

March 2016 | Rocky Point Civic |
<http://rockypointcivic.org/>

“Whereas, in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Program for Public Good, Councilmember Jane Bonner is requesting that the Rocky Point Farmer’s Market operated under the Rocky Point Civic Association be classified as a “Program for Public Good”, thereby qualifying it for coverage under the Town of Brookhaven Program for Public Good Insurance.”

Thank you Jane from the Civic

March

Civic 2016 – 2017 Board

President: Dr. Charles Bevington

Vice President: Dr. Al Hanson

Secretary: Susan Bevington

Treasurer: Susan Wilson

Membership: Kathy Weber

Sargent at Arms: Rory Rubino

Trustees: Maureen O’Keefe,
 Jeff Davis, Virginia Heslin

Treasurers Report

February 2, 2016

Checking \$1,793.94 Savings \$1,902.37

AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Reading of the February 2016 minutes

Report of Officers

Cope Report

Treasurers Report

Membership Report

Secretary Report

President’s Report

Land Use Committee

Farmers Market Committee

Beautification Committee

Old Business:

Guest Speaker 8PM: Brookhaven’s

Supervisor Ed Romaine’s “Green Campaign”

Info Speaker 8:45PM: TBA

New Business:

Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting is scheduled for April 5th

Representative Lee Zeldin, speaker

Contents

Actions from February

RPCA received an invoice to pay the ABCO dues of \$50. Joe Cognitore made a motion to pay the \$50 dues to ABCO, seconded by Valerie Butler. The motion was passed by all in attendance.

Pic of the month!

There are 23 Coops for sale across from the Rocky Point Schools! See the last page of the newsletter for the price range. Stop paying rent.



Bring an item for donation for our local food pantry. All items will gladly be accepted and forwarded to our local food banks.



Information discussion regarding “Downtown”: 6:30PM March 1st before the regular meeting. This will be the ‘focus’ group meeting; the discussion should be for brainstorming only- no criticism...

*March 1st Speaker: Edward P. Romaine
eromaine@brookhaven.org Brookhaven
Supervisor*

Ed Romaine is Brookhaven Town’s 70th Supervisor, having been elected to that office during a special election in 2012, and re-elected with a 63 percent plurality in 2013 for a full two-year term.

As Supervisor, Romaine has championed environmental and quality of life issues in Brookhaven Town, while strengthening Town finances. During his first year in office as Supervisor, Ed Romaine spearheaded legislation that will forever protect the Carmans River, which was unanimously approved by the Town Board and embraced by residents, environmentalists and the building community. He introduced a package of legislation that has strengthened the Town’s housing codes, and aggressively prosecuted problem landlords that have impacted neighborhoods throughout the Town. Ed Romaine also proposed Vacant Home Registry legislation to make the owners of abandoned homes more accountable, and will be bringing single-stream recycling to Brookhaven in 2014 – making the Town the leader in this technology on Long Island. In addition, Ed Romaine has reduced millions of dollars in pipeline debt and maintained the Town’s strong credit rating, while also holding the line on total Town property taxes in his 2014 budget.

Ed began his career in public service as a history teacher in the Hauppauge School District, where he taught for ten years. In 1980, he entered public service as the Town of Brookhaven’s first Commissioner of Housing and Community Development and was later appointed Director of Economic Development. Ed was a member of the Suffolk County Legislature serving from 1986 through 1989, where he was known as a fiscal conservative, sponsoring such cost-saving measures as the Suffolk County Tax Cap. Additionally, he established a record as a fighter for the environment by authoring Suffolk’s first Clean Water Act. In 2005, Ed Romaine was again elected to the County Legislature, representing the First Legislative District and re-elected in 2007, 2009, and 2011. As a county legislator, Ed preserved countless acres of open space across eastern Brookhaven, the North Fork and Shelter Island. He sponsored numerous pieces of landmark legislation including “Michael’s Law,” which banned explosive fuel gels; the state’s first local law to regulate helicopter traffic; and established the LIPA Oversight Commission. In addition, Ed reduced the tax burden on residents by promoting smart government initiatives and real tax reform.

ROCKY POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES February 2, 2016 ~ 7:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Officers and Trustees

Present:

- President – Dr. Charles Bevington
- Secretary – Susan Bevington
- Sergeant at Arms – Rory Rubino
- Membership Secretary – Kathy Weber
- Trustee - Virginia Heslin
- Trustee – Jeff Davis

- **Absent, Excused:** Honorary Trustee - Ann Reynen, Vice President-Dr. Albert Hanson, Treasurer - Susan Wilson, Trustee – Maureen O’Keeffe

On a motion by Jeff Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Iervolino and passed by those present, the reading of the minutes of the January 5, 2016 meeting were waived.

Report of Officers

Treasurers Report: Read by Charles Bevington

February 2, 2016 Balances

- ❖ Checking \$1,793.94
- ❖ Savings \$1,902.37

Membership Report: Kathy Weber

207 members including 4 new members tonight

Secretary Report: Susan Bevington

RP Historical Society newsletter, Hofstra calendar of events, Brookhaven Youth Council resource flyers, regional transportation plan (details of plan @ <http://www.nymtc.org/abouttip-down.cfm>), Board of Zoning appeals

Cope Report:

None

Land Use: Chairperson Albert Hanson

None

Farmers Market Committee Report: Charles Bevington

None

Speaker: Legislator, Sarah Anker

Chairperson of the Senior and Consumer Protection Committee, Vice Chair of the Veterans Committee, member of the Environment, Planning and Agriculture committee, the Suffolk County Cancer Awareness Task Force, and initiated the North Shore Coastal Erosion Task Force. Legislator Anker is working with the Suffolk County Planning division and the VFW to turn the “zombie homes” into homes for veterans. She is working towards the County acquiring the property “Indian Rock” property on Sam’s Path as a passive use park. The Summer Concert Series is planned for August with Swingtime, Southbound, Big Shot and Strawberry Fields. There will be community meetings in the spring regarding Rails to Trails. Working against the Army Corp of Engineers dumping of toxic dredge material into the Long Island Sound. She will be asking Governor Cuomo to veto the plan. She is working with the Suffolk County Police to address public safety concerns. “If you see something – say something”. In addition to calling the police, you can call her office so she can reinforce your concern. She is working towards a special rate class for “all-electric” customers to help lower energy costs. Des Butler and Mike Armondo asked about the Oxygen bar sale. Anita LoPiccolo asked about the value to the community of the proposed purchase of the “Indian Rock” property and soil sampling of the proposed Rails to Trails site and whether the soil was safe.

ROCKY POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES February 2, 2016 – Continued

Speaker: Beth Fiteni, EDGE Regional Outreach Contractor for the Community Development Corp of Long Island. Partners with NYSERDA to offer free home energy audits through Long Island Green Homes. The goal is to reduce energy bills by 30%. The homeowner is given a certified report with recommendations. The audit provides a comprehensive look at the electric, heating, insulation and safety systems in the home. The audits typically save the homeowner \$1000/year. NYS makes financing available for any upgrades to the home through this program. There are rebates through PSEGLI and National Grid. Small businesses are eligible for the audit. Ms. Fiteni also spoke about solar programs through NYSUN for homeowners and K-Solar through the New York Power Authority for schools. Questions and discussion from the floor included cost for solar, possible re-assessments due to the upgrade and firefighters' issues in the event of a fire.

President's Report:

Charles Bevington spoke about the Long Island Nitrogen Plan and the "Nitrogen Smart Community" designation through the DEC. Suggested a civics environmental committee and outreach to the Rocky Point Schools for student involvement in this project. He spoke about storm-water runoff and the proposed project at Friendship Beach and the need for the proper filtration system to be included in the plans for the project. The filtration system should stop bacteria and nitrogen from reaching the Long Island Sound in addition to the floating waste. Discussion from the floor from Pat DiBernardi, Anita LoPiccolo, Mike Armondo and Des Butler advising the Civic that the Town has not communicated with the NSBPOA regarding the project and the NSBPOA as the property owner should have been advised and included in the planning.

Charlie applauded Supervisor Ed Romaine for writing to Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Representative Lee Zeldin and Representative Peter King regarding the Chemical Safety Act and strengthening the protections to the public.

Old Business
none

New Business

RPCA received an invoice to pay the ABCO dues of \$50. Joe Cognitore made a motion to pay the \$50 dues to ABCO, seconded by Valerie Butler. The motion was passed by all in attendance.

The pending sale of the Thurber property was discussed at length. The proposed project will include senior apartments and preservation of the historic railroad station. It was stated by a number of members including John Shackelford and Dr. Constance Iervolino that we do not need housing in downtown Rocky Point. Dr. Iervolino suggested a greater need for commercial property downtown. Pat DiBernardi stated we do not need a "planned density community" downtown. He asked if the area is designated J6 and if the proposed plan is consistent with the usage. Mike Armondo suggested a performing arts center to draw people into downtown. Kathy Weber asked what happened to the Village Green concept proposed in the 2008/09 Charrette. Kristin Probeck asked if we can be certain it will not be another place for social services to place sex offenders. Anita LoPiccolo suggested a focus group be developed to discuss the "downtown square" concept. Joe Cognitore offered to discuss this after the meeting. Kathy Weber would like establish the beautification committee and use the committee as the focus group. Joe Saunders said we already have a Land Use Committee which this issue would fall under. He also suggested we work together with other groups within the town. Charlie offered a meeting at 6:30 on March 1st prior to the next Civics meeting to discuss this issue. "We should make our interest know to the Town"
There is \$600,000 Downtown Revitalization Grant money available. A brief discussion regarding

Community Announcements

none
50/50
\$46 was won by Mr. Motta and donated back to the Civics

Motion to Adjourn


On a motion made by Rory Rubino, seconded by Ralph Iervolino and passed by those present, the meeting was adjourned at 9pm. Next meeting date: March 1, 2016 Speaker Supervisor Ed Romaine

Check out our NEWLY updated webpage! <http://rockypointcivic.org/> Please sign up for the email newsletter. Your \$15 Individual or \$20 Family Membership 2016 DUES are DUE NOW!

April 5th Speaker: Representative Mr. Lee Zeldin 8:00 PM

May 3rd Speakers: 7:45PM Kevin McAllister founder and president of "DefendH2O" Info presentation about the American Chestnut from Jessica Enzmann from Seatuck and Superintendent Rocky Point Schools Dr. Michael Ring

June 7th Speaker: Dr. Sarah Meyland, NYIT 8:00 PM



Please find comments and suggestions from a Rocky Point, Brookhaven Town, County of Suffolk resident and Rocky Point Civic Association President regarding the Conceptual Draft Scope for the Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP) and the establishment of the Rocky Point Civic Association Ad Hoc Environmental Committee. A designation of **“Nitrogen Aware Community”** by NYSDEC should apply.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Long Island Regional Planning Council (LIRPC) have publicly presented a DRAFT and planning SCOPE that will be used to develop a vision for a Long Island nitrogen management and mitigation plan. The SCOPE will provide an assessment of conditions based upon existing data, groundwater quality and quantity, and surface water quality. The plan will determine nitrogen load reduction targets as well as strategies to meet those targets.

Facts: The sole source aquifer for Long Island is the only source of water for all human activity on this island of 2.85 million people. Known rising levels of nitrogen in the groundwater have been identified in terms of pollution. Average levels of nitrogen in the upper glacial and magothy aquifers have been trending upward toward higher concentrations. In some areas the high total nitrogen concentrations in groundwater of the upper glacial aquifer have exceeded the 10 parts per million, precluding its' safe use as a drinking water source. Some areas on the North Shore in Suffolk County are considered discharge basins in terms of water runoff without any treatment.

The main sources of nitrogen pollution in the Long Island groundwater are residential wastewater, cesspool, home use of fertilizers and agricultural use of fertilizers. Fertilizers naturally migrate to surface waters that affect nitrogen concentrations. Unmitigated water runoff into the Long Island Sound also needs to be addressed in regard to its hypoxic impact. According to the draft and scope, NYSDEC and other sources, that migration of nitrogen is impairing surface water embayments at a crisis level. Furthermore, excessive nitrogen precludes opportunities for swimming, fishing, destroys habitat for aquatic life, reduces storm resiliency, increases algae blooms and depletes oxygen levels to produce “dead zones”. Excessive nitrogen is a key contributor in wetland degradation. For the North Shore and Rocky Point, degraded aquatic vegetation and degraded marine ecosystems with hypoxia reduces shoreline buffering capacity, which in turn reduces coastal resiliency. Destruction of our water resources is commensurate to the reduction and destruction of our economic vitality. The stated goals of the Nitrogen Action Plan include determining present nitrogen levels, identifying the sources and their impact on specific water bodies, establishing reduction endpoints, and developing an implementation plan to achieve reduction endpoints. I believe that reducing the runoff with its nitrogen impact could be addressed for Rocky Point and have consequential endpoints if (1) after every hard rain the beaches are not closed due to high bacteria from runoff, (2) fisherman appear because there are fish to catch, and (3) the sign at the end of the runoff area does not say “Do Not Swim This Is A Discharge Basin”. I would like to address one specific aspect of the planning SCOPE. The January 2016 Version 1.3 Workplans and Macro Planning Areas states the mechanisms, including scopes of work, must be developed for all planning activities “in accordance with required financing processes.” It is

unclear what that means but section 5.3 of the document considers local government to be potential additional funding sources. In section 6.0 stakeholder engagement has been defined by having the project management team providing updated information and seeking input from an advisory committee. As you know I am an eternal optimist so when I read, in addition, tailored stakeholder engagement programs will be developed and implemented for each sub-watershed plan I can envision a path to contribute to the nitrogen reduction efforts.

At the last Rocky Point Civic Association Meeting February 2, 2016 an Environment Committee was established with the proviso that at least three citizens participate. Therefore as President of the Rocky Point Civic Association I will appoint the Ad Hoc Environment Committee with the following charter/goals:

- (1) Establish Rocky Point in the town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk, as a **“Nitrogen Aware Community”** establishing the outline of tasks designated with the NYSDEC to become a “Nitrogen Aware Community”. (Since Rocky Point would be the first community with this status as authorized by the NYSDEC, it leaves a broad path for the committee members to influence the role);
- (2) Working with the Supervisor of the Town of Brookhaven, with our elected Town representative, with the appropriate Suffolk County representatives establish one or more “Conservancy” areas within the area of Rocky Point;
- (3) Inform the public of the impact of the runoff into the Long Island Sound. Given the opportunity that has been presented and announced at the October 2015 Rocky Point Civic Association meeting by the Town of Brookhaven officials stating their successful efforts to acquire federal funding, supplement such funding with local funding, for a “Shoreline Restoration Plan” consistent with the NYSDEC and the Town of Brookhaven Environmental authorities, establish the following;
- (4) Establish the Ad Hoc Environment Committee to explore technical applications to reduce the nitrogen impact of water runoff on Rocky Point’s unique bluffs and glacial moraines that are a unique natural habitat. This may include studying the interesting geologic features that resulted in estuary glacial processes during the northward retreat of the late Wisconsinan Laurentide ice sheet about 18 to 19.5 thousand years ago produced the Harbor Hill-Roanoke Point-Rocky Point-Orient Point moraine that approximately parallels the northern shore of Long Island. A Holocene marine mud facies is present in deeper, quiet-water areas throughout the western and central parts of the Long Island Sound basin. The northern shoreline of Long Island east of Port Jefferson is classified as a glacial deposition coast. This section of the shoreline is characterized by high, steep bluffs (as much as 40 m relief), gently curved beaches separated by headlands that project slightly into the sound, and cape-associated shoals (Koppelman and others, 1976; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1969). The bluffs on Long Island's north shore are only partly covered by vegetation and are fronted by narrow beaches, and the adjacent beaches average about 12 m wide (Davies and others, 1973). Both the beaches and bluffs are eroding rapidly; average annual shoreline retreat is about 0.8 m/year (Bokuniewicz and Tanski, 1983). As the bluffs recede, eroded sediments accumulate as talus on the narrow beaches. Wave attack during storms removes much of the talus and erodes the bluffs. Boulders and coarse gravel remain on the beach as lag deposits; the finer grained sediments are winnowed into the sound.

The mean-high-water line migrates landward as the beach deposits are removed, and the cycle of bluff and beach erosion continues; and lastly,

- (5) The Ad Hoc **Environment Committee** should work expeditiously over the next four months, reporting monthly, keeping copious notes of work and processes so that the committee may be an example for all communities on Long Island for its efforts to work towards the mitigation of water runoff, steps to mitigate fertilizer use, and enumerate methods to reduce the impact of residential wastewater as a basis for the definition of **“Nitrogen Aware Community.”**

Charles T. Bevington PhD, EdD,
 President, Rocky Point Civic Association
 Water For Long Island, Committee Member

The Civics is calling for **beautification committee volunteers** and garden enthusiasts for our annual garden tour, adopt a spot, and the great Brookhaven clean up in May. Grants are available for beautification projects, the possibilities are endless! Please join us in keeping Rocky Point beautiful! **Contact Kathy Weber**

The Civics is also calling for **Land Use committee volunteers Contact Dr. Hanson**

| 23-Feb-16 | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------|--------|----------------------|---|
| Rocky Point 11778 Homes for Sale | | | | 2.75% | Monthly Payment over 15 years = 180 Payments of |
| Price Range | Price Range | Homes | | 80% of Base Range | |
| \$ 400,000 | \$ 950,000 | 12 | | \$ 320,000 | \$ 2,205 |
| \$ 300,000 | \$ 399,999 | 29 | | \$ 240,000 | \$ 1,654 |
| \$ 200,000 | \$ 299,999 | 45 | | \$ 160,000 | \$ 836 |
| \$ 150,000 | \$ 199,999 | 9 | | \$ 120,000 | \$ 814 |
| \$ 100,000 | \$ 149,999 | 7 | | \$ 80,000 | \$ 543 |
| \$ 75,000 | \$ 99,999 | 7 | 4 Coop | \$ 60,000 | \$ 407 |
| \$ 50,000 | \$ 74,999 | 7 | Co-op | \$ 40,000 | \$ 271 |
| \$ 25,000 | \$ 49,999 | 12 | Co-op | \$ 20,000 | \$ 135 |
| 26-Jan-16 | | 128 | | | |
| http://www.mlsli.com/Listing/ListingSearch.aspx | | | | 87 | "Affordable" Properties on the market TODAY |
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