

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO THE SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY RESERVE COUNCIL

Final CAC Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present:

Maureen Dolan Murphy, Citizens Campaign for the Environment/Chair CAC
Rob Weltner, Operation SPLASH/Vice-Chair CAC
Jeremy Campbell, NYS DOS/Reserve Coordinator
Becky Boger, Brooklyn College
Kelly Britt, Brooklyn College
Dorian Dale, Suffolk County
Alli DePerte, Atlantic Marine Conservation Society (AMCS)
Maureen Dunn, Seatuck Environmental Association
Scott Ferrara, Brooklyn College/The Graduate Center
Katharhy Grossman, Brooklyn College/Lehman College
Emily Hall, Seatuck Environmental Association
Sally Kellogg, NYS DOS/Reserve Office
Artie Kopelman, Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island (CRESLI)
Chris Olijnyk, National Park Service
Lane Smith, NY Sea Grant/Chair TAC

1. Introductions

M. Dolan Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. There was not a quorum to vote on past meeting minutes.

2. The Intercommunity Climate Stories Mapping Group (ICsMG): Community Mapping Climate Change: Stories from the Great South Bay, Long Island

K. Britt described the ICsMG, this pilot project is funded through a CUNY grant and will use community engagement using storytelling and mapping to document climate change's effect to the natural environment and cultural heritage in the key project area, the Great South Bay, specifically the Town of Islip including Fire Island communities. This project will focus on public knowledge of the community landscape, environment, buildings, and heritage spaces. The project team was named: Kelly Britt, Rebecca (Becky) Boger, Katharhy G., Scott Ferrara.

The hypothesis for this project is that equitable adaptation to the impacts of climate change, in particular sea level rise and extreme events, will be more resilient and sustainable when the perspectives of various and diverse community stakeholders are involved in the co-planning,

co-production of knowledge, and ultimately the co-implementation of strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on natural resources and cultural heritage. The project aims to identify cultural spaces and materials that are threatened by climate change, to gather stories/experiences from diverse community stakeholders and to develop a strategy for conservation by engaging the local community members. Cultural heritage helps explain the community relationships to history, local expertise links stories to specific locations, which aid in identifying significant site/areas.

The project team asked community members to participate in this project through a survey and/or a one-on-one interview. The online survey will take 15-30 minutes to complete and will be anonymously submitted, no personal identification information will be collected. Survey participants who wish to submit additional thoughts and experiences are encouraged to contact the project team. Survey questions are multiple choice and long answer, they include demographic information, site location, story of site, etc. Risks and benefits of participation were outlined. The team discussed how the information will be used and shared, via StoryMaps to connect people and stories while identifying risk from climate change. Findings will be presented to the community and professional organizations. The historic bay houses were cited as an example. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to: kellym.britt@brooklyn.cuny.edu or RBoger@brooklyn.cuny.edu. Acknowledgments were made and the [survey link](#) was provided: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/0f4cc81c7285404fb934ee85665ef7fe>. A fact sheet and survey link will be sent after the meeting.

See slides for additional details.

Comment: D. Dale: Suggested reaching out to local community groups and historical societies, community rising groups and volunteers.

Comment: K. Britt: Stories can be from residents outside of Islip.

Question: A. DePerte: When will submissions stop being collected?

Answer: K. Britt: At the moment there is no “end date” but initial analysis will begin in February 2022, but the survey will still be live.

3. South Shore Estuary Reserve Office

J. Campbell noted that National Estuaries Week is September 18 – 24 and will be a social media campaign this year and asked CAC members to follow the DOS social media accounts. He also highlighted that SSER has elevated the program’s social media presence on the DOS outlets. Staff will be participating in A Day in the Life again this year and the SSER Council meeting save the date will be sent out shortly.

Comment: M. Murphy: Suggested to include USACE Back Bays study update as a Council meeting agenda item.

L. Smith informed the group that the October 5, 2021 TAC meeting will elect the next chair and co-chair TAC positions, current terms end in December 2021. There is a meeting later in September where a draft outline of the SAV document will be shared with the Towns to get their feedback.

7. Public Comment/Announcements

M. Dolan Murphy – Instructions for attending the Sunrise Wind hearings will be sent out. Congressman Suozzi is having an event on 9/17 focused on offshore wind and job opportunities.

M. Dunn – Sunrise Wind is starting to write their Environmental Impact Statement, the comment to BOEM are due by 9/30/2021. There are three scoping meetings: 9/16, 9/20, 9/22. The South Fork Wind Farm already has a final environmental impact statement. There was recently a scoping meeting for the large whale take reduction plan for crab pots and lobster pots for NY/Rhode Island/New Jersey/Connecticut if anyone has a comment please contact Maureen Dunn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.