

WAINSCOTT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Wainscott Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC) Meeting of January 11, 2020

Member Attendance:

Carolyn Logan Gluck, Chair
Dennis D'Andrea, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Rick Del Mastro, WCAC Chair Emeritus
Jose Arandia, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus
Barry Frankel, WCAC Co-Chair Emeritus
Lori Anne Czepiel
Frank Dalene
Michael Hansen
Anthony Liberatore
Sally Sunshine
Phil Young

Excused Absences:

Bruce Solomon

Elected Official:

Jeff Bragman, Town Councilman, Liaison to WCAC

Members of the Public:

Julie Burmeister, BHCAC	Michael Mahoney
Sara Davison	Michael Norbeck, EH Alliance
Kent Feuerring, President, EH Aviation Association	Ryan Rowzee, ERHC
Nan French	Jeffery Smith, ERHC
Sam Kramer	

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Carolyn Logan Gluck, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:06 am and invited the members of the public to introduce themselves.

December 2019 minutes

The December 2019 minutes were moved and seconded for approval by Co-Chair Emeritus Jose Arandia, seconded by Member Frank Dalene and then approved by the Members present.

Next Chair Emeritus Dennis D'Andrea discussed the Wainscott Chapel and Wainscott Sewing Society fundraising effort, noting that donations would be appreciated from the WCAC and other members of the community in lieu of the sewing society charging rent for the use of the chapel. He asked that checks be made out to the Wainscott Sewing Society (or WSS) with a notation in the lower left for "WCAC" and mailed to PO Box 273, Wainscott NY 11975. Online donations can be made through WainscottChapel.org or the Wainscott Chapel Facebook page.

Liaison Report: Councilman Jeff Bragman

Co-chair Logan Gluck asked Councilman Jeff Bragman to present his report.

55 Wainscott Hollow

Councilman Bragman noted that there are red stakes and excavation on the property. He stated that the pending case has an approval that is subject to appeal, and that one of the attorneys representing a neighbor recently moved for a TRO (temporary restraining order) that was denied. As such, the owner can proceed with whatever is covered by the approval that was granted.

Soil and Water Testing at Airport and Pit

There is a proposal to test air and water by a hydrologist, and the airport is seeking a second proposal. The Town Board will discuss all proposals that are received and likely decide in February. Also, Councilman Bragman has contacted the DEC and spoken with the lead person on the Superfund work. He said that the site characterization testing and field work was completed around November 22, and that they will have some more data and a draft report in February.

Windfarm

Settlement discussions discussed at the prior meeting were ongoing, participants are subject to a confidentiality arrangement, and as such participants (including Councilman Bragman as a substitute participant) cannot discuss what has transpired. The Article 7 review process is still ongoing. Members of the WCAC posed questions, including Member Anthony Liberatore

Hamlet Study

Councilman Bragman did not have an update on the status.

Wainscott Green

Councilman Bragman said they are trying to get the pathway and parking area scheduled.

Pit Redevelopment

Councilman Bragman indicated that they are waiting on the Pit Environmental Study.

Airport

Councilman Bragman is the sole liaison to the Airport for the Town Board. He is beginning to develop a framework to decide on relevant issues, including comment from the public and Town Board. Nineteen (19) months remain until funding restrictions end and the Town can take control over the airport.

Members of the WCAC raised some points, including Member Dalene asking about additional testing including for hexavalent chromium and issues regarding concrete dust. He also asked whether hexavalent chromium could be included in the Town Code. It was noted that there will be a 1/30 meeting at Rowdy Hall organized by the Southampton Express press about the airport, at which Councilman Bragman will be a panelist.

Affordable Housing on Route 114

Councilman Bragman had no update.

View Shed Protection Database

Councilman Bragman indicated he is still pursuing the possibility of public access to the database and will get back to the CAC about developments here.

Public Comment and Questions

The meeting next opened to questions from the WCAC and the public with questions from Sara Davison. Next Chair Emeritus Rick Del Mastro reported on the Wainscott Green, noting that there will be opportunities for the community to donate items to support the park including benches, signs and other items. The subcommittee is developing a list. Member Dalene asked if there is a way that donations can be tax deductible, through a 501(c)(3) for example.

Next Sara Davison reported on developments at Georgica Pond, including the ongoing dredging, the recent EH Star article about the oyster experiment, the septic upgrade program and the rest stop clean up. Discussion ensued amount the WCAC members about the rest stop initiatives.

Sub-Committee Reports

Co-chair Logan Gluck next turned to the WCAC Sub-Committee Reports.

Airport Visioning

Co-Chair Emeritus Barry Frankel handed out a written subcommittee report, a copy of which is attached hereto, and a report to the Town Board in 2019 by airport counsel from law firm Cooley LLP. He described what the subcommittee had done so far and the following objectives: (1) guiding principles for brainstorming, (2) outreach to other CACs for input, (3) understand from Councilman Bragman what the subcommittee and WCAC can and cannot do independently and (4) next steps. Discussion ensued among the WCAC members and the public, including Member Dalene, D'Andrea, Liberatore, Hansen and members of the public at the meeting. It was decided that full WCAC comment on this subcommittee report will be covered at the February WCAC meeting.

Traffic

Co-Chair Emeritus Del Mastro summarized a report that is attached to these minutes.

ARB

It was noted that Richard Myers has retired as chair. It was noted that Member Liberatore will assume liaison responsibility for the subcommittee.

Code Enforcement

It was noted that Member Sally Sunshine will assume responsibility for the subcommittee.

Police; Highways

It was noted that Co-Chair Emeritus Del Mastro will retain responsibility for these subcommittees.

Planning Department

Co-Chair Emeritus Jose Arandia updated the meeting on an upcoming public hearing (Feb. 5, 7pm at Town Hall) on the Home Sweet Home application to add a second cupola for a wireless tower.

Energy Sustainability

Before reporting on subcommittee developments, Member Dalene provided the WCAC with information he had obtained from the building department about the plans at 55 Wainscott Hollow, including the property survey. Discussion then ensued among the WCAC members. Next, Member Dalene noted that the Town Board may consider CCA enabling legislation in the next few weeks.

ZBA

There was nothing new to report.

Co-Chair Logan-Gluck closed the meeting at 11:20 am pursuant to a motion moved and seconded by Chair Emeritus D'Andrea and Member Czepiel, respectively.

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Next Meeting: February 1, 2020, 9am, Wainscott Chapel.

Objectives for WCAC Meeting

1. Overall process and approach, timelines.
2. General review of guiding principles for our visioning.
3. Review of the initial CAC outreach by Anthony and Dennis.
4. Input from Liaison as to scope of WCAC charter during outreach.
5. Next steps for the February WCAC meeting.

Report

The Airport Space Sub-Committee held a conference call on December 23 from 5:00-5:35PM. Attending were Barry Frankel, Sub-Committee Chair, Lori Anne Czepiel, and Anthony Liberatore. Absent were Frank Dalene and Jose Arandia.

The Sub-Committee discussed four primary areas of activity and their relative priority (i.e.: which is the critical path and should be initiated immediately). These four areas were:

1. Identify guiding principles for the narrative to Wainscott, other CACs, and EH Town and the recommendation rankings that are surfaced.
 - Frank Dalene had provided a list prior to the meeting. The sub-committee during the call added additional guiding principles. These guiding principles have been edited and grouped into sub-categories, reproduced below.

Overall

- Evaluate a range of airport use from current, to alternative uses (e.g.: limited recreational, other), to none

Wainscott Development

- Incorporate reimagined uses to be consistent and in continuity with the Wainscott Hamlet Study objectives

Local Economic and Environmental Impact

- Consider the risks of overdevelopment on the environment, underdevelopment on the economic payback, and overall development on traffic
- Evaluate/consider the impact of current facility and proposals on both Wainscott and other communities
- Mitigate negative impacts on the Sole Source Aquifer. The property is located in the Suffolk County Special Groundwater Protection Area and East Hampton Water Recharge District Critical Environmental Area (CEA)
- Mitigate negative impacts on the Atmospheric Air in our community from particulate pollutants and lead from Avgas, greenhouse gas emissions, etc.
- Mitigate negative impacts on protected flora and fauna
- Any and all proposed uses must follow the same State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process required by the private sector

Secure EH Town and Surrounding Community Support

- Incorporate use and economic benefits from the property to all Town of East Hampton Residents
- Evaluate the impact primarily on the surrounding hamlets/towns/villages within East Hampton but also assess the impact on hamlets/towns further East (e.g.: Montauk) and in Southampton

There was discussion on identifying the process and narrative to encompass the outlying areas East (i.e.: Montauk may participate positively in the EH Town economics and the environmental

preservation of the watershed, but may fear increased use of their airport), as well as in Southampton particularly the neighboring areas West (i.e.: Sagaponack and Bridgehampton may participate in reduced noise and the environmental preservation in general, but not the economic impact for EH Town). Using the guiding principles to help form the process and narrative to other CAC involvement and to EH Town engagement was viewed as important.

2. Initiate an effort to engage other CACs, but in a two-step effort
 - Anthony Liberatore given his range of contacts will initiate a “soft outreach” to his friendly relationships as other CACs in EH to assess their receptivity to a presentation by Jim Matthews and Vincent Cavello. Anthony has initiated this effort with positive responses from Springs and Amagansett CACs, and Amagansett CAC has asked for a presentation by Jim and Vincent.
 - Dennis D’Andrea has reached out to the Bridgehampton CAC with an initial positive response.
 - Once the first task is completed above (Sub-Committee guiding principles setting) and Lori Anne completes an initial review of the third task below (proxy gathering), a more formal “narrative” will be developed by the sub-committee and a more formal outreach will be initiated to the CACs and EH Town officials. However, the sub-committee wants an opinion from the EH Liaison, Jeff Bragman, as to what the WCAC can do in terms of outreach within its charter.
3. Gather relevant process and use proxies of other towns that have re-imagined the uses of local airports
 - Lori Anne has begun this effort (e.g.: Santa Monica Airport, others). Initial pull in Appendix.
 - What was the process the local Town governments used to reach a successful conclusion as a suggestion for EH Town in the next task 4?
 - What were some of the uses adopted?
4. The visioning will be conducted once the above efforts are completed
5. Finally, the last task in priority is to develop a process to engage EH Town government
 - The first task on the “narrative” should be completed as well as ...
 - The third task on the process and use proxies in order to execute ...
 - The visioning in conjunction with input from ...
 - The second task of engagement of the EH CACs and selected Southampton CACs in order to ...
 - Engage the EH Town government with sufficient support. While some discussion ensued on what would be necessary to engage the EH Town government, this discussion was postponed for the next meeting and all efforts were focused on accomplishing tasks 1, 2 and 3.

EH Airport Visioning

