



MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2019
OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY
OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

Present: Francis J. Bock, Trustee Clerk
James Grimes, Deputy Clerk
William F. Taylor, Deputy Clerk
John Aldred
Brian Byrnes
Dell Cullum
Rick Drew
Susan McGraw Keber
Susan Vorpahl

Also Present: Christopher Carillo, Trustee Attorney
Arlene Tesar, Trustee Secretary
Christopher Walsh
David Talmage
David Seeler
Diane McNally
Kyle Ballou
Rick Whalen
Elaine Jones
Reggie Cornelia
Joan Priore
Gordon Ryan
Christopher Kohan

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance at approximately 6:30 pm.

A roll call was ordered by Francis Bock, all the Trustees were present.

David Talmage, told the Board he attended their special meeting of April 1, 2019. He said he didn't understand why the Trustees didn't spend more time discussing the items on the agenda.

Dr. Christopher Gobler of Stony brook University, gave his 2018 annual Water Quality Monitoring Report to the public and the Trustees. Copies of the report are available through the Trustees. The presentation can also be watched at LTVEH.org

The Trustees went around the table and introduced themselves at Francis Bock's request, prior to commencing the public hearing on Lazy Point.

Mr. Bock read the Public Hearing Notice into the Trustee Record. He then passed the floor to Jim Grimes.

Jim Grimes gave some background history regarding the Lazy Point leaseholder's position over the last four years.

Francis Bock asked Chris Carillo to outline the procedures, the Trustees had put in place, for this public hearing.

Chris Carillo introduced himself to the public, as the Trustee's Council. He then went on to outline the procedures which had been set in place for this public hearing. He asked the public to use the sign in sheet if they wanted to comment. He then said the public will be called to the podium in the order they signed up on the sheet. Mr. Carillo continued to say, the Trustees could ask the speaker for clarification of their comments, so they would be correctly understood by the Board.

David Seeler, President of the Lazy Point Neighborhood Association, said the residents of Lazy Point would appreciate the security a long term lease offers. Many of the residents have invested a lot of money into improving their properties. Having only a one year lease, leaves the leaseholders in a tenuous situation. Mr. Seeler went on to say, in addition to improving their own properties, the residents of Lazy Point have planted beach grass, installed shoreline fencing as a protection from winter storms and have regularly done beach and area clean ups, at times all the way to the Montauk Highway. Mr. Seeler thanked the Trustees for all the time, work and research which went into putting together this proposal to extend the length of the leases from one year to 35 years.

Reggie Cornelia addressed the Board, reminding them the Trustees used to have a lottery system, in Lazy Point. That would occur when a leaseholder's property was reclaimed by the Trustees. He supported shorter terms than the proposed 35 year lease and implementing higher fees for the yearly rent, transfer fees and rental sublet fees.

Mary Croghan noted, over the years the tenants have put a lot of money into their leaseholds and it leaves the tenants in a vulnerable position if they only have a one year lease. She also noted, when FEMA offered funding to the leaseholders to repair their homes after Super Storm Sandy, she was denied the funding because she only had a one year lease. She supports the 35 year lease.

Elaine Jones brought up how Stuart Vorpahl always reminded everyone how the Indians sold the land to the people of East Hampton, not the Town Trustees. Therefore, Lazy Point belongs to the people of East Hampton. Elaine Jones also said, the current Lazy Point leaseholders shouldn't be given the gift, of a 35 year lease. She is against the 35 year lease.

Diane McNally noted that the Trustees seem to give out long leases and then forget about them. She mentioned the 10 year leases with the Clearwater Beach property owners and the Lion's Head Beach Association. She also mentioned, the Trustees gave 99 year leases on property in Napeague and property near Hands Creek to the Nature Conservancy to protect rare plants on these properties. She is against the 35 year lease.

Rick Whalen spoke as a citizen and resident of East Hampton. He said, Lazy Point is an area rich in history. The records dating back to 1912 are the earliest written evidence he has found to date of homes in that area. In 1912 there is documentation of 29 homes in that area. In 1935, when the Trustees had their first survey of the area done showing the homes and structures on the Trustee owned property, there were 35 homes in Lazy Point. Mr. Whalen said he supports a 35 year lease term.

Pamela Keen said she recently purchased in Lazy Point and it was very difficult to purchase all cash. She supports the 35 year lease.

Diane McNally returned to the podium and went through the proposed lease and rules and regulations and offered suggestions on ways to improve it.

Elaine Jones continued to question the wisdom of a 35 year lease and suggested the Board consider granting five or ten year leases.

Brian Byrnes made a motion to keep the Public Hearing record open for an additional ten days, through April 19, 2019. The motion was seconded by Susan McGraw Keber and unanimously approved. Jim Grimes called for a roll call vote. John Aldred – aye; Susan Vorpahl – aye; Rick Drew – aye; Jim Grimes – aye; Bill Taylor – aye; Susan McGraw Keber – aye; Dell Cullum – aye; Francis Bock – aye.

A motion was made by Jim Grimes to close the Public Hearing for tonight. The motion was seconded by Susan McGraw Keber and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Brian Byrnes to approve the request from Susan Stadler, to rent her home located on Lot 29S, 191 Shore Road, at Lazy Point to the same tenant as last year. The motion was seconded by Jim Grimes and approved by eight Trustees. Rick Drew recused himself from the vote.

A motion was made by Susan McGraw Keber to approve the request from Marian McMahan to rent her home located on Lot 16S, 241 Shore Road, in Lazy Point to the same tenant. The motion was seconded by Jim Grimes and approved by eight Trustees. Rick Drew recused himself.

Christopher Kohan approached the Board regarding a request to give a local historic designation to the Art Barge and the D'Amico Studio and Archive. The Board discussed where to park school buses or any additional cars which would be coming to the Lazy Point neighborhood to visit the D'Amico Studio and Archive.

A motion was made by Brian Byrnes to approve the application for a staircase at 29 Springwood Way, SCTM# 300-74-7-26.1, provided they use a hinged or removable system for the bottom section of the stairway. The motion was seconded by Bill Taylor and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Susan McGraw Keber to pay the following bills: a) Optimum - \$85.85; b) Bistran Materials, Inc - \$26,300.00 (opening of the Accabonac Culvert). The motion was seconded by Jim Grimes and unanimously approved.

Jim Grimes suggested that next year the Trustees should put the job of opening the Accabonac Culvert out to bid.

Brian Byrnes asked to table the minutes of February 25, 2019 to give the Board more time to review them.

A motion was made by Brian Byrnes to accept as written, the financial report for the month ended March 2019.

The Trustees discussed trying to move the kayak racks at Louse Point further away from the poison ivy. Weather permitting John Aldred will go out and try to fix the situation.

A motion was made by Jim Grimes to have Dell Cullum design and order signs for the Kayak Rack through Ocean Graphics. The motion was seconded by Rick Drew and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Jim Grimes to close the meeting at approximately 9pm. The motion was seconded by Rick Drew and unanimously approved.