



**TOWN OF SHELTER ISLAND
SHELTER ISLAND
NEW YORK**

**Taylor's Island Preservation and Management Committee
September 8, 2009
Minutes**

Members Present: Co-Chairs P.A.T. Hunt and Richie Surozenski, Barbara Clark, Kathleen Gooding and Town Liaison Councilman Ed Brown

Members Excused: Keith Clark, Michael Laspia

Guest: Carol Galligan

Meeting called to order: 9:12 AM

Our new Committee member, Kathy Gooding, was welcomed to the Committee.

Our guest, Carol Galligan, who is interested in serving on the Taylor's Island Preservation and Management Committee, was introduced by Co-Chair Hunt.

The August 11, 2009 Minutes were accepted by Co-Chair Richie Surozenski and seconded by Barbara Clark.

Old Business:

Grant:

NYSOPR&HP EPF/HP:

The resolution was passed at a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 25th. The application deadline is Monday, September 14, 2009. Co-Chair Hunt sent all the original materials with signatures, requested by J. O'Connell and Associates Grant Writer Tom Lajewski, to their office. The materials include ten (10) individual letters of support and thirteen (13) public support forms, most containing 26 signatures.

On Monday, September 7th, Co-Chair Hunt went to Taylor's Island with Keith Clark and Alfred Kilb to gather information for the budget which includes existing conditions, proposed work, completion time (months from award), and cost. This information was emailed to Grant Writer Tom Lajewski along with additional letters of support that were received by email and do not include signatures.

Co-Chair Hunt will confirm with Grant Writer Tom Lajewski that the application is on an Historic Preservation application and not on a Parks application.

Bulkhead/Seawall repair/restoration and funding possibilities:

Since the Town requested the repair/restoration project be split into critical and non-critical areas, the bulkhead on the north and northeast sides of the Island and closest to

Mr. Taylor's gravesite and the historic Smith-Taylor Cabin (Area 2) is a priority with plans to do the work this year.

Financial Business—August 31, 2009:

Co-Chair Hunt reported:

NY Class Account balance is \$80,249.61; Chase Business High Yield Savings Account balance is \$4,041.68; General Fund is \$2,000.

Co-Chair Hunt checked with the Supervisor's office again regarding scheduling an appointment to discuss the 2010 budget and is waiting to hear back.

Update on Website:

Co-Chair Hunt reported a total of 9,210 visitors.

Update on Work Accomplished at Taylor's Island and Future Plans:

Committee members discussed refinishing the porch deck, building a landing box, using the mushroom anchor inside the bulkhead, advertising for a stake and pulley mooring and a boat, and the pros and cons of propane and electric refrigerators.

Co-Chair Hunt questioned a landscaper regarding ridding Taylor's Island of Japanese bamboo or knotweed, whichever is growing there. The landscaper said black plastic wouldn't work, no native species can stand up to it and suggested contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension, which Co-Chair Hunt did. Cornell Cooperative Extension's Horticulture Department addressed containment with putting up barriers and digging trenches, not elimination, and said to check with the American Bamboo Society for further information. When asked specifically about elimination, the two suggestions Cornell offered were to strip off 6-8" of soil or whatever depth is needed to remove the rhizomes/runners or to apply a non-selective herbicide.

Mike Loriz was invited to take a look at the original Taylor's Island canoe with restoration in mind, which he did. He suggested displaying the canoe at the Smith-Taylor Cabin rather than restoring it to be seaworthy, saying a new canoe could be built in less time.

Update on NYS Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Cabinet:

Co-Chair Hunt spoke with Jane Finalborgo of Congressman Tim Bishop's Southampton office on Friday, September 4th about Taylor's Island Seawall Repair being placed back under Parks where Taylor's Island was initially listed, along with being listed under the DEC, which wrote "DEC staff have been unable to identify any funding available for your project under the Recovery Act or programs at this agency." Co-Chair Hunt will follow-up with Congressman's Bishop office.

TNC/TIP&MC/TIF Trip to Taylor's Island:

This joint trip by land is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th from 10-11:30 AM and begins at Mashomack's Visitor's Center. A press release sent by TNC Cindy Belt to the *Shelter Island Reporter* will appear on Thursday, September 24th.

Coecles Harbor Marine Water Trail:

No contact from TNC/Mashomack Preserve on the updated draft of this brochure.

Taylor's Island Preservation and Management Committee:

Committee members received an August 22, 2009 letter from Town Clerk Dorothy Ogar stating the Town Board passed a resolution on August 21st appointing Kathleen Gooding to serve as a member of our Committee.

New Business:***Shelter Island Reporter:***

Co-Chair Hunt passed around recent coverage of Taylor's Island that appeared in the newspaper since our last meeting: articles about the grant application; a *tableau vivant* photo submitted by the Girl Scouts where they posed on the porch of the Smith-Taylor Cabin, circa 1905 photograph of F.M. Smith, Mrs. Smith and other unidentified women; and Supervisor Dougherty's Letter to the Editor.

Youth Center:

At the September 1st Town Board Work Session Lee Oliver spoke about the Youth Center being too hot some days for the youth to be comfortable there. Co-Chair Hunt phoned Lee that evening to invite her and the youth to kayak out to Taylor's Island on those too hot days and also offered to give them a tour of the Smith-Taylor Cabin.

Taylor's Island Foundation News:**Shelter Island Chamber of Commerce Arts & Crafts Fair:**

On Saturday, August 22nd the Foundation participated in this event and displayed the Smith Cabin Signature Quilt, Smith-Taylor Cabin brochures, t-shirts, and John Picker's Snow Scene note cards and gathered signatures on the public support form for applying for the Historic Preservation matching grant through the NYSOPR&HP.

Shelter Island Ducks Unlimited:

Co-Chair Hunt shared a conversation she had with a DU member regarding a night's stay on Taylor's Island being a future auction item. In the meantime, Co-Chair Hunt extended the Smith-Taylor Cabin as a place for the DU Board to hold one of their meetings.

Docent Days:

Over Labor Day weekend Co-Chair Hunt received a telephone call asking her to open the Cabin, which she did, for people who picked up a brochure at an Island restaurant. The three couples were on boats anchored in the Town anchorage area in Coecles Harbor and are members of the North Cove Yacht Club in Old Saybrook, CT.

September 6th Event:

The Essex Yacht Club returned to Taylor's Island; this year they arranged for a Shelter Island caterer to serve them hors d'oeuvres and dinner.

Website:

The redesign and expansion of the website will resume soon.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:56 AM.

Next Meeting: Third Tuesday of the month, October 20, 2009. Mary Ellen McGayhey will record our November 10th meeting for Channel 22.

Respectfully submitted,

P.A.T. Hunt, Co-Chair

Taylor's Island Preservation and Management Committee