

LONG ISLAND
SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY RESERVE OFFICE
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Final Minutes

May 11, 2010

L.I. Maritime Museum, West Sayville, NY

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)

Joe Kayal (Independent)

Larry Merryman (Great South Bay Audubon Society)

Dave Schaper (NY Seafood Council)

Dr. John Tanacredi (Dowling College, Earth & Marine Sciences, CEECOM)

Robert DeBona (Mastic Beach Property Owners Association)

Dr. Arthur Kopelman (CRESLI)

Gil Kelley (Association of Marine Industries)

Judi Bird (Brookhaven League of Women Voters)

Henry Dam (Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen)

Phil Blindenhofer (Association of Marine Industries)

Guests Present:

Nancy Kearney (Town of Oyster Bay)

South Shore Estuary Reserve Office Staff Present:

None

CAC Members Absent:

Bellport Students for Environmental Quality

Brookhaven Bayman's Association

Islip Town Leaseholders Association

Pattersquash Creek Civic Association

Trout Unlimited Art Flick Chapter

Peconic Baykeeper

Operation SPLASH

Nautical Adventures

South Bay Cruising Club

South Shore Waterfowlers Association

1. Called to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Maureen Dolan Murphy, Chair. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of March 9, 2010 CAC draft minutes

Motion by John Tanacredi to approve the March 9, 2010 CAC minutes, seconded by Larry Merryman; unanimously approved.

3. SSER Office Report

Since SSER office Staff was not able to attend, an office report was emailed to members prior to the meeting.

4. SSER Council Meeting –

The SSER members brainstormed for over an hour on what priority issues should be brought to the Council Meeting, scheduled for May 17, 2010. This would be the first Council meeting in over a year. A majority of the conversation focused on the need to discuss to the Council the sudden lack of support from the SSER office to the SSER CAC. Members of the CAC felt strongly

that the office should continue to provide the support to the CAC. The creation of the CAC is outlined in the founding legislation and again in the CMP. The CAC bylaws, policies, and procedures lays out the need for office support and the mission of the CAC—to act as a conduit for information from the stakeholders to the Council and vice versa. Members were confused and angered by the sudden change of policy.

CAC members also wanted to gain clarity from the Council on how to proceed this year with the SSER Stewardship Award. Members felt the award presented a real connection between the Management Plan and stakeholders. The Award is reliant on assistance from the SSER Office and the Council.

The last issue the CAC decided to discuss at the Council Meeting, was the development of a TMDL in the Western Bays. The CAC has been tracking and monitoring this issue since 2004. The Council agreed that the development of a TMDL should move forward. Two scientific studies were needed in order for the TMDL to begin. Those studies were supposed to begin in the summer of 2009. The projects have been stalled since then. CAC members wanted to gain clarity on why the studies have not started and when they will commence.

5. Horseshoe Crab Update -

Dr. John Tanacredi gave an update on the horseshoe crab beach monitoring program. Beach captains are still needed and those that wanted to be a beach captain were instructed to contact J. Tanacredi.

6. Public Portion/Announcements

- On October 8, 2010 Dowling College will host the NY Marine Science Consortium, from 8:00am-4:00pm. 28 Colleges, NGO's, and prominent researchers will be in attendance.
- A. Kopelman announced that the seals have left Cuspogue beach. Over 2,000 people participated in seal watches this year. On July 1st the whale watching season will begin Wednesday's-Sundays. A. Koppelman is still looking for volunteers to help with the research.
- L. Freilich announced that the LI Chapter of Sierra Club will host a talk, with a hike to follow on June 27, 2010 with Paul Rodriguez at the Quogue Refuge, 10:00am.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Pam Burford to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m., seconded by Bob Debona; unanimously approved.