



Town Board Meeting of December 2, 2014 East Hampton, New York

I. Call to Order

10:00 AM Meeting called to order on December 2, 2014 at Town Hall Meeting Room, 159 Pantigo Road, East Hampton, NY.

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Kathee Burke-Gonzalez	Town of East Hampton	Councilwoman	Present	
Peter Van Scoyoc	Town of East Hampton	Councilman	Present	
Sylvia Overby	Town of East Hampton	Councilwoman	Present	
Fred Overton	Town of East Hampton	Councilman	Present	
Larry Cantwell	Town of East Hampton	Supervisor	Present	
Carole A. Brennan	Town of East Hampton	Town Clerk	Present	
Elizabeth Vail	Town of East Hampton	Attorney	Present	

II. Public Portion

Naomi Saltz thanked board for a good first year. She spoke about the airport and the fact that people say the airport is of economic value to the Town. It is unfair to favor the wealthy and take away the local people's quality of life. We need to look into the Comprehensive Plan and enforce it.

Jim of the Clay Art Guild of the Hamptons spoke to the board about their desire to build a wood kiln on one of the Town's parcels. There are approximately 90 members currently in the Guild. Currently they have a kiln in Watermill. Sylvia and Peter will study the idea further.

Toni also a member of the Guild believes that this would be beneficial to the whole community. It could bring many different types of people together.

Larry Richinson spoke about the helicopter noise over his home in Sagaponack. Two years ago there were only a few landing now it is out of control. There also is so much traffic that sometimes they have to hover over the homes for a period of time. He says that he was told that jets do not have to fly over homes at a certain height. He feels this is dangerous. The use of the airport has gotten out of hand over the last few years.

Dr. Testa thanked the board for all their good work. She agrees with the prior gentleman. She is a member of the Georgica Estate Condos and has been living there for 30 years and they never experienced prior what they are now with the helicopter and jet noise. Property values have gone down. She is hoping that something can be done sooner than later.

Preston Philips full time resident of Bridgehampton for many years. He says that the current noise coming from the airport is horrible. You cannot even have a conversation in your own home. Landing fees must go up. Limit the number of landings and operating hours. Return the airport to local control.

Adam Irving from the North Fork says he is part of a newly formed committee there that supports a total ban on helicopters. He lives on the causeway close to the point and the traffic increase has been horrible. The North Fork does not benefit from the airport.

Helena Loretta thanked board for tackling this delicate issue. She is President of the Noyac Civil Council. 70 to 80% of the complaints that the airport receives comes from Southampton residents. She spoke about a helicopter going over her home that was flying so low that it was off the radar. They are looking for a total ban on helicopters.

Jenet Magnison calls at least 10 to 20 times per day with complaints about the airport. All commercial traffic should be ban at the airport. No more helicopters and jets.

Catherine Sly is a local pilot and feels that they have not been given the opportunity to speak. She spoke about questions she had asked the board members before they were elected into office. She asked why the local pilots have not been involved. What is the Town Board going to do to make sure the local pilot is protected.

Susan Keber says that she does not feel the problem is with small recreational planes. Bring the airport back to the small one it was.

James Ding from Noyac says that he lives on the water and he watches the helicopters fly in a line over and around his property every weekend. He would like to see the airport moved to Montauk or ban the helicopter. One helicopter company charges \$109 per seat to get a ride here. Be the hero or be Nero.

John Snipe, Legislative aide to Al Krumpski spoke about the northern route for the helicopters. Trying to control the traffic there is nearly impossible. The only way to end the problem is to ban the helicopters.

Ken Lipper speaking for himself and Peter Wolf thanked Kathee and the other board members for trying to do something about this issue. They got a legal opinion on their suggestion on banning helicopters and to restrict hours of operation. They have no problem with the local pilots of small aircraft and do not want to see anything done to harm them. He read the legal opinion that they received.

Barry Holden says he has been working on this problem for many years. Do the strongest method of tackling the problem so other boards cannot undo.

Hank a local pilot spoke about his career with Sound Aircraft. He has flown a seaplane and now flies an international jet in and out of the airport. He has accomplished so much in the last few years and will be taking his story away by banning or limiting flights.

Jose A. resident of Wainscott says that he thinks it is important to recognize what the airport was originally for. Please go back to what the original plans for the airport were. The current conditions are a quality of life issue for the residents.

Seth Grossman says that so many people moved here for peace and quite and the serenity of the country. His home is constantly having planes fly over his home. The airport was made for recreational use not international use. The small planes are not the issue. If slots are going to be issued, the small local pilot cannot be included in that process.

Diane, Deputy Mayor of North Haven says the residents there are experiencing problems with noise also.

Tom Shelford lives on Whooping Hollow Road and says that the noise of the airport is affecting the values of the homes and the rentals in the area. We need to get back to the original spirit of the airport.

Mr. Kismo says his career has been with the FAA. He wants to make sure that the decisions that the board makes do not encourage law suits.

Charles Ehrens says that the FAA does have control over flights not the access to the airport.

Kathy Cunningham, Chairperson of the Quite Skies Coalition spoke about some of the major concerns of the coalition. The people need the support of the Town Board to maintain their quality of life. They have no beef with the local pilots and their small planes. A total ban on helicopters is a must.

Matt Nordland says the noise study was 98% wrong. Eliminating the trade parade would eliminate the noise of leave blowers. He spoke about a toll booth that could be put on the Shinnecock Canal.

III. Topics

A. *Bids - Jeanne Carroza*

Jeanne spoke about a few of the bids that were recently reviewed and will have resolution for approval, also a rejection of one bid for Camp Hero.

B. *Launching Personal Watercraft from Gann Road - Ed Michels*

Ed Michels spoke on the issue of launching jet skis from Gann Road. Fred Overton spoke about a resolution that the SCAC did in support of the allowing of jet skis. Ed suggest allowing the launching at six ramps that are close to the bay. He doesn't agree with the use in the harbors. They will be able to go slow through the harbor and inlet out into the bay. Peter Van Scoyoc says that the Fisheries Committee is against the idea at Gann Road because that is where their boats are and parking may become an issue. Larry Cantwell feels the Trustees should be consulted on the matter.

Diane McNally says the Trustees did discuss the matter and they are open to discussion but would like to see what the board proposes. She says they have also had concerns from the local hunters that use Gann Road to get out to the water for hunting.

C. *Senior Services Committee Recommendation - Mary Ella Moeller*

Mary Ella Moeller first thanked the board members for forming a committee that would look out for the elderly. She spoke about the survey that the committee sent out. Older adults do want to be active and take care of themselves. She also spoke about the recommendations that the committee seeks of the board by reading a report that the committee prepared. She also introduced the members of the committee that worked so hard on this report.

D. *Tim Bryden - Overview of Project Most*

Tim Bryden says he has been very lucky for the last 12 years meeting all the parents and children. Many of the students that went to Project Most over the years are now coming back to work at the program. He read a letter from a mother regarding the help Project Most has done for him. He spoke about many of the programs that they offer for the students. He states that their staff is about 65 people. He spoke on the difference between the full day program and the expanded day program. He spoke about the funding for the program.

E. *Endangered Species Overview - Juliana Duryea*

Juliana Duryea spoke on piping plover management. She showed a slide show of pictures of the nests, birds, fencing, areas, etc. She explained the habits of the birds. She told how the Natural Resources Department encloses in the area where the bird nesting is which allows the birds to move around but keeps the predators out. She told the number of nests, pairs of birds and babies that they had. Also spoken about was the Least Tern. These birds nest in colonies. They are similar to Plovers and many times mistaken for Plover. Least Tern is the bird that dive bombs at people and objects on the beach. She also said they monitor Seabeach Amaranth and Knotweed. The nest when found are put on the GPS thus making them all easier to monitor especially from year to year.

F. *NYSERDA Grant Opportunity - Peter Van Scoyoc*

Peter Van Scoyoc explained the opportunity for the Town to enter into this grant with the State of New York. This will help the town address issues in flood plan areas and wetlands. The funds are up to \$300,000 and the town would be responsible for 25%. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Town.

G. *Phase 2 Airport Noise Study - Ted Baldwin (HMMH)*

Ted Baldwin, Harris Miller Miller and Harris gave the Town Board a briefing on the Phase 2 Airport Noise Study. He explained with a slide show the study context. He states that all comments are very important for the outcome of the project. They spoke about fees reflective of the problems. He gave data on complaints from various different airports. He spoke about the time frame when operations occur in addition to the amount of operations. They then compared that data to the complaint data. They spoke to the question on what a governmental entity can regulate.

A few members of the audience asked questions of Ted and about statements they made or subjects and data they spoke about.

IV. *Liaison Reports*

Kathee Burke-Gonzalez spoke about a resolution on the agenda for Thursday night for a budget modification for the airport.

V. Executive Session : CPF, Litigation, UR, Solar Leases

A motion was made at 1:19 PM by Councilman Van Scoyoc, seconded by Councilwoman Overby to go into executive session.