



Town of Brookhaven Long Island

Mark Lesko, Supervisor

Minutes

Carmans River Technical Advisory Committee
December 8, 2010
Town of Brookhaven

Members Present: Dr. Lee Koppelman, Chair (Center for Public Policy, SUNY SB), Tullio Bertoli (TOB PELM), Jeff Kassner (TOB PELM), Andrew Rapiejko (*Prospective Member* - SCDHS), Chris Schubert (USGS), Bill Spitz (DEC), Mary Anne Taylor (CDM), John Turner (TOB PELM).

Members Absent: Henry Bokuniewicz (SUNY SB School of Marine Science), Steven Colabufo (SCWA), Eva Greguski (TOB PELM), Steve Terracciano (USGS).

Others: Dick Amper (LIPB Society), Harold Bachmann (MI Civic), Michael Domino (NF Environmental Council), Julie Hargrave (Central PB Commission), Keith Jones (BNL), Liz Krolik-Alexander (TOB CD#4), George Limber (MI resident), Gail Lynch-Bailey (MI Civic), Kevin McAllister (Peconic Baykeeper), Matt Miner (TOB Sup's Office), Mel Morris (BNL), John Pavacic (Central PB Commission), Doug Swesty (Trout Unlimited), Tom Talbot (Middle Island Civic), Dave Thompson (Open Space Preservation Trust), Chic Voorhis (NP&V).

1. General Remarks

- Discussion between **Dr. Koppelman** and **Andrew Rapiejko** regarding previous statements made by **Dr. Koppelman** regarding health department standards. **Andrew Rapiejko** said TOB needs a plan to achieve a standard of 2.5 ppm and should use zoning; stated this should not be a Health Department issue. Also stated the focus should not just be on nitrogen and the Health Department has standards to protect health and the environment. **Dr. Koppelman** said the plan should state what the Health Department does and does not need to do; the plan will make recommendations. **Andrew Rapiejko** responded that his statements give an inaccurate negative public perception of the Health Department.

2. Review of Minutes

- Minutes of December 1 meeting reviewed and corrected. Minutes were approved.

3. Guest Speakers

Department of Planning, Environment and Land Management

Tullio Bertoli, Commissioner

Brenda Prusinowski, AICP, Deputy Commissioner

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- a. **Dr. Timothy Green, Brookhaven National Laboratory**
 - Presented a summary of research being conducted at BNL.
 - Chairing a committee that will be presenting a report by the Protected Land Council in January 2011.
 - Found unexpected chloride levels in summer samples.
 - Found biodiversity is diminished as one goes upstream, due to the intermittency of flow.
 - **Keith Jones**, physicist at BNL, added he has been testing sediment samples with local high school students; they have found high concentrations of arsenic in soft tissue samples.

- b. **Walter Hilbert, Suffolk County Department of Health Services**
 - Presented health department standards for sewage treatment [presentation available on TOB website].
 - Presented Office of Wastewater Management Report on the Sewage Treatment Plants of Suffolk County 2008 Performance Evaluation [report available on TOB website].

4. Committee Reports and Review of Assignments

- **Jeff Kassner** distributed updated reports. The water quality assessment will be discussed next week.

5. Public Comment

- **Tom Talbot** inquired about the recent Roanoke Sand & Gravel application. **Bill Spitz** says he can distribute documentation, but there is no potential impact to the river as it is too remote.
- **Kevin McAllister** said numeric standards need to be applied to the river; 2 ppm may be problematic. Should not assign blame to SCDHS, failure to protect soluble water quality. Municipalities have legitimate authority to be more stringent than SCDHS. **Dr. Koppelman** said the Town does not have the authority to approve applications. **Law is asked to investigate if the Town can regulate sanitary discharge systems.** **Kevin McAllister** discussed the previously distributed memo regarding residential on-site systems vs. large flow systems. **Bill Spitz** refuted **Kevin McAllister's** characterization of AJ Smith's [from the DEC] analysis for 2 ppm being a problem; **Bill Spitz** said AJ Smith did not say it was a problem for the Carmans River.
- **Dick Amper** said not to dismiss Tom Talbot's concerns about Roanoke Sand & Gravel; the Pine Barrens Society has a video they can make available.
- **Michael Domino** wants information on the northern extension and how the library acts as a dam; stated Roanoke must have impact as it is in the watershed.
- **George Limber** said to consider flooding on Middle Island Road.
- **David Clemens** said the library renovated their sanitary system three years ago and they are routinely serviced; they moved leaching pools to the west. He said the sump is never serviced and holds water.

6. Schedule next meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for December 15 at 9AM in the WORK SESSION ROOM, THIRD FLOOR.

7. Adjourn

Prepared by Jeff Kassner & Eva Greguski, TOB, PELM
