

**South Shore Estuary Reserve Council**  
**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
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**Final Minutes**  
**September 8, 2009**

Lesley Kane's Bay House, Captree Island  
Chair: Maureen Dolan Murphy  
Vice Chair: Pam Burford

**CAC Members Present:**

Maureen Dolan Murphy (CAC Chair, Citizens Campaign for the Environment)  
Pam Burford (CAC Vice Chair, Fire Island Association)  
Jim Brown (South Shore Audubon Society)  
Linda Freilich (Sierra Club, L.I. Chapter)  
Lesley Kane (Islip Town Leaseholders, bay house owner, and hosted meeting)  
Joe Kayal (Independent)  
Larry Merryman (Great South Bay Audubon Society)  
Dave Schaper (NY Seafood Council)  
Florence Sharkey (Brookhaven Baymen's Association)  
Ben Sohm (South Shore Bay House Owners Association & South Shore Waterfowlers)  
Dr. John Tanacredi (Dowling College, Earth & Marine Sciences)  
Dave Thompson (Trout Unlimited)  
Rich Troy (South Bay Cruising Club)  
Rob Weltner (Operation SPLASH)

**Guests Present:**

Forrest P. Clock, Sr. (Father of Lesley Kane and bay house owner)  
Dale Bente (Lesley Kane's sister and bay house owner)  
Captain Don Harris (Captain Don's Nautical Adventure)  
Nancy Kearney (Town of Oyster Bay)

**South Shore Estuary Reserve Staff Present:**

Sherry Forgash (Program Implementation Specialist)

**CAC Members Absent:**

Bellport Students for Environmental Quality  
Coastal Research & Education Society of Long Island, Inc.  
League of Women Voters – Brookhaven  
Peconic Baykeeper  
Association of Marine Industries  
Pattersquash Creek Civic Association  
Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen

**1. Called to Order / Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Maureen Dolan Murphy, CAC Chair. Introductions were made all around.

**2. Approval of July 14, 2009 CAC draft minutes**

**Motion by Pam Burford to approve the July 14, 2009 CAC minutes, seconded by Florence Sharkey; unanimously approved.**

**3. Membership Applications**

M. Dolan Murphy announced the application submitted by Captain Don Harris of Captain Don's Nautical Adventure, for CAC membership. D. Harris summarized reasons for his application for CAC membership; he is a long-time active member in Operation SPLASH; he runs boats; teaches boat handling skills; teaches environmental science lessons for Operation SPLASH.

**Motion by Lesley Kane to approve the CAC membership application from Captain Don Harris of Captain Don's Nautical Adventure, seconded by Rob Weltner; unanimously approved.**

**4. Amendment to Charters, Policies and Procedures for Vice Chair of CAC**

Pam Burford was approved as Vice Chair at the July 2009 CAC meeting. There was no clear guidance in the CAC charters, policies and procedures for identifying a vice chair to fill a vacancy. The language agreed upon and to be voted on at this meeting reads as follows:

***"In the event of vacancy for position of vice chair, the chair will appoint the vice chair who then must be confirmed by CAC resolution."***

M. Dolan Murphy asked if there were any comments or changes to this language. There were none.

It was asked if the CAC by-laws could be amended at any time during the year. M. Dolan Murphy responded that they could.

**Motion by Ben Sohm to approve CAC charter revision for identifying a vice chair in the event of a vacancy, seconded by Joe Kayal; 13 in favor with one abstention.**

**5. Reports**

**SSER Office Report** -M. Dolan Murphy conveyed that there would be no SSER office activities report at this time.

**Western Bays Water Quality** - Rob Weltner discussed the effluent from the Jones Beach sewage treatment plant, and that in the future it would be connected to the outflow pipe from the Cedar Creek sewage treatment plant and discharged out at sea. This action is waiting on DEC permits.

R. Weltner discussed the status of two pending research /data collection projects related to TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) development in the Western Bays. One project is an agreement between the USGS and the DEC to put in a monitoring station. The second project is an agreement between Stony Brook School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences and DOS to compile additional data needed for a TMDL. A TMDL is an assessment of a waterbody to determine how much of a pollutant a particular waterbody can contain while still meeting water quality standards for its designated use. M. Dolan Murphy conveyed that once a TMDL is in place for the Western Bays, sewage treatment plants must follow those limits. Discussion ensued pertaining to sewage treatment plants.

R. Weltner suggested that the CAC draft a letter to send to the Governor and the Senators and Assembly members in the Reserve, requesting progress on the TMDL implementation in the Western Bays.

J. Kayal inquired why the CAC should be preparing this letter and not the Reserve Council. Discussion ensued. The CAC agreed that it was appropriate for the CAC to send a letter. The CAC also agreed that they would raise this issue at the next Council Meeting and request that the Council weigh in as well.

It was agreed that M. Dolan Murphy, on behalf of the CAC, will draft a letter to Governor Paterson, and CC the NYS Senators and Assembly members within the Reserve. The letter will request an update on the implementation of the TMDLs in the Western Bays, specifically on the progress of two MOUs;

- 1) Between USGS and the NYSDEC
- 2) Between SUNY Stony Brook and NYS DOS

At this time Pam Burford and Maureen Dolan Murphy presented Lesley Kane with a gift in appreciation for her generosity in hosting the CAC meeting at her bay house on Captree Island.

6. **Presentation by Lesley and father, Forrest P. Clock, Sr., on the history of Captree / Havemeyer islands and current stewardship efforts**

Lesley Kane and her father, Forrest P. Clock, Sr., gave a history of the islands. They spoke about the clamming/oystering/scalloping industries of years past; the history of the bay houses in their family; what it was like to grow up on the islands.

Lesley read an article entitled, "Hooking a Ride to Net Country, The Men Who Catch 'em by the 1000s", which appeared in the July 3, 1964 issue of Weekend with Newsday.

Some of the stewardship efforts that have been done on the islands are beach cleanups and the planting of spartina to control beach erosion.

Signs stating the Town of Islip Jet Ski ordinance have been posted in the area.

The CAC thanked Mr. Clock for his time and presentation about the area bay houses.

7. **Public Portion / Announcements**

M. Dolan Murphy distributed the flyers announcing the National Estuaries Day bay Beach cleanup at Jones Beach Fishing Pier Seal Watch Beach, on September 26, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. It is sponsored by the American Littoral Society.

M. Dolan Murphy also reminded CAC members to review the news articles in their meeting packets.

Dr. Tanacredi announced that Dowling College will host the Long Island EcoSummit on November 13, 2009, which will focus on Long Island environmental issues.

8. **Adjournment**

**Motion by Linda Freilich to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Lesley Kane; unanimously approved.**