



**MEETING MINUTES OF April 8, 2024**  
**OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEHOLDERS AND COMMONALTY**  
**OF THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON**

Present: Francis J. Bock, Clerk  
Jim Grimes, Deputy Clerk  
Bill Taylor, Deputy Clerk  
David Cataletto  
Patrice Dalton  
Ben Dollinger  
Tim Garneau  
Celia Josephson

Absent: John Aldred

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

**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 John Aldred.

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

Billy Hajek, of First Coastal, approached the board with a request to perform bluff restoration work at 23 Water's Edge, SCTM# 300-103-5-35 & 35. Hajek shared that this application is similar to those the board has previously approved. Patrice Dalton made a motion to approve the application. Celia Josephson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The approval is contingent upon issuance of other permits.

Brace Krag approached the board to offer gratitude for the duck blind program. Krag found a pair of nesting swans behind his blind and did not remove his blind so as not to disturb the birds. Krag asked the Trustees for guidance. The board advised Krag that according to the DEC the Swan nesting period begins around now through June 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. It was generally understood that the blind would remain installed until this time.

Sara Davison approached the board to present the Friends of Georgia Pond Annual Report. Davison shared the various projects FOG has been working on. These included the water quality studies with Dr. Gobler, studying fish and invertebrates in by-catch in the pond weed with Dr. Peterson's labs at Stony Brook University, the mass

of pond weed removed from the pond over the last eight years and the annual dredging of the pond. Davison shared a plan for a new study in 2024. FOG along with Dr. Gobler, would like to perform a phytocatalytic experiment for the treatment of sediment of Georgia Cove. The experiment would take sediment samples from Georgia Cove to Gobler's lab to study using Titanium dioxide. David Cataletto asked if the board was able to approve the request at the meeting. Jim Grimes suggested the board wait until it receives a formal request in writing. Davison will provide a written request for the sampling.

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

The clerk brought up the matter of the Accabonac Marsh Restoration project. John Aldred, while absent from the meeting, provided the question for the board to discuss. The clerk shared that it seems the board is being asked by PEP for a permit. Jim Grimes compared this project to the one Sara Davison just addressed. Grimes felt that the board should receive a written request. The board was discussing whether a permit from the Trustees was needed. At present the board does not have all the information regarding the project to make any specific determination. The matter will be discussed further.

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

#### ***Aquaculture:***

Celia Josephson provided an overview of Dr. Gobler's State of the Bays presentation, which covered the same themes presented by Gobler during the previous Trustee meeting.

Francis Bock and John Alred had a drop in conversation with Robby Stone last week who inquired about powering of soft clams and razor clams and razor clams again for this year. The board discussed the results from the last time it approved powering of soft clams and razor clams and razor clams. The matter will be tabled to allow for further discussion and choosing dates for the powering season should the board move forward.

#### ***Special events:***

Francis Bock raised the matter of working with the Village of East Hampton to begin to collect fees for events held on Trustee beaches in the village. Bock gave a brief overview of the draft resolution for the board to review and answered questions around the logistics of the partnership. Bock shared he would like to exempt fees for EMS personnel, i.e. if fire companies choose to do a company event, they would be exempt from being charged fees. Bock asked the board to review the resolutions and fee schedules for the next meeting.

### **The clerk transitioned to the administrative portion of the meeting:**

**Payment of bills:** The following bills need to be paid: Hodgson Russ, LLP \$123,310.80 for legal services; Optimum- \$161.24; Amagansett Post Office annual fee - \$264.00; Staples – \$75.89. Jim Grimes made a motion to pay the bills excluding the Hodgson Russ bill for legal fees. Tim Garneau seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

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

**The meeting closed at 7:36 p.m.**