



**MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 25, 2024**  
**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  
Patrice Dalton  
Ben Dollinger  
Tim Garneau  
Celia Josephson

Absent: David Cataletto

Present: Alyson Follenius, Trustee Secretary  
Arlene Tesar, Trustee Secretary  
Chris Carillo, Trustee General Counsel  
Susan Knobel – Lazy Point Homeowner

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

**The Clerk requested a roll call.** All Trustees were present at the roll call except David Cataletto.

**The Clerk transitioned to the Public Comment:** There was no one present to address the board for public comment.

**The Clerk transitioned to New Business:**

Francis Bock updated the board that the Georgica Bid Package was ready. The Bid package is available through the Trustees office for anyone who is interested in bidding on the project.

John Aldred updated the board that Legislature Ann Welker requested Trustee support for new proposed legislation, IR No. 1917-2024, “A local law to amend chapter 25 of the Suffolk County Code to permit conservation of working waterfronts.” Aldred provided a summary of the proposed legislation to the board. Aldred additionally shared that there are likely immediate impacts of the legislation locally.

The Clerk transitioned back to Public Comment as Susan Knobel arrived at the meeting to address the board regarding the planned dredging in Napeague Harbor. Knobel lives at 100 Shore Rd in Lazy Point and is concerned about the upcoming dredging project. Knobel shared she purchased her home approximately 50 years ago and the

current channel was only a small stream, when the East channel was open. Knobel acknowledged that the whole beach has changed. The change, Knobel noted, was that the water flow has shifted and that when the tip of the island (Hick's) is cut off with the dredging, her home gets severely hit during any storm. Knobel shared other changes she has noticed since the last dredging project and added her concerns for the whole beach and expressed her fears that the effects of this dredging may be catastrophic. Jim Grimes reiterated that the Trustees were only notified at the last minute and that he does not see an immediate solution for the current project. Grimes added that the board will be moving forward with the East Channel project and explained that the West Channel project was already put out to bid and awarded to a contractor. The county is not able to pull out of the project as they will be responsible for paying the contractor. Grimes shared more details about the board's hopes for opening the East Channel. Knobel shared that during the previous dredge project 10 years ago, the contractor shared a method used in North Carolina to "catch the sand" and build up the beach and felt it was something the board should investigate. Francis Bock affirmed that if the Board can find a way to bolster the beach in front of Knobel's home, they would work to do it. Bock also offered an apology that she was going through this.

#### **The clerk transitioned back to New Business.**

Jim Grimes updated the Board that the bid package for the annual Georgica Pond dredging needs to be placed in the East Hampton Star. John Aldred made a motion to put out the bid. Patrice Dalton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Jim Grimes also shared that Georgica Pond was reopened and has been flowing nicely.

**The Clerk transitioned to Old Business:** There was no old business.

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

##### ***Accabonac Harbor/Hog Creek:***

Patrice Dalton revisited the conversation regarding dredging at Louse Point. Dalton had conversations with Kim Shaw of the Town's Natural Resources Department and Harbormaster Tim Treadwell with East Hampton Marine Patrol, regarding the next dredging of Accabonac Harbor. Dalton would like to understand what data the regulators, i.e. the DEC, would like to see to get them in the conversation about dredging the Accabonac Channel to the launch ramp. The board discussed this further.

Francis Bock and Jim Grimes pointed out that when they met with the County last week, it was clear that the County had been doing the dredging of Louse Point and Napeague Harbor in a certain way and that they were not open to new suggestions. Bock added that the current County permit was just renewed and would require modification if the area to be dredged was lengthened to the launch ramp. The County tends to stand on the need for a modification as a reason for not continuing the conversation. Grimes acknowledged there was additional information the board needs to gather about the new permit including whether a bid has already been put out and/or awarded.

Grimes gave a summary of the history of the dredging permit for Georgica Pond explaining it took about three years to get the permit to dredge Georgica Pond.

Dalton revisited the idea of placing beach compatible sand on the marsh and the board spent some time discussing it. Dalton added the data the board has would be helpful for a potential project of this kind. Francis Bock asked if any of the Trustees would be opposed to providing the data to Drew Bennett, so he could begin formulating a plan for dredging the Louse Point channel to the launch ramp.

**Lazy Point/Napeague:**

The board received a request from Daniel Neuwirth, leaseholder of 216 Shore Rd, Lot 21N, to sublet his lease to Evelyn O'Doherty for six months. Chris Carillo shared that he had reviewed the application, and all was in order. Jim Grimes made a motion to approve the sublet. Patrice Dalton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

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

**Payment of bills:** There were no bills to be paid.

**Minutes:** The minutes for the meeting of Nov. 15, 2024, were available for review. Jim Grimes made a motion to approve the minutes. John Aldred seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

**The meeting ended at 7:43 p.m.**