

MINUTES OF MS4 COMMITTEE MEETING
November 9, 2015

Present: Paul Shepherd, Peter Reich, Jay Card, Laury Dowd,
Absent: Butch Labrozzi, John Colby, Billy Banks, Chris Tehan

The committee discussed the Town of Shelter Island's membership in the Peconic Estuary Protection Committee. The PEPC involves the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Southold and Shelter Island as well as the villages of Greenport, North Haven and Sag Harbor. The PEPC focuses on implementation of the MS4 permit requirements as well as other water issues of interest to the East End.

Participation in the PEPC will better allow the town to access MS4 information, participate in MS4 educational events and obtain MS4 training. As a regional group it can apply pressure to the DEC to obtain funding for labs to test water quality to keep shellfish beds open and to work with the DEC to identify mutually agreeable testing protocols and baseline water quality data. It will also tap into knowledge about other state and federal initiatives underway that will impact Shelter Island. The cost for participating in 2016 will be a one-time \$1800, with the goal being that the town pay the full fee of \$6000 in 2017. The MS4 committee endorsed participation in the PEPC in 2016.

The committee reviewed the presentation prepared by the Town of Southold on an analysis of Nitrogen TMDLs. The DEC and LI Regional Planning Council are planning development of a Nitrogen Management Plan for Long Island. PEPC wants to be sure that the plan is developed based on accurate and timely data. Southold has begun putting a GIS database together that will collect available data to make it available in an easily accessible format. The project is still in the early stages but will be monitored.

Laury noted that Shelter Island had submitted comments to the DEC on their recent proposed redraft of the MS4 permit. The redraft focuses on increasing the reporting requirement for entities subject to TMDL standards (not Shelter Island) but it is an opportunity to ask the DEC to remove the listing of Dering Harbor as an impaired waterbody.

Laury also noted that the PEPC was planning a meeting with the DEC on what standards are used to designate 303d waterbodies. Southold will be discussing Maratooka Lake, which in many ways is similar to Fresh Pond. This will allow the town to better understand and comment on future DEC designations.

A new calendar was approved for 2016. The dates will be:
1/11, 2/8, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12, 10/17, 11/14, 12/12

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

The December meeting will be cancelled. The next meeting will be on January 11, 2016.