



MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2023
OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY
OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

Present: Francis Bock, Clerk
Jim Grimes, Deputy Clerk
Bill Taylor, Deputy Clerk
John Aldred
David Cataletto
Susan McGraw-Keber (via Zoom)
Mike Martinsen

Absent: Ben Dollinger
Tim Garneau

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

The Clerk opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:31 p.m.

The Clerk requested roll call. All Trustees were present at roll call except Ben Dollinger and Tim Garneau. John Aldred arrived late around 6:45 p.m.

The Clerk transitioned to Public Comment:

John Mannix, resident of Bluff Road and member of the Bluff Road Historic District Association. Mannix explained that he and his 13 neighbors have felt their voices have not been heard. The residents formed the Bluff Road Historic District Association, which will be filed with the state next month. The residents made an agreement with the Town of East Hampton to establish Bluff Rd as a Historic District. Part of the agreement, according to Mannix was to maintain the road as it was in the 1920's era with regard to buildings, invasive species, the road etc... to what it used to look like. Mannix specifically referred to the cutting of the invasive species so the residents can see the dunes and the ocean. Mannix felt that the road has not been maintained, especially the Marine Museum which he described as an eyesore. The Board asked what the specifics meets and bounds of the

Historic District were as they were described in the documentation. Mannix described the area to the best of his ability from memory. There was some conversation between the Board and Mannix regarding the history of the district. Jim Grimes asked Mannix what he would like from the Trustees regarding the matter. Mannix offered that he just wanted to let the Board know that the residents were organizing and to provide information.

Justin Schwartz approached the Board to introduce himself as he has submitted an application to sub-lease a home in Lazy Point. Schwartz provided a summary about himself and his business. Schwartz has held a catering business which has serviced the South Fork throughout the summers. Schwartz moved to Montauk in August and is seeking permission from the Board to sub-lease from Lazy Point. Trustee Attorney, Chris Carillo had a few questions which the Board needed to clarify. Justin Schwartz answered the questions to the Board's satisfaction. Jim Grimes made a motion to approve the request to sub-lease in Lazy Point. Mike Martinsen seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Clerk transitioned to New Business:

The Board received a request from Keith Grimes, INC on behalf of the owners of 91 Water's Edge, to replace an existing bulkhead. Mike Martinsen visited the site with Keith Grimes and recommended the Board approve the request in a timely fashion. The applicants are waiting on the Natural Resources Special Permit. Martinsen clarified there is a path along the bulkhead for public access. Martinsen further clarified he felt the end result of the project improved the bulkhead overall. The Board tabled the matter to give time to review their previous permit.

John Aldred addressed the board regarding the ponds in Lion Head Beach Community Association (LHBCA) have been compromised with toxic algae. The LHBCA has requested the Board to add water quality testing of these ponds into the 2023 testing regime. Aldred has spoken with Dr. Christopher Gobler about including these ponds into the testing sites. The sub-committee discussed this with Dr. Gobler. The hinderance to testing would be finding a way to access the pond. The board continued the discussion around moving ahead with the testing of the ponds this year. However, without public access, the Board felt it could not fund an ongoing program without further discussion with the Community Association regarding public access to the ponds.

The Clerk transitioned to Old Business:

Clerk Francis Bock initiated a discussion regarding mooring applicants holding two permits in different harbors for the same boat and questioned why it would be ok for a recreational applicant to be approved for two moorings for the same boat, especially in an area with a wait list. There was a discussion around whether this should continue to be allowed and/or how to handle a similar situation in the future. The Board will continue to discuss the matter for the following season.

The Clerk transitioned to Committee Reports:

Education:

Susan McGraw-Keber updated the Board that the Trustee Scholarship applications have been received. McGraw-Keber sent the applications to the Board to review. The deadline for a decision is May 5, 2023.

Susan McGraw-Keber shared an announcement from Dr. Forsberg of East Hampton High School about the school's Science Symposium. The Trustees were invited to attend the symposium to view the student projects.

The Clerk transitioned to Liaison Reports:

Susan McGraw-Keber announced that she spoke with Tom House of Hamptons Pride. The Trustees were invited to participate in this year's parade on June 3, 2023. McGraw-Keber wanted to know if any of the Board members were interested in participating. She has invited Tom House to come speak to the Board at the next meeting.

The Clerk transitioned to the administrative portion of the meeting:

Payment of bills: The following bills need to be paid: Amagansett Post Office - \$354.00 – annual box rental; Drew B. Bennett, P.E. P.C. - \$2,276.76 – Engineering fees to dredge the Accabonac Harbor East Inlet; Bistran Materials, Inc. - \$70,200.00 – Land based excavator dredging of the Accabonac Harbor East Inlet; East Hampton Business Services - \$154.60 – print and bind Gobler report; Optimum - \$146.97; Wittendales - \$92.00. Jim Grimes made a motion to pay the bills. Susan McGraw-Keber seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

John Aldred questioned the board regarding the dredging of the Accabonac Harbor Inlet and whether to have soundings taken over time to gain an understanding of what is happening in the area. Jim Grimes clarified whether it should be done now since the dredging was just completed. Francis Bock alerted the Board that he has received notice that Suffolk County has received a permit to dredge the channel and it has been put on the Town's schedule. Bock believes that will happen in the fall. The discussion continued to discuss using soundings or working with Dr. Gobler to push the county to dredge to the launch ramp. Bill Taylor shared that the county continues to state that the material there is not suitable for beach materials. The county will not dredge the launch ramp because the bottom is comprised of silt. They start on the outside of the inlet and dredge just to approximately 100 feet into the harbor on either side. The discussion continued around possible ways to move forward. This included using data from the sediment samples Dr. Gobler's lab took last year and the Trustees covering the cost difference for the county going to the ramp. Gobler will be taking sediment samples at 20 locations from the ramp to the inlet in order to understand the bottom composition.

Jim Grimes made a motion to adjourn. David Cataletto seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The meeting closed at 7:33 p.m.