



## Summary of June 4, 2012 Peconic Estuary Program Policy Committee Meeting H. Lee Dennison Building, Hauppauge, NY – 1st Floor Meeting Room

Attendees:

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):** Joan Leary Matthews, Seth Ausubel, Rick Balla

**Suffolk County (SC):** Thomas Melito, Barry Paul, Walter Dawydiak, Christopher Lubicich, Dewitt Davies, Laretta Fischer

**NYS Department of Environmental Protection (DEC):** Peter Scully, Dawn McReynolds, Julie Nace

**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):** Matt Sclafani (Cornell Cooperative Extension), Jim Ammerman (NY Sea Grant)

**Local Government Committee (LGC):** Jim Dougherty (Shelter Island Supervisor)

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC):** Kevin McDonald, The Nature Conservancy (TNC); Bob DeLuca, Group for the East End (GFTEE), Dick Mendelman, Association of Marine Industries (AMI)

- 1) The meeting opened with welcomes and introductions.
- 2) The summary of the June 4, 2012 Peconic Estuary Program Policy Committee was accepted as presented.
- 3) Alison Branco provided a Program Office update and a summary of the Annual Workplan and Strategy submitted to EPA in November 2011. Alison discussed the overall need and strategy for this document, timelines, roles and responsibilities, and annual reporting. This document contains programmatic outcomes, highlights CCMP implementation and yearly highlights. The Policy Committee endorsed the document. Enhanced planning is recommended and plans for a strategic planning session should be initiated.
- 4) The budget for the use of Federal Fiscal Year 2012 National Estuary Program funding was presented and approved with amendments to reflect the environmental justice initiatives of the EPA. The Management Committee was given the requested authority to make minor modifications to the budget should there be any changes by EPA to the funding target; the Policy Committee would be consulted if any significant changes were needed.

- 5) Kevin McDonald (TNC) presented an update on the CAC stating that regular meetings continue with topical presentation. But there is a stall in the program and a need to provide issues to the public to engage them. Kevin also stated that he will distribute polling results from a recent water conference.
- 6) Bob DeLuca (GFEE) provided general updates to the Outreach and Education contract.
- 7) Matt Sclafani (CCE) provided a TAC update. Matt stated that the TAC used to be very important and there is a great need to reorganize the group. Science-based representatives are essential. There are important roles for the TAC and its sub-workgroups within the PEP.
- 8) Jim Dougherty (LGC) stated that there is an East End Mayors and Supervisors Meeting on June 20, 2012.
- 9) Rick Balla (EPA) provided an update to the recent EPA Program Evaluation of the PEP. EPA has stated that the PEP has made adequate progress to merit funding, the report highlights strengths and weaknesses and the need to transfer lessons.
- 10) Meeting Adjourned.