

MONTAUK CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 1, 2022  
Via ZOOM

**Attendance:** 25 present (38 members)

Members Present: B. Akin, J. Allen, T. Berger, S. Conway, R. Cortell, C. Cortese, L. Cortese, T. Creel, J. Evans, J. Fowkes, D. Freudenthal, B. Grimes, B.J. Howard, S. Kalimnios, D. Monahan, P. Monte, T. Ries, S. Sennefelder, L. Siedlick, R. Silver, M. Tripp, M. Waterman, K. Weiss, R. Weiss, C. Yula

Members Absent: L. Barnds, J. Buklad, T. Byrne, D. Ceva, J. Chimples, L. Creegan, L. Daunt, A. Harris, D. Hausman, J. Iacono, J. James, K. Tyler, Z. Zweig

Guests: Michael Wright (Press), Julia Stavola & Dan Stavola (Montauk Village Assn), Laura Tooman (CCOM), Andrea Nagle (MBOA), Kim Shaw & Samantha Klein (TOEH Natural Resources Dept), Lena Tabori

Board Liaison: David Lys

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair B. Grimes at 6:06pm.

**Minutes** of the July meeting were adopted upon motion by R. Cortell, seconded by T. Berger.

**Letters Received:** None

**Community Organizations: CCOM** - L. Tooman reported on upcoming activities, including meeting at Ditch/Otis Lot re: water quality on 8/5, the Lindley-Morrison nature walk from Third House on 8/20, kids scavenger hunt on 8/10 starting at the CCOM office, and presence at the Farmers' Market on 8/25.

**MVA** - K. Weiss, on behalf of Theresa Eurell, expressed strong concern about the perceived failure of the Town to maintain the condition of public areas in downtown Montauk. Downtown reportedly looks "shabby", filled with high weeds and litter everywhere and dangerous sidewalks that have reportedly caused at least one person to fall. Garbage cans are in poor condition and are always full. She said that MVA is unable, due to lack of funds despite the Town's allocation of \$10,000, to do routine maintenance and looks to the Town to fulfill its "responsibility." D. Lys responded that he was told by Buildings & Grounds that they have never been responsible for flower boxes, but suggested that MVA request additional funds from the Town. He said the Town has received email complaints and noted that the Code requires commercial property owners to keep their property clean. J. Fowkes said that the Chamber is aware of and concerned about unsightly garbage and weeds and has contacted D. Lys. In past years, according to P. Monte, the Chamber arranged for Buildings & Grounds to come to Montauk and agree on what they would do. That should happen again and there should be agreement on what specific regular maintenance would be performed by the Town. After discussion, there was consensus that a meeting should be arranged in Montauk for representatives of the Chamber, MVA and Buildings & Grounds. K. Weiss and J. Fowkes agreed to try to make that happen.

Upon motion by J. Fowkes, seconded by K. Weiss, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

The Montauk Citizens' Advisory Committee requests the Town Board to clarify the Town's commitment to perform ongoing regular annual maintenance of Town-owned property in downtown Montauk and the harbor area, including sidewalks, green areas, flower boxes and flower beds.

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**Old Business:**

**Beach Subcommittee Report:** R. Cortell reported for the subcommittee that beach raking is going well and that Marine Patrol seems to be focusing mainly on the eastern part of Montauk and are rarely seen at MBOA beaches. Overall, it has been a good year and the subcommittee is satisfied. He did note that there is someone selling commercial promotional goods on the beach.

**Airport Subcommittee Report:** R. Cortell reported that the subcommittee wanted to know whether there is any information on the identity of the new owner of the Montauk Airport (D. Lys said he did not know) and whether there is any update on what is happening with the East Hampton Airport (D. Lys said litigation is still pending).

**New Business: Special Presentation on CARP (Coastal Assessment Resilience Plan) by Laura Tooman (Committee Chair) and Samantha Klein (Environmental Analyst, TOEH Natural Resources).** CARP is a Town-wide plan developed over several years and designed to address the dangerous impact climate change is projected to have on the Town. Montauk is particularly vulnerable and, if no action is taken, is projected to become three islands by 2070. Action is imperative. Recommendations focus on public outreach and community consensus building, planning initiatives, emergency response planning and include building code changes, eventual managed retreat, protection of living shorelines and power resilience anticipating fuel delivery interruption and the need for solar and battery storage. CARP is ready for Town Board adoption, with a public hearing scheduled for Thursday 8/4 at 2pm. After adoption, a great deal of work lies ahead.

Upon motion by D. Freudenthal, seconded by R. Cortell, the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 14 yes, 3 no, 6 abstentions and 2 recusals:

The Montauk Citizens Advisory Committee supports adoption of CARP.

**Litter Action Committee** has been created to promote community support for reducing litter Town-wide. All ideas are welcome. Rich Silver is a member of the committee and will speak at a future meeting.

**Councilperson's Liaison Report:** The Senior Center Survey is still open on the Town website; Chapter 167-4 regarding business responsibility for litter is being actively enforced; West Lake comfort station upgrade work has been delayed again and is now projected to be done next spring; the skate park will be completed in 3-4 weeks with ribbon cutting to be scheduled shortly; Junior Lifeguard program ends this week; the contempt citation against the Town in the "Truck Beach" litigation requires the Town to revoke all beach driving permits with mail notice going out now containing a temporary license that states clearly that driving is prohibited on the beach at issue - new permits will be issued in October.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm upon motion by J. Allen, seconded by R. Cortell.

The next meeting will be held on September 12, 2022 at 6pm. TBD whether the meeting will be in person or on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcy Wilkov Waterman

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