

Water Mill Citizens Advisory Committee  
PO Box 880  
Water Mill, NY, 11976  
[watermillcac@gmail.com](mailto:watermillcac@gmail.com)

Minutes for December 9th, 2024

Members: Steve Abramson, Rik Kristiansson, Jamie Egerton-Warburton, Rachel Verno, Karen Sutton (on Zoom), Alan Harper (on Zoom)

Guests: Jay Schneiderman: Executive Director Mecox Bay Conservancy, Scott Horowitz: President Southampton Trustees, Chip Maran: Southampton Town Trustee (on Zoom), Chris Pickerell: Marine Director Cornell Extension, Bob Macris: Mill Pond Association, Steve Lerner, Nancy Miller, Evans Edson, Johanna Halsey, Patti Halsey Wellen, Jamison White

Minutes for November 11th, 2024 approved

**MILL POND & MECOX:**

- Solitude Lake Management conducted a number of tests over the summer season including electro tagging which confirmed that there is not a large biomass of Carp. The numbers remained pretty much the same as last year which is good news, but it also means that the 2 year plan Solitude had laid out back in the Spring, has changed course.
- Discussed some different options for water treatment, specifically the pros and cons of Alum and Trymarine. Trymarine is being tested by Chris Gobler on another freshwater body, but the results are not yet in and the DEC may have concerns with overflow into Mecox. Talked about testing a small area of Mill Pond or Mill Creek and the requirements that would be needed to contain the test area. The DEC had previously issued permits for Alum in Mill Pond but at the time, the Trustees were not unanimously in favor of its use. Discussed whether the current Trustee Board would approve the use of Alum in Mill Pond and the CAC asked if this topic could be on the next Trustee agenda so we can see if that is a viable option. (Since our CAC meeting the Trustees unanimously supported the use of Alum in Mill Pond and James Duryea will begin the permit process with the DEC).
- Discussion about dredging. Issues are with cost and disposal of dredged materials.
- Chris Pickerell will put together a proposal for littoral vegetation.
- Discussed lily pads, removal vs. leaving them in. The lily pads offer protection for the 35,000 sunnies that were recently put into Mill Pond.
- Discussed some additional options for filtering phosphorus from stormwater run off that could be retrofitted on to the existing storm drains. Question of whether this would be a highway department expense or water quality. Steve A will follow up with Charlie McArdle. (Since our meeting Steve has spoken with Kevin Fitzpatrick of the East Hudson Watershed Corporation about the installation of FABCO filters and he sent the information to the highway superintendent with a proposal for using the existing drains on Old Mill Road as a test site).
- The Mecox Bay Conservancy has retained the services of Tom Varley to help residents navigate the process of upgrading septic including securing available grant money. Currently there are no restrictions regarding income level to obtain these grants.
- Discussed if there was a timeline, the Trustees and Solitude have to first come up with the plan of action, but all agree that Alum along with littoral vegetation was the first plan of action. Alum application will depend on the DEC permits being approved.

**EUPELL PROPERTY:**

- Briefly recapped last month's meeting.

- Questions still remain as to why the units have to be available to anyone in the country. Also some questions about retirees being eligible.
- Need to determine how many of the proposed 35 rental units will be 1, 2 or 3 bedroom. This will effect the density and also impact on the school.
- Questions about who is managing the property, Housing Authority or Georgica Green Ventures.

#### TRAFFIC LIGHT & ROUNDABOUTS:

- The Town would like the State to pursue the plan of removing the traffic light at Station Road and install roundabouts at Little Cobb and Scuttlehole, the idea being there would be no left turns permitted along this mile long stretch. The State will only conduct studies if the Town formally asks them to. Councilman lasilli and Tom Neely have asked to attend our January CAC to discuss the concept with the community.

#### 70 & 80 SCUTTLEHOLE ROAD

- Hampton Yards has plans for two 3000sf buildings in the business district on Scuttlehole Road. One building will be for their business with 2 apartments upstairs for employees. The other building will house Hudson's Helping Hands, a center for children with special needs. Upstairs will be one or two apartments for employees.
- The CAC and everyone attending the meeting felt a center like this was a much needed addition to the community. Jamie will write a letter to the Planning Board stating the CAC's support.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

- No updates on the park at Mill Creek.
- Brief discussion about cannabis dispensaries and the article in the paper.

Minutes taken by Rachel Verno