

**Centerport Harbor Civic Association
General Membership Meeting, June 24,2024**

Present: Betsy Cambria, Bob Berding, George Pullis, Mike Regan, Jim Walker, Anne Wesp, Judy White, and Carol Zwiulich

Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurer's Report: CHCA's two combined accounts have a total of \$8885. All CHCA bills have been paid.

Student Ambassadors, (with Mentor, Dr. Catherine Knight): Dr. Knight acknowledged Harborfields High School students Alexis Ebanks, Charlotte Saylor (absent), and Ryan Gilhooley as working hard working, young citizens who have been involved in local civics, as well as having excelled in academia. Councilwoman, Theresa Mari, provided letters of accomplishments and resolutions to each student ambassador. CHCA also provided a letter of commendation to each student ambassador.

Guest Speakers:

Stephanie Bontempi (Suffolk County Legislator, 18th Legislative District) Updates:

- **Indian Hills property.** Owner of the property is interested in saving two of the three parcels of land. The County is interested in purchasing the two parcels with the intention of designating them to become a park.
- **Seminary of the Immaculate Conception (Lloyd Harbor):** NYS has purchased 180 of the property designated to be a passive park.
- **Capital Budget/Capital Projects:** 1.5 million dollars have been earmarked to revitalize the waterfront property of the Vanderbilt Museum.
- **Monthly General Meeting for the County Vote:** Legislators will be voting on the budget for Suffolk Community College and the Sales Tax on the Funding for the Water Safety Program (i.e., water quality, sewers). Ms. Bontempi noted she will vote in favor of the latter.
- **Centerport Harbor Tidal Gates:** are not the property of Suffolk County. Ownership of the gates was taken over by the County while the gates were being repaired. The ownership of the gates was returned to the Town after the gates were repaired. It's possible that the gates may not be opened as frequently as they had been as the Town is concerned with excessive wear and tear.
- **Chalet Inn:** Ms. Bontempi noted that the owners of the Chalet Inn are no longer interested in selling the property. If the owners were still interested in selling, Ms. Bontempi noted that she would be in favor of possibly making it a park.

Elizabeth Hornstein, LISS (Long Island Sound Study) Sustainable & Resilient Communities

Extension Professional of NY Sea Grant: Ms. Hornstein works in Suffolk County to help sustain and protect the Long Island Sound. She provided an excellent and in depth PowerPoint presentation, touching on topics such as:

- **"Sustainable and Resilient Long Island Sound"**, its goal being to provide and support communities with educational information and workshops. [LISstudy.net/plan](https://lisstudy.net/plan)
- **The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP):** is a document that outlines goals and steps to restore and maintain the health of Long Island Sound and its watershed (the lands and waterways that drain into the Sound). It addresses areas such as water quality, habitat and wildlife conservation, coastal resiliency, and environmental engagement and education. Multiple levels of government, academic scientists, local organizations, and regional decision

makers use the plan to identify and carry out projects needed to advance these conservation areas.

- **Sea Level Rise:** Ms. Hornstein noted the dangers of rising sea levels and supplied information as to how to help prevent beach erosion.

Kevin Thourbourne (Town of Huntington Director of Department of Human Services)

Julia Frangione (Town of Huntington Senior Center Program Supervisor)

John McCarron (Deputy Superintendent of the Town of Huntington)

- **Centerport Senior Beach House:** Each Town official noted the importance of maintaining the infrastructure and safety of the aging building. The officials stated that renting out the Senior Pavillion on Saturdays (day the facility is closed to the seniors) would be a possibility. The audience expressed great concern over the rumor that the Town would perhaps be installing a restaurant in the house to be open to the seniors during senior hours of operation and to the general public after senior hours.
- Some seniors in attendance expressed their concerns and dismay regarding the possibility of losing the Senior Beach House to the general public. It was duly noted that many seniors believe that the Town's actions appear to "lack transparency".
- It was suggested that a follow up meeting regarding this issue take place. TBA.

Local Updates (Anne Wesp, President of Centerport Harbor Civic Association)

Article 78:

- CHCA has filed an Article 78 with the Town regarding the Jellyfish Restaurant project.
- The case has been assigned a judge; CHCA is waiting for a court date to be assigned.

Tidal Gates at Centerport Harbor.

- It's the Town's responsibility to open and close the gates.

Next General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7:00 pm at Harborfields Library in the SMALL MEETING ROOM.