

WAINSCOTT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC) Meeting of June 6, 2020

(Remote meeting via Zoom video conference)

Member Attendance

Carolyn Logan Gluck, Chair
Dennis D'Andrea, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Barry Frankel, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus
Lori Anne Czepiel
Anthony Liberatore
Pam Mahoney
Bruce Solomon
Sally Sunshine
Bill Williams
Phil Young

Excused Absences

Jose Arandia, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus

Elected Officials

Jeff Bragman, Town Councilman, Liaison to WCAC

Invited Guests

Debbie Haab, superintendent of Wainscott School District

Members of the Public

Marty Boorstein	Anna Lapinski
John Cullen	Carole Slater
Sara Davison	Lisa Solomon
Alex Edlich	Diana Weir
Ginny Edwards	Holly Whitmore
Annie Gilchrist Hall	Donna Wolf
Tom Hexner	Simon Wolf
Michael Israel	Kathleen Begala
Rona Klopman	Michael Zambrelli
Sam Kramer	

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Carolyn Logan-Gluck, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and asked the participants on the call to introduce themselves.

Invited Guest with Presentation about Wainscott School Tax Proposal

Chair Logan-Gluck introduced Debbie Haab, superintendent of the Wainscott School District. Ms. Haab discussed the school budget proposal to be voted on the following Tuesday, and the proposed property tax increase that was part of the proposal. She provided background on the proposal and explained the reasons for the increase, including increased student enrollment in the school district. Members of the WCAC and the public then posed questions about the impact on enrollment numbers in light of the pandemic and families moving out from the city, the number of students that can be served in the school building and logistics about the vote including the required approval and how to vote without a polling place. The discussion closed with Chair Emeritus Dennis D'Andrea addressing the quality and diversity commitment of the Wainscott School over the past 150 years, and then Chair Logan-Gluck read a letter from one of the former Wainscott students graduating from high school.

Introduction of New WCAC Members

Chair Logan-Gluck next announced that since the last meeting two long-time members, Frank Dalene and Michael Hansen, had resigned from the WCAC for personal reasons. She thanked them for their contributions. She also noted that a nominating committee chaired by Chair Emeritus D'Andrea that also included Members Sally Sunshine, Bruce Solomon and Phil Young, had proposed two new members: Pam Mahoney and Bill Williams. The WCAC confirmed the appointment of the new members.

Liaison Report: Councilman Jeff Bragman

Census

Councilman Bragman began by noting the importance of the federal census and the need for Wainscott and East Hampton Town to be represented and requested that citizens respond to the census.

Reopening Businesses

Councilman Bragman noted that the Town Board has been discussing how to open up Town Hall, restaurants for outdoor dining and other businesses. He noted that the farmers markets had opened with full food vendors, and that it is expected that outdoor arts activities will be phased in at parks and in the Springs.

Community Choice Aggregation

Councilman Bragman next discussed CCA, as a mechanism to bring renewable energy to the east end.

Deepwater

Councilman Bragman stated that Deepwater would be conducting test borings at the

Wainscott Beach in the coming days, and that the Town Board seems to be proceeding ahead with Deepwater using Wainscott as its access route.

Wainscott Green

He noted that the park will be discussed at Tuesday's Town Board meeting, and that a progress plan and drawings have been sent to the appropriate Town departments.

FAA Meeting re: Airport

Councilman Bragman noted that the Town had a constructive meeting with the FAA, but that counsel was present so he could not discuss much detail. He stated that it seems the FAA is expressing a general interest in cooperating with the Town. He also noted that the public hearing process that was in the planning stages before the pandemic had been paused and will be paused for some time, and that he did not think Zoom was a viable alternative for obtaining public input.

Discussion then ensued among the members of the WCAC and Councilman Bragman about Deepwater, properties available for purchase in the business district that could be considered as purchases by the town, the Town offering for sale or lease lots along the airport perimeter, the decorator and party house that had been approved by the Town to be conducted for Summer 2020 at a home on Wainscott Stone (cancelled due to Covid) and similar zoning and process concerns for future commercial endeavors in Wainscott residential neighborhoods that are presented to the Town for permit, and zoning and ARB review issues with a standalone commercial sign that the Town Board has allowed be placed on the south side of Montauk highway near the stoplight at Wainscott NW Road.

Next the public participants posed questions about Deepwater and the prior understanding the Town and Deepwater were considering alternatives to Wainscott, and the local proposal developing to seek a referendum to consider incorporating Wainscott.

Wainscott Green and Possible Memorials for Rick Del Mastro

Co-Chair Logan Gluck then asked Sara Davison to discuss the alternatives at Wainscott Green to honor Rick Del Mastro, as well as longer-term capital improvement projects to consider. Co-Chair Logan Gluck suggested she would approach the Del Mastro family for their input. A discussion about fundraising for the memorial and other projects then ensued.

Other Business

Chair Logan-Gluck noted that the Chapel Bell Ringing has continued every Friday evening at 7pm and will do so until the state of emergency has lifted. She also noted that there was an upcoming 6/15 deadline for Wainscott residents to request that a water hook-up be funded through the property tax bill.

Sam Kramer next noted that there is another Home Sweet Home application regarding a second story mini storage facility to be added to the building, as well as another cell tower proposed for Stephen Hands Path.

Chair Emeritus D'Andrea stated that the annual WCAC cookout was canceled due to the pandemic.

The meeting then was adjourned at 12:26am by a motion made by Member Anthony Liberatore and seconded by Member Pamela Mahoney.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2020, 9am, via Zoom video conference.