

# **TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**

## **FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL BOARD**

### **January 17, 2023 Meeting**

**The Flood and Erosion Control Board** held a Public Meeting at 7 PM on Tuesday January 17, 2023 in the First Floor Conference room of the Sullivan Independence Hall.

A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6ES6HgLLY8>

#### **MINUTES**

Members Present: Vice Chair Don Lamberty, Secretary Richard Dmochowski

Members Absent: Chair Becky Bunnell, Paul Landino, Peter Wiswell

Others Present: Ash Creek Conservancy Association Chair Gail Robinson, Rick Landau

1. Call to Order

Richard Dmochowski called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Dmochowski acknowledged that they didn't have a quorum for a regular meeting but continued the meeting for information purposes. No votes will be taken.

2. To Hear, Consider and Act Upon Minutes of the December 13, 2022, meeting.

This item is postponed until the next meeting in February as no votes can be taken at this meeting.

3. To hear a presentation by the Ash Creek Conservancy Association

Ash Creek Conservancy Association Chair Gail Robinson shared her presentation of the Ash Creek Estuary Master Plan for 2023 on the Webex screen. Ms. Robinson addressed the serious erosion along the shoreline and how increased storms cause sea level rise in residential neighborhoods. Taking action now will save money before a full collapse of the eco system. The ACCA is working with Save the Sound who acquired a \$700,000 grant to do studies on how to save the shoreline and the sand spit that has also decreased. Once the studies are done, it is possible that Save the Sound will be eligible for millions of dollars in grants to do the work recommended by the studies. The full report can be accessed at [www.saveourspit.org](http://www.saveourspit.org). There is a 68-page master plan.

4. Discussion on evolving plans for Penfield Pavilion plan

Richard Dmochowski said there was a large attendance at the last meeting due to the information regarding Penfield Pavilion. Residents are writing to First Selectwoman Kupchick requesting a public meeting to discuss Penfield. The town is still waiting for a response to a proposal to FEMA. Chairwoman Becky Bunnell would like to see flooding be mitigated for residents who live in the area near Penfield. The Administration realizes they need to do something for the residents there.

5. Review status of items on the FECB Project List

- Downtown Resiliency – No update. Mr. Dmochowski will look into this.

- Rooster River Detention area- Awaiting permits.
- High Intensity Wave Damage Study- There is money for this study but there is no update. This study advise what methods and materials will help with flooding. Engineering and Purchasing will work together to get the RFP out for bid.
- Perry Green Bulkhead- RACE is almost ready to present the package to Engineering who will then send it to DEEP for approval.

6. Any additional business that may properly come before the Board.  
Richard Dmochowski is drafting a letter to go to the Harbor Management Commission. The HMC is proposing to dredge Southport Harbor. FECB Chairwoman Becky Bunnell would like to use the sand on Fairfield beaches. Mr. Dmochowski read the letter outlining the desire to use the sand to renourish and restore the beaches. The letter was sent to the FECB members.

7. Adjourn

Richard Dmochowski adjourned the meeting at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien

Recording Secretary (*Approved at the 2/21/23 FECB meeting*)

