

"Whereas", a public hearing was duly held on the 8th day of June, 2012, on a proposed Dickerson Creek Overlook Preserve Stewardship Management Plan, and

"Whereas", all interested persons were heard in favor of or in opposition, now, Therefore
BE IT RESOLVED, That pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and Chapter 60 of the Shelter Island Town Code, the Town Board hereby establishes itself as Lead Agency pursuant to SEQRA, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board adopts a Negative Declaration, finding that this is a "Type I" action which will not result in any significant adverse impacts on the environment based on the analysis set forth in the EAF and the negative declaration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dickerson Creek Overlook Preserve Stewardship Management Plan is hereby adopted, to wit:

**DICKERSON CREEK OVERLOOK PRESERVE
STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN
SHELTER ISLAND, NEW YORK**

Introduction

In 2008, the Town and Suffolk County jointly purchased 1.2 acres of open space at Ian's Lane, bordering Dickerson Creek and the Town landing at the end of Grace's Lane, designated as SCTM 0700-023-01-024.1. Portions of the property have been previously disturbed and contain dumped brush and overgrown vegetation.

Intentions

The property includes a 221' bulkhead fronting on Dickerson Creek, part of the Peconic Estuary system. Dickerson Creek has been stressed by development around it, and it is hoped that this stress will be reduced by preserving this frontage in a natural, undeveloped state. In addition, this property borders the Town Landing at the end of Grace's Lane.

The presence of a raised bulkhead means that the property is not suitable as a bathing beach. However, the portion of the property bordering on Dickerson Creek has a 300° view of the marshes and uplands bordering Dickerson Creek. With a little clearing of undergrowth, it could be a pleasant place for a quiet picnic or scenic contemplation of the wetlands.

Name

The property will be called "Dickerson Creek Overlook Preserve" (formerly owned by Lawnsdale) and will be so-called on all Town maps and descriptive material. The only entrance to the property shall be from Grace's Lane on the south side of the property and shall be marked with a Town/County ownership plaque.

Improvements

The property contains 221' of bulkhead which will have to be maintained over time. The Town and County share ownership 50/50 and should split the cost 50/50. Ordinary repair/maintenance shall be paid from general funds. Costs for replacement of the bulkhead could be charged to Community Preservation Funds if available, or otherwise shall be a general charge on the Town.

Management

The southeasterly corner of the property, adjoining the bulkhead and Grace's Lane will be kept clear of undergrowth (catbriars, bittersweet, etc.) as shown on the attached plan. The existing trees and bushes will be left undisturbed except as necessary to protect the integrity of the bulkhead. The goal is to keep a small area cleared for public use. A single picnic table or bench will be placed there with a sign asking people to take out their own trash. There will be no

grilling on this property. The initial cost for clearing the southeasterly corner would be \$500 and would be charged against the Community Preservation Fund. The estimated cost of maintaining the place for sitting and enjoying the view may be up to \$500 annually.

The balance of the property will be left in its current state, to act as open space, habitat for animals and for stormwater recharge. It is currently overgrown with invasive, non-native vegetation, and this plan may be amended at some future time to deal with removal of those plants, grading and other materials which may have been dumped on the property.

Public Access and Signage

Public access will be permitted on the southeasterly corner. The end of Grace's Lane is very quiet, so people using the property should park on the road.

The Town will erect the standard Town/County Community Preservation Fund signage (bronze plaque) at the southerly side of the property near Grace's Lane.

Measures to Protect Ecology

The Town will manage the property to protect the ecology of this property. Specifically:

(i) Birds: no particular action will be taken except to avoid use of pesticides or chemicals which could harm them.

(ii) Animals: The bulk of the property will be left in an undisturbed state as habitat for plants and animals.

(iii) Wetlands: If the bulkhead reaches the end of its usefulness, the Town could consider replacing it with a more natural shoreline protection device using the technology available at that time.

The Community Preservation Fund Advisory Board will prepare an annual report to the Town Board of expenditures from the Community Preservation Fund for stewardship of this property.