



**MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2022**  
**OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY**  
**OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON**

Held in person at The Town of East Hampton Town Hall

Present: Francis Bock, Clerk  
Jim Grimes, Deputy Clerk  
Bill Taylor, Deputy Clerk  
John Aldred  
David Cataletto  
Ben Dollinger  
Susan McGraw-Keber

Absent: Tim Garneau  
Mike Martinsen

Present: Arlene Tesar, Trustee Secretary  
Alyson Follenius, Trustee Secretary via Zoom  
Chris Carillo, Trustee General Counsel

**The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m.**

**The Deputy Clerk requested roll call.** Tim Garneau and Mike Martinsen were not present. Ben Dollinger arrived late at 6:40 p.m.

**The Clerk transitioned to Public Hearing:**

Trustee Attorney clarified everything about the Resolution to Adopt Written Procedures for the Use of Video Conferencing for the Conduct of Public Meetings. Carillo began with opening up any questions to the public. No members of the public were present or on the phone lines. The board began discussions around the language of the resolution. John Aldred addressed the items referring to video attendance of the meetings. The resolution allows for members of the public to attend the meeting virtually but requires Trustees to physically attend the meeting or remotely by Zoom only if due to extraordinary circumstances. Aldred questioned whether a Trustee may Zoom into the meeting while away, but not under extraordinary circumstances, and be allowed to weigh in on any given topic, as is a member of the public. The New York State guidelines state that any extraordinary, unexpected, or significant factor which would preclude a Board member from attending the meeting would allow the member to attend the meeting virtually. The Board discussed this specific guideline and shared their concerns, benefits and how the Board will interpret this specific guideline. There was discussion around whether a Board member has the right to participate fully and have the right to a vote. Carillo read aloud section 2B in the resolution, adding the word significant from the state guidelines, which the board understands as allowing a member to remotely attend, participate and vote in a meeting if not able to physically attend, subject

to prior permission by the Clerk. The change in language in the guidelines in the Resolution, in section 2B. Clerk Francis Bock read aloud and offered the Resolution to Adopt Written Procedures for the Use of Video Conferencing for the Conduct of Public Meetings. Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to put the resolution to vote. Jim Grimes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The Clerk asked if there was a motion to accept the Resolution. Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to accept the resolution. Jim Grimes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**The Clerk transitioned to the New Business portion of the meeting:**

Susan McGraw-Keber initiated the discussion regarding Dr. Christopher Gobler's 2022 Water Quality Sampling Proposal. There was some discussion around the specifics of the proposal. Dr. Gobler will be looking at two additional water quality stations in Little Northwest Creek and analyzing sediment at twenty stations in Accabonac Harbor, including determining their sediment nutrient flux. John Aldred stated this will be important data for the Trustees to have and worth adding to this year's proposal. The current proposal is approximately \$14,000 higher than for the 2021 year. Jim Grimes opined he would have liked to see this comparison in the proposal and would also like to see a more comprehensive breakdown of what will occur. Grimes also mentioned he would like the proposal to be broken down by specific actions within each water body rather than the summary the Board received. Napeague Harbor will also be included in the plan for the 2022 projects. Gobler will be running the catamaran in Napeague Harbor this season. The Board continued their discussion around project including the benefits of collecting this data. The sediment information will be useful for the Trustee work on the Marsh. John Aldred made motion to accept Dr. Christopher Gobler's 2022 Proposal. Jim Grimes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Susan McGraw-Keber was approached by the organizer of the first Hamptons Pride Parade being held June 4, 2022 in the Village of East Hampton. McGraw-Keber would like the Board to participate and asked if the Board would consider participating. There was some discussion around a potential conflict some of the Board members may have. The Board agreed to gather details on the memorial service any Trustee participate if they would like to join.

Jim Grimes updated the Board around the Horseshoe Crab count project. The weather conditions for the first count were rough at 25 mph. There were only 2 male crabs found. John Aldred went out the night of the full moon and found two pairs of crabs breeding. Tim Garneau and his wife went out two nights before the new moon, seeing two male crabs. They also went out two nights after the new moon. That count was unknown, however. There will be another count upcoming this full moon. The water temperatures are expected to rise this week which will likely provide greater counts. The peak of the season for the crabs will likely be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> moon in May (the New Moon). The second moon in May always provides the highest counts. The count will start on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Susan McGraw-Keber updated the Board on the Accabonac Marsh Restoration workshop. John Aldred attended the workshop as well. Dr. Nicole Maher led the workshop which was a full day event. The guest speakers were Tom Iwanjeko of Suffolk County Vector Control, Dr. Nicole Maher of The Nature Conservancy, David Burdick of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and Wendly Ferguson of RI Department of Environmental Protection. In the Northern end of the Marsh have had the highest counts of Mosquito Larvae and lends itself to be a target for remediation. The workshop addressed the history of the Salt Marsh and the trenches and embankments how its history originates back to agricultural practices. The Board continued the discussion around the history of Salt Marshes and their transition into farmland. McGraw-Keber circled back to the summary of the workshop and the route the group took while visiting the Marsh. The workshop will continue May 10 2022. Aldred asked Dr. Maher to explain the project's future plans. The expected plan is anticipated to work across approximately 100 acres of the marsh.

**The Clerk transitioned to the Old Business portion of the meeting:**

Clerk Francis Bock brought up a piece of old business regarding the legislation to ban smoking on beaches. The written plan was circulated to the Board. The Clerk asked for the Board's opinion on the matter. Jim Grimes opined that he does not have a problem with the legislation but is concerned with leaving the enforcement to the lifeguards. Grimes' is concerned this could take the lifeguard's attention from their duties as a lifeguard. McGraw-Keber agreed and added the cigarette butts are the highest form of pollution on the beaches. SMK letter of support. 2<sup>nd</sup> by DC. Unanimously approved.

Jim Grimes addressed the matter of the Louse Point Restoration project which East Hampton Town is initiating. A revised plan was circulated to the Board. The discussion mainly addressed access and whether the new plan would hinder access. Bill Taylor brought up the detailed management plan for Louse Point/Accabonac Harbor. Taylor questioned whether this project conflicts with the management plan. There was also discussion regarding the ADA mats which are part of the plan at the access point. The current angle of the Dune would not meet ADA requirements/guidelines and the Board was not sure the Town was adding the mat to meet guidelines. The Board will confirm any changes made to the plan which is currently in front of the board. The matter was tabled to allow for the answers.

**The Clerk transitioned to Committee Reports:**

**Records/website:** Susan McGraw-Keber summarized Michael Hansen's updated proposal for website management. The new proposal included a once-per-month lesson for the Records committee and administrative staff. The new cost per month for the contract will be \$405 per month for twelve months. Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to approve Michael Hansen's proposal for Website management. Jim Grimes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Kayaks:** Susan McGraw-Keber addressed the matter of inspecting the kayaks and working out a plan to communicate with Marine Patrol for impounding boats. The Board discussed what the appropriate timeline for inspections would look like. John Aldred spoke with Harbor Master Tim Treadwell. Treadwell requested to come to a meeting to discuss other matters with the Board. The kayak matter was tabled until that discussion.

**Georgica/Ponds:** Jim Grimes updated the Board regarding the phragmite management program. David Cataletto met with Bruce Horwith to review some of the renewal projects submitted to the Board. Ben Dollinger, David Cataletto and Jim Grimes will meet Thursday at 4 p.m. to review the renewals. Horwith will likely come to the next meeting to present the projects to the Board. Cataletto will provide the office with any notes from the site visits.

**Pump-Out Boat:** Jim Grimes met with Savannah Van Der Walt last Thursday to discuss the upcoming Pump-Out Boat season. The boats are fully equipped. Grimes and Savannah will meet with the other captains this upcoming Thursday where they will discuss policies and procedures for the Boat Captains. The goal is to make this more of a professional operation. Aldred shared that Tim Treadwell would like to have a conversation with the pump-out boat operators. Aldred will connect Grimes with Tim Treadwell. There is one new hire. There will be protocols for keeping the boats supplied and an end of day checklist.

**The Clerk transitioned to the administrative portion of the meeting:**

The following bills need to be paid. Optimum- \$30.84 and Staples - \$65.33. Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by John Aldred and unanimously approved.

The financials for the month ending March 31, 2022 were available for review. The matter was tabled.

The Minutes from April 25, 2022 were available to be reviewed and approved. Susan McGraw-Keber and John Aldred had read the minutes and made edits. Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Grimes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Other:**

John Aldred updated the Board regarding the shoaling report in Accabonac. Tim Treadwell informed Aldred that he met with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works. They took soundings and recommended that soundings with GPS coordinates of the shoaling in Accabonac be taken. There will be additional data taken to determine if any work must be performed. Tim Treadwell would also like discuss moorings and anchorings in East Hampton waters. There is concern vessels are anchoring on a long-term basis and claiming they are moving their vessel.

David Cataletto shared he and his son attended a beach clean-up at Georgica Pond.

Jim Grimes asked the Board if anyone was familiar with what looks to be remnants of a bridge around Georgica Pond. He noted it is almost as though it is cutting across a cove.

Susan McGraw-Keber made a motion to close the meeting. David Cataletto seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**The meeting closed at 8:15 pm.**