

WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PO Box 970
Shelter Island, NY 11964

MINUTES OF MEETING
May 11, 2015

Members Present: Hoot Sherman, Peter Grand, Ken Pysher, Town Liaison Supervisor Dougherty

Members Excused: William Anderson

Others Present: Howard Johansen, Albert Dickson

The meeting opened at 7:30 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7:30PM.**

April 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes were approved.

New Business:

Monitoring Well Information:

Member Pysher reported that all wells are below their April averages. He noted that 8 wells are up for the month, one well remained the same, and 4 wells were lower for the readings taken by the USGS on April 13, 2015. He noted that Little Ram is at its lowest ever reading for April. He further noted that while all well levels are below their April averages, their average April levels have been lower in previous years.

Old Business:

Irrigation Legislation:

Member Sherman stated that after carefully reviewing the new Irrigation Law, he noted that it states that monitoring and enforcing the new laws will be the duty of the Building Inspector. The WAC agreed that monitoring proper installation and enforcing the law is not the charge of the WAC.

USGS:

Member Sherman reported that the USGS made a presentation approximately three weeks ago, proposing several different ways to monitor the quality of the water.

Member Pysher described the various options that were presented. He stated that the USGS monitors water quality nationwide and has the ability to consistently enter the data into their system, which helps to establish a baseline for tracking. He said that they proposed to test six wells.

The WAC generally agreed that it is pointless to test for pharmaceuticals, as there is nothing that can be done about that, but they feel it is important to test for nutrients.

Member Sherman noted that the WAC sent a letter to the Town Board requesting permission to sample water quality from wells that are actually being used, at various locations on the Island, submitted by volunteers. He stated that this would be a much less expensive way to test for the quality of the water.

Howard Johansen stated that having the USGS pump these stagnant wells in the center of the Island is not going to give you an accurate picture of the actual wells that are being used.

The WAC agreed to invite the USGS to come back to begin narrowing down the options. Member Sherman indicated that he would contact USGS to schedule this.

New Business:

SI Heights POC Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2014:

The WAC reviewed the SIHPOC 2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report and discussed the possibility of the Town producing a similar annual report.

Green Fair:

Supervisor Dougherty reported that the Green Fair will be scheduled to coincide with the August Craft Fair again this year.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle LiCausi
Clerk to the Committees