use of paper bags. The Town Clerk's office has pamphlets that can be distributed to our shops on Main Street. She also offered that there may be a "rollout" aimed at summer visitors. There will be a work session of the Town Board regarding possible penalties to be imposed on violations, but it will allow for a transitional period.
- Kevin McAllister, of the environmental protection group Defend H2O, spoke with us regarding the effect of algae blooms and nitrogen loading on our waterways. He explained the standards of the Suffolk County Water Authority, and how the Town can adopt a local law requiring stricter standards. He has spoken with Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst and Councilman Brad Bender, and the town is said to be awaiting verification by the Nature Conservancy on the legality of a local law before moving any further. The Town of Brookhaven has adopted new more stringent requirements aimed at protecting the Carmans River watershed, adopted unanimously by their Town Board. We spoke about The Hills development project (which our CAC strongly opposes) and its impact on our water, the efficacy of permeable reactive barriers, as well as a "best available technology" requirement in terms of nitrogen mitigation.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 13 at 7pm, in the East Quogue School Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Roper