



**MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2023**  
**OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY**  
**OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON**

Present: Francis J. Bock, Clerk  
Bill Taylor, Deputy Clerk  
Jim Grimes, Deputy Clerk  
John Aldred  
David Cataletto  
Ben Dollinger

Absent: Tim Garneau  
Mike Martinsen  
Susan McGraw-Keber

Present: Alyson Follenius, Trustee Secretary  
Arlene Tesar, Trustee Secretary  
Chris Carillo, Trustee General Counsel  
Cindi Crain, Public comment  
Peter Brickman, Public comment  
Peter Jakab, Public comment  
Jenny Landey, Public comment  
William Dessofoy, Public comment  
Jane Lappin, Public comment

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

**The Clerk requested roll call.** All Trustees were present at roll call except Tim Garneau, Mike Martinsen and Susan McGraw-Keber.

**The Clerk transitioned to the Public Hearing:**

The clerk asked Alyson Follenius to read the public notice into record. Follenius read the public notice aloud.

Cindi Crain, a dock owner, read her written comment to the board. Crain shared she is responding to the seasonal removal of pilings or floating structures. Crain shared she is in favor of removing parts which are easily removed but felt that if dock owners were required to hire a contractor twice a year to remove other components that dock construction would suffer. Crain highlighted the study she commissioned as part of the negotiation process for

bringing her dock into compliance with the Trustees. Crain stated the environmental consulting firm, Nelson, Pope & Voorhis found a “thriving marine ecosystem had established under and around my catwalk and that it shouldn’t be disturbed.” Crain read directly from the report, “there is a healthy and vigorous population of saltmarsh grasses in and around the existing catwalk. The act of physically removing the structure will create immediate and lasting negative impacts to this delicate ecosystem.” Crain emphasized that if the board required owners to remove the pilings and fixed portions twice a year, it would create unnecessary damage to the marsh.

Peter Brickman, another dock owner, addressed the board with his comments. Brickman has had his dock for the past 50 years. Brickman commented on seasonal removal of docks and shared it is very difficult and expensive. Brickman presented the use of bubbler systems over winter to prevent ice buildup. Brickman also commented that with climate change there have been fewer instances where the harbor will freeze over.

Peter Jakab, a resident in Oyster Shores, commented on behalf of himself and neighbors. Jakab commented that he agrees with Cindi Crain and Peter Brickman and is not in favor of removing pilings each year. Jakab also commented that there is a visible impact in removing the pilings twice a year.

Jenny Landey, a Three Mile Harbor dock owner, commented on pricing. Landey felt that the Trustees should continue charging by the linear foot as that is how marinas charge and felt it was “industry standard.”

The clerk asked if there were additional comments from the public. There were no other comments.

The clerk and the board decided to leave the public comment period open until meeting time on Nov. 27, 2023.

William Dessofoy, a dock owner, asked if there was going to be a Q & A session. The clerk commented that the purpose of the hearing was to listen to the public’s thoughts and comments and welcomed him to share his comment. Dessofoy asked what the goal of the current project is. Dessofoy questioned if it was due to there being several illegal docks, to raise revenue etc.. Francis Bock clarified that the project was initiated because the docks had not been looked at in decades and the board wanted to get a good picture of what was out there. It is not to increase revenue.

#### **The Clerk transitioned to New Business:**

The board received a request from Matthew Jedlicka of L.K. Mclean Associates, P.C. on behalf of the Town of East Hampton for a permit to replace the existing corrugated metal pipe arch at the Pussy’s Pond/Accabonac Harbor culvert and stabilize the headwalls of the bridge. Jim Grimes shared this project was a temporary fix and the applicant is the Town of East Hampton and typically the board waives fees as a courtesy. Grimes felt this was a straightforward project. Jim Grimes made a motion to approve the permit and waive the application fee for the permit. Bill Taylor seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The board received a request from the Village of North Haven to have the Trustees include the village in the 2023 Sag Harbor Water Quality Initiative (SHWQI). Attorney Chris Carillo summarized that the document in front of the board is a rider to the resolution the board previously approved to act as escrowee for the SHWQI. The village of North Haven had some turnover in their office and they missed making the request sooner. Jim Grimes made a motion to approve and add the rider to the 2023 Sag Harbor Water Quality Initiative. John Aldred seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Jim Grimes updated the board that the Georgica Pond Bid package is put together. It is the same as it has been in the past except with the dates changed. There was a brief conversation regarding whether the board will dredge the cove. Grimes felt it should be included in the bid package. There were also questions regarding whether a drone survey would be useful in reapplying to the DEC once the current 10-year permit is up. Bill Taylor made a motion to put the bid package out to the public. John Aldred seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Nicole Maher, of the Nature Conservancy, requested a letter of support from the Trustees for funding of a salt marsh restoration proposal to NOAA for their Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal resilience Grants. Jim Grimes made a motion to send a letter of support. David Cataletto seconded the motion and it was unanimously received. John Aldred will draft the letter. Chris Carillo will assist if needed.

### **The Clerk transitioned to Old Business:**

Trustees had requested an extension to the ZBA regarding house rebuilds on Sammy's Beach and Harbor View Lane. John Aldred shared that some Trustees may have had comments, though not present at the meeting. Jim Grimes and John Aldred emphasized that any commentary from the Board would be as adjacent property owners and any comments would be if the project impacts Trustee beaches or waterways. Jim Grimes and John Aldred both shared suggestions of a brief comment which would simply ask the ZBA to ensure public interest is protected. Jim Grimes will draft the letter.

Regarding the request to close the Harbor side beach access at the southern terminus of Gerard Drive, David Cataletto brought the issue up at the Nature Preserve committee (NPC) meeting. Members wanted to visit the site and see it for themselves. They will revisit the matter next month. This led to a conversation regarding placing dredged sand on the area. Cataletto said there were mixed sentiments from the NPC members but they will go look at the site for themselves.

### **The Clerk transitioned to Committee Reports:**

The Clearwater Beach Property Owners Association submitted a request to renew their dredging permit with the same terms and conditions as last year's. Jim Grimes mentioned he had a conversation with the CBPOA and they did not yet have their renewed DEC permit. However, as of today, Grimes has received their DEC permit. There was a conversation regarding what the home owners' association was doing with their dredged sand and where they were piling it. John Aldred made a motion to renew the CBPOA permit. David Cataletto seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **The clerk transitioned to Administrative:**

#### **Payment of bills:**

The following bills need to be paid: a) East End Excavation - \$1,000 (opening of the Georgica Gut); b) East Hampton Marina – \$1,188.70 – (winterize and service the TMH Boat); \$853.72 – (winterize and service spare boat) - \$113.70 – (gas); c) Optimum - \$150.24; d) Riverhead Building Supply - \$26.35 (pump out boat) e) East Hampton Star – \$31.24; f) Van Dyke & Hand - \$495.00 (Accountant); g) Johnny Vela (Shrink Wrap & Delivery)- \$1900. Jim Grimes made a motion to pay the bills. John Aldred seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Minutes:** The minutes from October 13, 2023 and October 25, 2023 were available for review. John Aldred read the minutes and made comments. John Aldred made a motion to accept the minutes. David Cataletto seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Other:**

Francis Bock addressed that he has noticed Stand Up Paddleboards being placed under the Trustee kayak racks. Bock wanted to know the board will address this. There was a brief conversation about placing additional signs on the racks to inform the public that SUPs are not allowed to be placed under the racks.

Jim Grimes made a motion to close the meeting. Bill Taylor seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**The meeting closed at 7:22 p.m.**