



**Peconic Estuary Partnership  
Management Committee Meeting Summary  
July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm  
Zoom Conference Call**

**Attendees:** Joyce Novak (PEP), Elizabeth Hornstein (PEP), Bob Nyman (USEPA, MC Chair), Dawn McReynolds (NYSDEC MC Rep), Kevin McDonald (TNC/CAC Chair and MC Rep), Ken Zegel (SCDHS MC Rep), John Bouvier (Southampton Town Councilmember/Local Government MC Rep), Dean Paul Shepson (SUNY Stony Brook University, MC Rep), Richard Friesner (NEIWPC MC Rep), Emma Gildesgame (NEIWPC), Aimee Boucher (USEPA), Holly Sanford (PLT), Al Krupski (SC Legislator District 1), Gwynn Schroeder (SC Legislator Al Krupski's office), Theresa Masin (Town of Southampton), Irene Donohue (SC Legislator Bridget Fleming's office), Peter Topping (Peconic Baykeeper), Rebecca Shuford (NY Sea Grant), Brian Frank (Town of East Hampton), Chris Gobler (SUNY Stony Brook University), Jim Colligan (Town of Shelter Island), Cassie Bauer (NYSDEC), Susan Filipowich (SC Planning), Corey Humphrey (SCSWCD)

1. Welcome and Introduction- Bob Nyman (USEPA, MC Chair)
  - Management Committee Voting Member Role Call was conducted.
2. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 MC meeting – Bob Nyman
  - The meeting summary from April 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 was approved by the MC.
3. Review and finalize workplan and budget for local government funds and NYS Funds (Joyce Novak, PEP Director)
  - The outline for all work using funds from the East End Town was presented and discussed. This included:
    - i. Funds to support the program office including staff salaries, supplies, and travel,
    - ii. Funds to support the Homeowner Rewards Program
    - iii. Funds to support continuing eelgrass work to target sites for restoration
    - iv. Funds to support a contract for PEP's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative
  - The CAC Chair suggested that a Diversity and Inclusion contract should work directly with our communities and suggested a mini-grant program as a way of engagement. Direct engagement with organizations, such as Ola to work directly with our minority communities is explored.
  - Requested that a workgroup is formed to guide the Diversity and Inclusion initiative
  - Councilman John Bouvier stated that the Town of Southampton is carrying out their own diversity initiative and maybe the Town and PEP can work together on this.
  - The program office gave more detail on the eelgrass work, outlining the project location and explained that this work is the next step after the bio-optical model using aerial technology to identify areas with fresh groundwater intrusion and begin test plots for restoration sites.
  - The program office clarifies the process for future approval of Local Government funds:





- i. DEC suggested clarification of which office within the NYSDOS should be included.
      - ii. Language surrounding any existing MOUs should be reviewed.
      - iii. Rotation of the TAC Chair.
      - iv. NEIWPC wanted clarification on their named inclusion as a voting member. To date, only the PEP Host is referred to in the document. This will be reviewed by the workgroup.
5. East End Town Priority Sub-Watersheds
  - The Program Office has proposed a plan to prioritize work in specific sub-watersheds in each town. The plan outlined the following areas:
    - i. Accabonac Harbor
    - ii. Sag Harbor Cove, including Haven's Beach
    - iii. Riverside, Southampton
    - iv. Meetinghouse and Terry's Creek
    - v. Town and Jockey Creek
    - vi. Mattituck/James Creek
    - vii. West Neck Bay and Creek
    - viii. Shelter Island Heights
  - Chris Gobler suggested we add Three Mile Harbor
    - i. Suffolk County Agreed
    - ii. **There was consensus to add Three Mile Harbor**
  - There was robust conversation on how to proceed – one note from Southampton was that the tax issue (1099) for grants related to new I/A Systems is holding up our ability to get them installed.
6. Program Office Updates
  - Included an update of Federal expiring funds
7. Meeting Adjourns