

## QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO ALL CANDIDATES

Citizens for Access Rights, CfAR, is following this year's election closely. Our members and supporters are very interested in your position on topics related to access, use, ownership and the many other issues facing our shorelines and beaches. The board of CfAR has come up with 8 questions for the supervisor, town board, and trustee candidates which we respectfully ask you to answer. We will be sharing your answers with our 1,000+ members and supporters as well as posting them to our website. Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your answers with our group.

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?
2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?
3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)
4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?
5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?
6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?
7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?
8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

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**PETER VAN SCOYOC**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes, I support our current regulations. Over the last 4 years I have voted in favor of the acquisition of more than 300 acres including many waterfront parcels of land expanding access to Three Mile Harbor, Northwest Creek, Accabonac Harbor, Hog Creek, Napeague Bay, Lake Montauk, and prevented the sale of the only Town owned public access to Fort Pond.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes, I am a Surf fisherman and drive the beach.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Yes

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I have long supported "soft solutions" for shorelines. The ACOE Downtown Stabilization Project in Montauk was the result of Superstorm Sandy which left the Town Board with 3 options: Do nothing, Geotextile bags with a dune profile planted with beach grass, or a rock wall with a boardwalk.

Doing nothing would likely have led to a Judge granting hotel owners emergency permits to build rock revetments and no inclusion of Montauk in the Fire Island to Montauk Point project FIMP. Building a rock wall with a boardwalk, in my opinion, would have been an unmitigated disaster. I chose to support the Geo bag option (a short term measure) to give us time to develop a long term approach to coastal erosion. The Stabilization Project also made Montauk eligible for the FIMP, a sand only major beach replenishment which is currently in the planning stages and fully funded by Congress. As part of our long term approach, we have initiated a Coastal Assessment and Resiliency Planning Study C.A.R.P. with \$435,000 of grant funding as well as the Montauk Hamlet Study which identify areas at risk and plans for adapting to the changing coastline and sea level rise. The goal is preserving our beaches and reducing or eliminating harmful interactions between the built environment and the sea along our coastline.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I voted to hire counsel to start condemnation proceedings in the case mentioned above. Our economy and way of life depend on our beaches remaining public for all to enjoy. I will do whatever is appropriate and necessary to ensure public access.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while

allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers? Town policy has not changed. The Town has communicated directly with CFAR and its members about closures and gives updates about scheduling of fencing going up or coming down. I support an open and ongoing dialogue with CFAR to insure that closures have the least impact on humans while fulfilling our obligation to the Federal Endangered Species Act and US Fish and Wildlife. It is the active stewardship of the Town that prevents massive closures of our beaches by the Feds.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

91-4(F)

“No person shall disturb or endanger any protected bird nesting area on the beach...”

“As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board or their duly authorized agent or agents will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited.”

I see no contradiction. Symbolic fencing identifies the “nesting area” and fencing is placed once the birds create a “nesting site”.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I enjoy all of our beaches throughout the year from Beach Lane to Montauk; swimming, fishing, walking, or driving.

## **MANNY VILAR**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

NO. In short, I would like to expand Beach access to areas that are not heavily used by pedestrian access between the major beaches with clearly identified pass through lanes on the heavily pedestrian access areas. I am a huge supporter of the existing access right and would be in favor of expanding access rights. Also the expansion of resident parking, one excellent example would be Dolphin Drive.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

YES

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

YES

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

NO – under no uncertain terms- my logic is simple NYS owns the most valuable ocean front real estate (Jones Beach, Robert Moses, Gilgo State Parks and Ocean State Parkway) and has adopted a policy of no revetments and sand pump and replenishment. Why would East Hampton Town adopt a different Policy???? NO I would not support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

YES

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I support a policy that is consistent with federally approved guidelines. I would recommend that EHT follow and be consistent with federally approved policies. I am adamantly opposed to "symbolic Fencing" of any kind.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival?

NO

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I enjoy Napeague to drive on to fish, bath and BBQ and have done so since childhood. I have grown up on our ocean front beaches. All 6 of my children have been raised on our ocean front beaches. To this

day we still as a family and individually recreate on our ocean front beaches. I firmly believe we have a historic right of as established in the Dongan patent which created the town's borders and authorized the trustees to preserve the rights of East Hampton freeholders to use the town's natural resources, "tracts and necks of lands, [. . .] gardens, orchards, fields, pastures, woods, trees, pasture, marshes, swamps, waters, lakes, brooks, streams, *beaches*, quarries, mines" and to maintain their right to "fish, hawk, hunt, and fowl."

## **JEFFREY BRAGMAN**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I am supportive of public access to the beaches and want to maintain public rights. It is one of the historic protections which makes East Hampton unique. Beaches are a public asset and should be protected as such.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I support beach driving. It is a historic practice in the Town and part of the fabric of our local community. I would oppose any effort to limit it.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I support the LWRP, and want to see it fully followed in applications which are subject to its requirements.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I support only soft solutions, and would not have voted for the geo-textile bags in the beach in Montauk, although I realize the decision was a difficult one. I have participated in the Town's planning process over many years, and am familiar with the studies we did on beach erosion. I think the science is clear that hard structures cause beach loss and damage down drift properties. The beach is a dynamic feature which erodes and accretes. The only sensible approach is to allow it to function as such. Sand replenishment and planting beach vegetation are my preferred approaches. However, sand replenishment requires an ocean going barge, of which there are very few, and the cost to deploy one far exceeds our capacity to pay as a small Town with a limited budget. I would support sand replenishment involving other levels of government, provided it met our local environmental standards and was subjected to a full SERQA analysis.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and

considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

If we win the suit I would not support condemnation. Public rights would be vindicated and that would logically rule out condemnation. I am unclear why it would make sense to pay public dollars for beach access if a court confirmed public access as a matter of law. Condemnation could be considered in the event of a loss. However, condemnation can result in a huge financial burden to the Town, as occurred after it condemned Barcelona Point. The Town's appraisal and offer is not the final word, and any award will be reviewed by a court, likely with a slant in favor of owners' rights. Therefore, condemnation is not something to be rushed into, without considering the availability of other options. A sale by a willing seller is always preferable to condemnation. I am unclear of whether other levels of government could be of assistance in the event of a loss ending the litigation.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

My understanding of the use of string fencing is that it is necessary and appropriate within areas where the Natural Resources Department knows the location of historic nesting sites. If necessary, I think the code could be amended to explicitly permit this type of fencing before actual nesting occurs. I prefer keeping pedestrians away from areas where piping plovers are known to congregate as a step toward establishing their nests. They are beautiful little birds and we should do everything possible to preserve them and encourage a significant population increase.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

For clarity, if necessary, I think the code could be amended to permit the use of string fencing within locations of known historic nesting

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

All beaches. I have relaxed and read on many; enjoyed evening beach fires; walked my dogs when permitted; kayaked off of others; and surf casted as well. I support all appropriate public activities on public beaches, and want to maintain the continued right for all to do so.

## **KATHEE BURKE-GONZALEZ**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes, I support the laws and regulations as currently written. If reelected, I will continue to support, protect and preserve keeping the beaches public and accessible. We are currently purchasing waterfront properties with CPF monies to not only protect our fragile shoreline but to expand areas where the public can launch a kayak or paddleboard, or have a picnic. Four such properties are located on Gerard Drive.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes, I support beach driving. Obviously access must be achieved from current entry points, as no one should access the beach by driving over a dune, bluff or vegetation.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Yes, I support the LWRP as written. The Town is currently in the process of conducting a Coastal Assessment & Resiliency Plan (CARP) to address the short- and long-term impacts of erosion and flooding from more frequent storms, long-term erosion trends, climate change and sea-level rise. The process is designed to find adaptive ways to reduce damages, maintain our communities and protect our natural resources. Once CARP is completed and we've come to consensus as a community, we should re-visit the LWRP.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I support a soft approach – sand replenishment and natural dunes – as a means of erosion control along the shoreline. Sand replenishment seldom causes damage to the shoreline and provides additional recreational area. As a consequence of severe coastal erosion during Sandy in October 2012, the protective beach was largely eroded causing damage to the commercial buildings in downtown Montauk. The buildings were left vulnerable to additional damages from future storms. The Downtown Montauk Beach Stabilization Project was designed by the Army Corps of Engineers as a short-term measure to provide needed coastal storm risk management. The 3,100 feet of reinforced



dune extends west to east from South Emery Street to Atlantic Terrace Motel and tapers into high dunes at both ends of the project area. The project was designed to provide protection to the existing commercial buildings in downtown Montauk as we wait for the Fire Island to Montauk Point (FIMP) plan of a full-scale beach nourishment project consisting of over 750,000 cubic yards of sand distributed over a longer area of shoreline and adding over 400,000 cubic yards once every four years. The NYS DOS found the beach stabilization project consistent with the LWRP. The Downtown Montauk Beach Stabilization Project was a project with warts but after seeing the damage from Sandy in the Rockaways and Breezy Point, and seeing the exposed septic rings in front of the Royal Atlantic as well as water lapping at the hotel's foundation, it was clear to me that a temporary stop-gap measure was necessary to protect the beach and the downtown businesses until FIMP. As far as supporting similar projects in other parts of town, I don't foresee the need for a beach stabilization project in other parts of Town.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Should the town lose the current appeal I would support moving forward with condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access. Should the Town win the appeal I don't see the need for condemnation, but I would want to hear from the Town's and the Trustees' outside counsel.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

According to the Natural Resources Department there has been no change in Town Policy. As stated in the Town of East Hampton Management and Protection Plan for Threatened and Endangered Species... "Piping plovers arrive on East Hampton Town beaches beginning in early to mid-March. At this time, string-fencing is installed to protect historic nesting sites where pairs tend to return each breeding season. The purpose of the stringfencing is to preserve their nesting habitat from foot and vehicular traffic while pairs set up their territories. ... If nests are found outside of string-fenced areas, the fenced area is adjusted to protect each nest. The circumstances surrounding each nest is evaluated on a case-by-case basis ....Our efforts are focused on facilitating the earliest possible nesting successes for individual bird pairs so that public access restrictions are not prolonged. The more cooperative the public can be in respecting site-specific restrictions, the more likely individual pairs will be successful in fledging their young as early as possible, thus limiting the length of restricted access. ...In order to protect foraging hatchlings, temporary snowfences or similar restrictive fences are installed (just prior to a nest hatch date) to restrict vehicles and dogs from areas where broods are located. As a general rule this restricted area is erected approximately 1,000 meters on either side of a nest site and extends

from the toe of the dune to the mean high water mark. Broods are monitored frequently to be sure that the temporary fencing provides an adequate area of protection. Restricted areas are modified as necessary if broods are found to have moved significant distances along the beaches.” It is my understanding that on some beaches the area for nesting is very limited and the piping plovers return to the exact same area year after year. However on some beaches the potential nesting sights cover more area so the Natural Resources Department stakes out a larger area initially with string-fencing until the piping plovers nest and then it is adjusted.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

According to the Town of East Hampton Management and Protection Plan for Threatened and Endangered Species “string-fencing is installed to protect historic nesting sites where pairs tend to return each breeding season.” So it is not a new practice to use string fence on potential nesting sites. So there does appear to be a conflict between Town Code Section 91-4-F and the Town of East Hampton Management and Protection Plan for Threatened and Endangered Species. Given the different jurisdictions involved including the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as well the Town Board and the Town Trustees – this issue needs to be vetted prior to next Spring.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

Four or five days a week, I head down to one of the ocean beaches -- Main Beach, Georgica, Indian Wells or Atlantic Beach -- to re-gain my sense of balance and calm, to read a book, to catch a sunrise or sunset, and/or to eat my lunch while I listen to the waves crash. Given the primary election this summer, I had little time for one of my favorite activities – lounging on the beach with family and friends.

## **PAUL GIARDINA**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes. The most important change I would make is to support the Republican Trustee candidate initiative to update the beach guides for the Town to show exact locations of all beaches and their entry points and their access routes. These need to be updates and when there has been encroachment by private homeowner’s actions there needs to be code enforcement. I would review the penalties for encroaching on public beaches, beach access, and parking so that the fines are substantial.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Yes. The major problem with the LWRP is that under Section 150-15 it is stated “the Planning Department will assist each agency with preliminary evaluation of actions in the coastal area and with preparation of a coastal assessment form (CAF)”. The CAF does not exist in East Hampton, and there is no coordination between this and the State’s plan. The LWRP committee has apparently met once in 11 years. The question is not whether I support the LWRP, the question is whether the Town is competent in its implementation of the LWRP as currently written. Clearly, it is not. I cite as examples the storage batteries proposed in Montauk.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton’s ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

Sand replenishment and natural dunes are the preferred alternative for erosion control now for our beaches. That does not mean that a periodic review of approaches on a routine basis should not be accomplished. I would be open to a 5 year review of the status of erosion control efforts at all of our beaches because storm surge will inevitably pose challenges in the future. Clearly, a review of effectiveness would probably be warranted after another super storm. I personally believe revetments are not appropriate as a solution under any circumstances. I would add that now that a commitment has been made to the geotextile bag approach in Montauk, the idea of a formal periodic review makes sense. After all a significant changes was engineered. Now let’s see if it works. In the end, the decision as to whether we develop an overarching policy of “holding the line”, or “retreating” is a decision that must be made with public input for obvious reasons. Storm surge predictions seem to identify the bay side beaches as most vulnerable. This may also be the area where the most important commercial assets needed for the well-being of the community are located. 70 percent of Europe is “holding-the-line” and still preserving ocean and sea beaches in many cases with a minimum of hard structuring along those coast lines and with emphasis on harbors, and channels. I envision 5 year reviews to look at these issues.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal?

Yes. Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public’s use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Yes. I only believe in condemnation when there is reasonable evidence that the challenges brought by private residence are frivolous such as the two cited above.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I support the federally approved Plover policy. The competence of any other policy is subject to question.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

I support the Town Code as is without a change for anticipatory nesting.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

Indian Wells primarily, and on rare occasions Atlantic Beach and some village beaches. I have historically also used Napeague Beaches but have avoided them lately because of parking concerns and unruly and rude local residents.

### **JERRY LARSEN**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton?

I support the current laws allowing public access. However, some of the laws need to be improved to be clearer so there is no confusion when it comes to allowing public access to our beaches.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches?

YES

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written?

YES

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline?

NO

Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton’s ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

NO. (SAND ONLY)

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public’s use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

YES

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

WE SHOULD BE FOLLOWING FEDERAL LAWS ONLY.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

NO

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

My family and I enjoy using our beaches throughout our town. We enjoy Driving, swimming, fishing, surfing and relaxing with friends.

## **JOHN ALDRED**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes, I support current laws. I would protect public access from confiscatory lawsuits and advocate for additional public access to beaches by Town residents, particularly by creating more upland parking opportunities.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I support responsible beach driving.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

It is my understanding that the LWRP is currently being reviewed for modifications necessary to bring it up to date. I see the LWRP as a living document that needs to be kept current and in tune with the needs of the community. I contributed in a small way to the LWRP fisheries section as Director of the Town Shellfish Hatchery.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I would prefer soft approaches and where feasible I would add retreat from the beach as one of them, perhaps facilitated by CPF land purchases.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

If the Town were out of appeals, I would support condemnation as a last resort. As to the second part of the question, my understanding is that if the lawsuit is finally won by the Town after exhausting all appeals, future condemnation would be far more affordable and may be warranted, but the tenor of the outcome of the court process might be important in making that decision.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I support protection of colonial bird nesting areas along the beaches, as do you. I believe that if more human resources could be devoted to monitoring the nesting and fledging of the birds, allowing greater fine tuning of their protection protocols, less wholesale area closures would be needed.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Again, if more monitoring were forthcoming, the need for preemptive closures would diminish. I would support increased monitoring.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I enjoy most of the beaches, mainly for swimming and beachcombing and in particular ocean beaches with a good body surfing break. For the sense of East Hampton's classic isolation and connection between land and sea, something I think all people attracted to this area appreciate, there are no better examples than the shores from Water Fence to Rocky Point and from Shagwong to Montauk Point.

## **JOE BLOECKER**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

No. It had no Trustee input therefore should be redrafted with Trustee input.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

Downtowns need to be protected but never with perpendicular structures or groins. Only parallel structures should be used and as much as possible be constructed on private property paid for by the property owner being protected.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Yes. Yes. Yes.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

A law is a law and should be enforced or overturned.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

No.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

Georgica (crabbing)

## **FRANCIS BOCK**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I support the use and access rules and regulations as currently written. As a sitting Trustee Clerk, I have fully supported the successful Napeague Beach lawsuit. I also intend to support continued litigation against any appeal of the case by the homeowners, if successfully re-elected.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I absolutely support beach driving as a use of and means of accessing East Hamptons beaches.

However, I believe beach parking and beach-driving permits should be reissued on a regular basis.

Doing so would keep permit ownership current with the vehicle ownership. I lean towards the idea of a universal permit that would allow access to both uses.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)



I do support the LWRP, however I believe it is a living document that will adjust as warranted by changes in our waterfronts. I do think it needs to be strengthened to prevent any future Town Board the ability to ignore the LWRP for any Government proposed project.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I support only soft approaches to shoreline erosion. It's clear that hard construction approaches are a death sentence to our beaches as it prevents all natural re-nourishment. As per Montauk, the replenishment portion of that project was never completed and I don't believe we can count on the Federal Government to bear that expense. So no, I would not support.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I would support condemnation only if we should lose the appeal. If we were to win I see no need to resort to condemnation, mostly because doing so, would take the beach out of the Trustee hands and give full control to the Town.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers? I feel this past migratory bird season should have been handled better. Nesting areas should not be delineated before the birds make an appearance and show interest in nesting in an area. The Town should have funding should be in place to hire enough manpower to run the program as designed. If short staff, corners will be cut by marking areas traditionally used for nesting and probably covering a larger area to reduce the need to return and make adjustments as needed.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

No, beach space should not be closed before migratory birds arrive. The program was well thought out when designed, and the Town Code was written to implement that program.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I use most beaches in East Hampton, Springs and Amagansett. Very rarely do I use Montauk beaches. Mostly I use the beaches for relaxation or walking. Occasionally I will take my truck on the beach for a leisurely drive or picnic.

**BRIAN BRYNES**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Yes

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

Soft

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Yes

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

The Town of East Hampton decides piping plover fencing not the Trustees. That being said if a problem was to arise we would voice our concerns.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is

prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

The Town of East Hampton decides piping plover fencing not the Trustees. That being said if a problem was to arise we would voice our concerns.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

ALL of them.

## **GARY COBB**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I am in agreement with a proposal by TT that an all user "Beach Access Permit" be created. I also believe that EHT should consider a "Beach Warden" program, similar to Southampton Town's, that deputizes, if you will, civilians to assist with beach driving and use code enforcement.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

YES. Vehemently....

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I do support it but I am concerned that it may in fact not even be coming into play as consistency applications were reportedly never created.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I do not support beach replenishment or shoreline hardening. I support building and zoning laws that preclude building structures of any kind on or too near the beach.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I would support condemnation as a last resort but am concerned that it would then become a "Town owned" beach rather than a Trustee owned beach.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover

protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I support the concept of a local plan but believe that it can be improved upon. I would like to see consideration given to the prospect of using "predator decoys" to dissuade the plovers from nesting in high use areas and encourage them to nest elsewhere. This might work as a similar concept has been in use for quite some time to keep geese off of golf courses and playing fields. I do not support "symbolic string fencing" as it is ridiculous to believe that Plovers give them any regard.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

I DO NOT support closing the areas prior to Plover arrival.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

In my lifetime I have used them all and in all manner ..... Nowadays Maidstone and Sammys are our favs. Maidstone for our HS reunions, beach fires, fireworks, BBQs and hanging with friends and fam. Sammys for the same but add clamming, oystering, scalloping. I enjoy the Ocean beach the most in the Fall when we chase the fish. In my youth I routinely chased other elusive critters there too...

## **DELL CULLUM**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I do support the present laws as they are written in the EH Town Beach Driving pamphlet. I find them safe, reasonable and fair for all people (including those who may not support vehicles on the beach). It also reasonably takes nothing away from those who use and enjoy our beaches, yet maintains a common sense balance of rules to protect them and the use of them by all people. I can't rightly find a reason to change anything, however protecting the rights of use by all people who follow the rules should remain priority.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I support beach driving for any purpose that doesn't break the laws. The only exception is I'm not a huge fan of the "Beach Grooming Trucks". I have evidence that they are not effective but rather churn beach trash into the sand, while simply raking the sand for aesthetic reasons only. It makes as much

sense as combing the beach grass in the dunes each morning. Waste of tax payers money, but not something I let bother me too much. Not yet anyway, as my focus is still keeping trash off the beach and educating folks to set good examples when using the beaches.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I apologize for not being prepared to answer this question. I'm presently reading all 800+ pages of the EH Town LWRP. I can tell you that I am NOT in favor of what happened in Montauk with the sand bag beach. I am pretty much in favor of nature's will when it comes to our shorelines. Non Invasive approaches to any necessary solutions are always my first choices, but invasive actions with no certainty is again wasted money, and usually ends up causing more harm than good on many levels. I also want folks to know that I will not base an answer on an issue that I have not fully researched from all angles. If I'm not familiar with a topic, I will cram to know everything about it and come back with a solid opinion.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

Undoubtably a soft approach. As I mentioned above, I was not in favor of the Army Corps destruction of one of Montauk's beautiful beaches. I don't believe I could support any invasive attacks on our beaches.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

This is the easiest question to answer, as the very thought of privatizing parts of the beach is absolutely ludicrous. I can even believe this topic is being entertained. I, being no stranger to the use of condemnation to thwart ridiculousness, find it quite effective. The subject in which you refer to, absolutely demands that approach, as all the beaches must be public use beaches for ALL. This rings similar to those who move to our beautiful country home, only to build a huge fence around the property to keep the country and "everyone out". Now, certain waterfront homeowners want to build that same fence, with a chunk of the beach to call their own and to keep "everyone out" ? That is simply insane.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas

potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

Having actually seen 4 incidents where both people and dogs disrupted and / or killed a plover chick and smashed egg, with the string fence in place, I would much rather see the individual nest protection. The nests are easy to locate and more effectively protected with stronger material. All 4 incidents that I witnessed wouldn't have happened.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

If the Town were to go back to individual nest protection, or smaller effective areas, I think an early start wouldn't be a bad idea. If the large string fence method remains, I absolutely do NOT think they should be set up early.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

Many of you know I enjoy many of our local beaches. As a photographer I love shooting the surfers at both Ditch and Georgica. Every day I pick up trash at either Napeague, Atlantic, Indian Wells, Two Mile Hollow, or Egypt beach, as well as Fresh Pond, Albert's Landing, Louse Point, and Northwest Harbor. Each winter I photograph the Snowy Owls at a south shore beach location I have to access by vehicle. I also love taking photographs of the deer playing in the shallow waves and dancing at the waters edge, a sight I've only seen here in East Hampton. I also use the beach as my place of worship, which I attend daily. I also start my day with an ocean sunrise, which I also often photograph. I was born and raised on Hedges lane, Amagansett and Indian Wells Beach was my second home. That's the main reason I'm so passionate about keeping our beaches trash free. Their beauty doesn't deserve our filth.

## **RICK DREW**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why?

Yes

If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access.

The East Hampton Town Trustees must be involved with all matters pertaining to Beach Access Rights within the Town of East Hampton. It is imperative that the Trustees retain the best legal counsel on this matter, when required, and consult with user groups such as CFAR. This commitment ensure that the freeholders of the commonality are represented properly in these matters.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes, I am a frequent user of our beaches and I am a beach driver. I often drive on the beach to launch small watercraft, fish, clam and hunt.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Yes, I like our current LWRP. It's a well prepared document. Of particular interest is the emphasis on soft solutions for our beaches. I would hold back on recommending any changes at this time.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

No, Soft solutions are a more natural approach to beach erosion issues. These types of projects are typically more successful and do not impact other sections of nearby beach.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Yes. That seems to be the logical next step. It is important that the Trustees are a part of the process.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

The Town of East Hampton has put a huge emphasis on the current piping plover program. The program is quite successful, with several new nesting sites this year. We need to look at the piping plover fencing regulations this winter and CFAR should be a part of the conversation.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

We need more flexibility on start and end dates. Important matters like beach access and the traditional letting of Georgica Pond are directly affected by these policies.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I feel very fortunate that I have the privilege of using our local beaches for a variety of recreational uses (i.e. clamming, scalloping, fishing, kayaking, surfing, paddleboarding, sailing) Depending on the time of year, I can be found at any number of EH Town beaches. As the fall season moves along, I can be found on our beautiful sand beaches from Napeague Lane in the east to beach lane in the west, mostly surfcasting. We are blessed with amazing local resources, like our beaches and bottomlands. Maintaining responsible public access to these cherished resources is a top priority for my next term of service.

## **JULIE EVANS**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why?

I support the town's current beach use and access laws and regulations. For some in the community, beach use and the historical and economic importance to our town is not fully understood or appreciated. Whether this segment of the population will ever accept that there are bigger issues beyond what they want is, at this point, highly unlikely. I would support the Cfar initiatives to maintain beach access to Truck beach and all our beaches. I am also against privatization of beaches. The action I would take would be to identify beach access entry points to all trustee beaches. I would map the entry points for public use so no homeowner might easily incorporate town property into his own property because the town had not properly maintained it. In doing a survey of beach access points I hope to prevent costly litigation in the future.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I do support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to East Hampton Beaches. There is just no other way to get to some beaches. And for many it would affect their livelihood or their pursuit of recreation. Traditionally, beach driving is considered a right.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

Foremost the LWRP needs to be reconsidered. One might say the Town violated the LWRP when geotextile bags were placed on the downtown Montauk beach. The "no hard structure" element to the LWRP was waived several times by the town when emergencies made it necessary, according to town



officials. However, on trustee lands the LWRP should have no real impact, as long as the trustees do not cave to political pressure.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

The beach replenishment project in Montauk did not work as the Army Corp of Engineers said it would. Like many from the outside there is a lack of understanding in how sediment moves on the east end. I would not support a project similar to the failed project in Montauk. It is touted as an intermediary method however until the Fire Island to Montauk project begins, hopefully in my lifetime. So, I support the soft approach using sand replenishment and dunes to stabilize the coastline.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

If it comes to condemnation I would support that process however long and tied up in the courts the condemnation process takes. Condemnation may be the only way to protect the public's access rights and prevent attempts at privatization.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I support the federal methodology in protecting piping plovers. The recent Town policy is an overreach. I would continue with the federal method that has worked for many years and modify according to migratory timing of the plovers.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Once again I would not modify the Town code. It is apparent that the times of piping plover migration are changing. It is the duty of the Natural Resources Department to work with federal agencies to

figure it out. There is no need to restrict huge swaths of beach by over zealous town employees in anticipation of arriving plovers who may be delayed by, maybe, climate change.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

As a former Montauk Chamber of Commerce Director, I know the beaches are our most highly prized asset. To allow one to be privatized would be cutting our economic bloodline and set a bad president. I enjoy all the beaches but spend most my time swimming at Navy Beach. I would love to visit Truck Beach but I have no four-wheel drive vehicle...yet.

## **JAMES GRIMES**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why?

For the most part, yes I do support the laws pertaining to beach access and the operation of vehicles on the beach. Our present Town Board, I feel, has not done enough to enforce the public's right to beach access. For example, at Beach Plum Park, the Town never followed through on taking title to the reserve areas and access points that the developer originally agreed to. And South Flora is a nature preserve which the public has yet to have access to.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes, I do support beach driving as both a use and a means of access to the beach. With the limited amount of parking available, beach driving is one of the few ways locals can get to and use our beaches. As a Trustee, I would propose and promote maintaining our Trustee roads, not just as access points but where practical, as parking for our local residents.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

The LWRP barely mentions the EH Town Trustees in all 789 pages of the document. The beaches are addressed as components of individual geographic areas. I think some simple language guaranteeing access and use by the public – not just for vehicles – should appear early in this document.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I would prefer a soft approach as a means of erosion control, unless no other alternative could be found. The Army Corps project along Atlantic Beach in Montauk, contrary to some of the press it has gotten, has worked. It seems the shortfall for this project was that the amount of sand budgeted for the project fell short of what was truly needed. A systematic program for sand replenishment is needed.

The trucking of sand from local mines is both costly and in the end does not provide the quantity of sand to do the job. Hydraulically dredging sand from off our shores, I feel, is the only real answer to the problem. Our bay beaches have similar problems but the source for beach compatible sand for those areas can mostly come from the dredging of our existing harbors.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

Yes, regardless of the ultimate outcome of the present lawsuits, until the beaches in these areas are patently in the public's hands, there will always be a risk of future litigation by adjacent property owners.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

During my term as not just a trustee, but also a member of the Nature Preserve Committee, I have been troubled by this approach that has been taken by the Town. In many cases, it has not been clear whether and where the birds actually are. If the goal is truly the protection of the nesting birds, and not denying vehicular access to these areas, then I would close the area to all access. Although harsh, the may be a means of bringing all parties together to work out a solution which can benefit all parties. I would propose a committee composed of a Trustee representative, a CfAR representative, TOEH Natural Resources and TOEH Marine Patrol members to try and work out a system of verification of the bird's presence and location, at which time measures of control could be discussed.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

I could only support a closure prior to the arrival of birds where history has shown they are very likely to be. Let's face it, we are not closing any areas in bathing beaches, we seem to be closing these areas near private residences to keep vehicles away until hopefully a bird arrives to validate the closure. I believe if we are going to do these pre-emptive closures, they should also be closed to the adjacent property owner.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I enjoy all of our beaches, for driving and fishing.

### **SUSAN MCGRAW KEBER**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I do support the current laws and regulations as currently written and believe in the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton. To privatize any portion of the beaches would set a dangerous precedent for the likelihood of another area of the beaches becoming closed to the public. By town condemnation, the public could be reassured of continued and unfettered access to all our beaches. The public would be made aware of such a proposal, as transparency in all matters that concern citizens is essential. As for expansion of public beach access, the public currently has an unalienable right to beach access and I would protect and defend that right. Unlike Connecticut where beaches are often inaccessible to the public, I believe our beaches are part of our natural resources and belong to the public and access should be unfettered.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I do support the tradition of beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches. I expect those who drive on the beach to do so with caution and responsibility. I believe fishermen/women should continue to have the right to come on to the beach with their vehicles for the purpose of fishing. I support safe and responsible vehicle owners who drive with care to avoid humans who may be walking, sunbathing, relaxing in chairs. Tradition is very important to me and to our community members who have long enjoyed this activity.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I do support the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program as it was conceived and written. As a living document, I believe it should be continually up-dated and amended as required due to changes within the community and our environment, ie: coastal erosion, planning and zoning changes, and paramount to all of us, what will best serve our communities needs. After nine years and careful and thoughtful analytical consideration, the LWRP guide and laws was approved by the Town Board members. The process took nine years and I believe it was achieved by complete transparency with the public and had full support and cooperation of several vitally important committees and representatives including the Town Trustees, Town Harbormaster, Natural Resource Directors, and the NYS Department of State Division of Coastal Resources, our Town Board members, and various local representatives of the marina industry, commercial fishing, and environmental groups and various important environmental concerns that made the LWRP thorough. Local coastal issues remained the focus and should continue

to be so as we should continue to review, examine, and amended as necessary ie: coastal erosion, planning and zoning changes, and changing community needs. Currently the issue of water contamination from a variety of sources is of concern our drinking water/aquifer and plentiful waterways are under threat from contamination from toxic chemicals, nitrogen, blue algae, phosphorous, and brown tide. As a trustee candidate, this is of utmost concern to me as it is to our entire population. I believe it is our responsibility, trustees and residents alike, to endeavor to preserve and protect our waterways. It is imperative for our fisheries, economy, and the health of all who reside here.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I do not support a hard approach. I support the replenishment of sand and our beautiful natural dunes with indigenous sea grasses as a means to control erosion along our coastal shorelines. I would not support any projects that would be similar to the one done in Montauk on our ocean shoreline by the Army Corps of Engineers. Soft approach is best. Experience and science has shown that revetments and bulk heading only damage the natural shoreline and there is beach loss. Left alone, storms and the natural movement of the ocean and bay waters replenish the shorelines and beaches. Personal experience as a landowner on the Long Island Sound in Cutchogue has shown us what revetments and bulk heading do to beaches: the beaches disappear and ruin the neighbor's beach whose beach frontage does not have the structures.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I believe all beachfront is the property of the public and taxpayers. I do not believe in privatization of any portion of our beaches. If the town loses the current appeal, which I do not believe they will, it would set a dangerous precedent for the future of our beaches and our community tradition of free access to all beach. If there were a high probability of a future lawsuit to gain private jurisdiction over any beach area I believe it would be the right thing to do to pursue condemnation, as that would forever ensure public access and ownership in Napeague. As a trustee I believe my responsibility is to preserve and protect the right of the public to unfettered beach access. I believe that access to our beautiful beaches is an inalienable right we have long enjoyed. If elected, I will defend this absolute right for our community members.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific

user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

The Piping Plover are an endangered species and as such need our protection from predators and human beings alike. I support a plan that is effective in keeping the Piping Plovers from disappearing from our wildlife species list. I would prefer to see a devoted effort by way of additional resources and personnel to establish better fencing around the nesting areas. Yes, I do think the pre-fencing is of value. The string method is a symbolic signal but at present serves to alert people and is cost effective. True wooden fencing requires more labor and there are fewer personnel to do this.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Our town should continue the program but we need more personnel to help. With additional resources and help, the Town Code Section 91-4F could well likely be adhered to. From past experience, it is now known that certain areas are often known traditional nesting spots for Piping Plover. In an effort to establish fencing for them and to serve perhaps as an early awareness to the public, it may well be best to alert the public before they arrive. Certain locations by town owned Sammy’s Beach, Maidstone Park, and Georgica Pond can benefit from this process. Napeague is occupied by a healthy group of people and vehicles. I would like to see additional resources to make this process efficient and done in a timely manner. With additional support to cordon the Piper Plover’s nesting spots, the fencing could actually go up after the birds establish their annual nesting sites.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

This is the best question of all! We all love our beaches! I specifically moved here to be near the ocean, harbors, and bays! When we moved to East Hampton nearly forty years ago and built our home, I couldn’t decide which beach I was fonder of. I loved them all. I still do. Each one has a unique quality and landscape all its own. That’s the beauty of our town beaches. Harbor beaches are calming and wonderful for young children. I read when I’m at the harbor beaches more than the ocean that spills and crashes and sways in the low tides and won’t let me look away from it.

When my son was a toddler we favored Fresh Pond in Amagansett for the crabbing and streams of water that ran to Gardiner’s Bay. In the Amagansett Dunes, the ocean is where I first went when I traveled for work in the early days of living there. I would run with my arms out wide and feel blessed to be home where my heart belonged...by the sea. I spent winters alone on the beach late at night wrapped in a blanket watching Orion in all his glory. I learned the names of the constellations from the night skies from the beach at the AD. Indian Wells Beach was always a favorite too. Kenny at his ice cream, hot dog, hamburger, and soda truck and the sight of children’s lost flip-flops. Plenty of children from my son’s school and creative sandcastle building. Jelly fish and star fish found ashore. Sand sharks too. Rip tides and swimming lessons in the ocean for my son. July and August birthdays spent on this beach. Georgica Pond: Decades of birthdays spent on the narrow sand bar by the pond. Classic solo wooden sailboats and the sound of dogs barking and children laughing.

Northwest Harbor Beach: a short bicycle ride away and within minutes, away on the waters in a sailboat, kayak, or canoe. A squall picked up once and tossed us overboard...adventure! I love the walk toward Barcelona Neck and the bend and dune between NWH and the inlet where the boats are moored. Swimming is easy here...you just keep going! Great place to kayak or canoe during lunch break! Georgica Beach- a walk from the lot heading east to Main Beach. Memory: Friends meeting for the fireworks with picnics and laughter. Bonfires with children toasting marshmallows and everyone invited sitting around the warm glow of shooting sparks and orange and red flames. Always a great family and neighbor evening! Wainscott at Beach Lane: Stroll to Georgica Pond. Visit with friends. Open a beach chair and listen to nature's symphony: the ocean waves and seagulls singing. Beach Lane at Maidstone Club: After playing softball on our friend's lawn we'd run to the beach and take a brisk ocean swim that tingled from the chill. Wibourg Beach: A wide berth of beach that envelops you at the parking lot. I disappear into peaceful happiness here. Main Beach: The drive to it is beautiful and I go here in the winter to walk in the snow with my pet therapy dog, my beloved Bearded Collie named Maizie Marbles and my husband, Paul. It is the core beach of our community in so many ways. Maidstone Beach: A charming hidden away beach that is perfect for being quiet and reading a book in between a good long swim. Sammy's Beach: Love the ride down to the harbor and the grasses. It's natural and open and far from town and work. I like the quiet of this gem of a beach. Napeague Harbor: Home of the shellfish hatchery barge and growing mollusks. The open trucks parked means it's clamming time! I love the feeling of being far from everything except nature. The spits of sandbar beaches remind me of Cape Cod and Maine. (I spent all my childhood summers in Maine.) Atlantic Beach in Amagansett: I lived on Meeting House Lane and rode my bicycle to Atlantic or Indian Wells. Love the Coast Guard house and seeing my friends and neighbors. Gardiner's Bay is spectacular and from a boat, I love seeing the houses on the coastline all the way out to the Montauk Lighthouse. I have often collected lovely smooth white or black stones and met up with a few horseshoe crabs I've liked. Ditch Plains in Montauk...children galore, surfers, laid back summer fun for all. Lake Montauk beach: Owning the rights to harvest the clams and oysters to serve for dinner! The Walking Dunes...another world and water views so spectacular you could be in a foreign land or another time before people discovered the East End! Louse Point: East Harbor: Gerard Drive Albert's Landing...all wonderful quiet bucolic waters where we sail a Sunfish and swim and catch up on reading. Great in the winter when the snow has newly fallen. You can hear the snowflakes land! Accabonac Harbor...where we once lived. Down a long dirt and grass/weed filled driveway...a rustic cottage perfect for the water's edge...many a peaceful night. Sailing, swimming...I'm an active member of the Accabonac Protection Committee today. Every beach, harbor, and bay is worth preserving and protecting. I hope to be part of this on-going effort as a Town Trustee. I want to give back to my town for today and the generations of children I will never know. Certainly I want my son and step-daughter to have clean water to drink and clean waterways to fish, swim, and boat in!

## **RONA KLOPMAN**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes! I support the current laws and regulations!

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes! I support beach driving although living close to the beaches I love to walk them.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

The LWRP is totally supported and quite valid as written. Currently there is a group working on rewriting and I support its being updated.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I believe that hard structures do much damage to our beaches and I support soft sand replenishment. All we have to do is look at the textile bags placed on Montauk beaches to view the damage they can do! Sand is the only answer! Dredge sand from offshore areas and build a feeder beach to protect our coast from storms.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

If the use of condemnation guarantees that the beaches will remain open to public access then I would support that! The key element is that the beaches remain open to all residents!!!

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I think it's important that we support the protection of the nesting of the Piping Plovers as does the current Trustee Board. I believe we need more resources and personnel in order to reduce the size of the fencing around the nesting birds. The program should be continued and perhaps we can have interns working on the monitoring. It would be a shame if the Federal govt. takes it over.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause



each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

I do not support closing any beaches because of the birds. They can be protected after they have nested in such a way that it still allows space for residents to enjoy the beach after the protected area is set up! Residents are entitled to enjoy the beaches at any time.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I enjoy walking all the beaches and smelling the fresh air, especially those in my neighborhood. Napeague is my favorite beach and walking to Atlantic and Indian Wells are what keeps me fit!

## **DIANE MCNALLY**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton Town, except for the recent permanent prohibition for alcohol at Indians Wells beach. I feel enforcement of existing regulations would have been as beneficial to prohibiting the poor behavior of those few individuals who were intoxicated as the Code change. If re-elected, I believe education for residents and visitors alike regarding the use of the beaches and the history behind the current regulations would help towards the support and protection of beach access. Currently the pamphlets provided at town offices are not enough. The Trustees have gone to schools in the past and have found the younger children very receptive. We had hoped to expand upon that program this year. As our focus was drawn to other matters, it didn’t come to fruition. I’d like to make it more of a priority for the future. Not just for young children, but also reach out to driver’s education students as was done in the past. I’m sure the use of local television and social media could be researched as well.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes, I support beach driving as a use of and means of access to East Hampton beaches.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I do not support the LWRP as written as it does not acknowledge the Board of Trustees or recognize areas of Trustee jurisdiction. To change the LWRP so it actually benefits this community, the state and town would need to recognize the “home rule” ability, policies and procedures of the Trustees. The LWRP was supposed to eliminate the need for residents to obtain multiple permits (state, town and trustee). However, by not recognizing Trustee jurisdiction the shoreline section of LWRP has not been approved or adopted. Therefore, multiple permits are still necessary. One example of how the policies differed between the State and Trustees while LWRP was being drafted is in regard to bulkheads. The

Trustees require bulkheads be repaired or replaced “in-place” or behind the existing structure. While the State allowed bulkheads to be located within 21 inches seaward of the existing structure. Therefore, each bulkhead would encroach approximately 2 feet more into the harbor, potentially impacting shellfish beds, eel grass and navigability. My opinion is based on my experience as a Trustee during the drafting of the LWRP and the review of applications for many years.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton’s ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I prefer the soft approach for erosion control along our shorelines. There are too many places where those shorelines with revetments and bulkheads have lost the beach. So any access to the waters that may have existed is gone. I would not want to see another project such as that completed by the Army Corps in Montauk along another bay or ocean shoreline. The Army Corps project was conceived and constructed while too many of the interested parties were panicking due to hurricane damage and were not considering the long term maintenance issue. Isn’t it odd the Fire Island to Montauk Point (FIMP) study that had been in process for decades and had determined it would not include Montauk or any ocean beach in East Hampton could suddenly have the ability to “help”? Sometimes if something seems too good to be true, it probably is.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public’s use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I feel condemnation should continue to be pursued, even after the favorable decision and not be on hold until after the appeal. I support condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access to and ownership of Napeague if the Town Board honors the Management Agreement with the Trustees put in place prior to the court decision.

As you point out, the question of ownership needs to be answered to prevent further legal action. This is the benefit of condemnation. The Management Agreement between the Town and Trustees ensures the current access and use of the beach will not be changed upon condemnation. This is important as historically the Trustees have supported as much access for as many user groups as possible on beaches within their jurisdiction while the Town has many more prohibitions and/or restrictions on beaches within their jurisdiction.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using “symbolic string fencing” while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

I prefer the Piping Plover Management Plan that minimizes the area of beach temporarily restricted for nest sites and includes all user groups. I do not support allowing pedestrian traffic inside a protected nest area. The Management Plan was designed to encourage Plovers to establish their territories, nest and parent the chicks until they fledge (or fly) before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Unfortunately, there are circumstances that can change this timeline; such as bad weather that can wash away beach or nests and predators that destroy eggs or nests and harass the parent Plovers. Each disturbance pushes the “fledge” date further into the summer months.

The Plan approved in 1995 contained the following:

In areas of past nesting and where birds are observed, signs will be erected to make the public aware and caution them to respect the protective fencing to be installed in the area.

In areas of high nest concentration, and with prior permission from the Town Board and/or the Trustees, pre-season fencing that restricts some recreational activities will be erected to facilitate the early establishment of territories and nest building.

When monitoring indicates that territories are established, signs that caution and symbolic fencing (wooden posts with string and flagging) that exclude people and all recreational activities will be erected in a 50 meter radius from the nest, with 2 exceptions. One, where the distance from the nest seaward is less than 50 meters, the symbolic fencing will be less – ending above the Mean High Water Mark, so that it does not exclude pedestrians and vehicles from passing. And 2, where the distance from the nest landward to the dune exceeds 50 meters, the symbolic fencing will be greater so that it extends to the dune. Wherever this would obstruct pedestrian access from behind the dune, a pedestrian corridor will be maintained to allow passage behind the symbolic fencing.

The fencing which would be placed 50 meters on either side of the nest, typically being perpendicular to the water, may consist of a combination of fence materials. Snow fence may be used from below the dunes running towards the water to advise beachgoers of the presence of a bird nesting area. This fence will help direct beachgoers toward the lower portion of the beach.

If a beach access would be affected then fencing dimensions will be considered on a case by case basis.

Obviously the monitoring and protection measures have been altered. This can be directly related to the personnel implementing the Plan. In 1995 there were 4 Natural Resources employees and many volunteers. Without adequate monitoring, the 1 or sometimes 2 town employees charged with plover protection will implement the more stringent state or federal guidelines. Therefore, I would recommend more personnel and a revamped volunteer program to monitor the birds and lessen the recent conflict with beachgoers and protection.

(\*In the 27 years I’ve been a Trustee, there’s only 1 documented incident where a vehicle may have contributed to a “take” of a plover.)

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Town Code Section 91-4(F) is close to the wording from the 1995 Management Plan regarding when the symbolic string fence should be erected. From the Town Code: “As soon as the protected birds

establish their annual nest sites...” and from the 1995 Management Plan: “When monitoring indicates that territories are established, signs that caution and symbolic fencing (wooden posts with string and flagging) that exclude people and all recreational activities will be erected...”

I do not support continuing to close beaches prior to the birds’ arrival. I have and will continue to challenge the misinterpretations and/or revisions made to the guidelines and implementation of protection measures by federal, state and town agencies that are arbitrary and prejudicial toward vehicular use.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I am not an avid beachgoer, but my family is. I have accompanied them a few times each summer to Napeague to enjoy the relaxed company of family and friends. This year I rediscovered the bay beach at Albert’s Landing. It’s where my mother took my sisters and I as children. I went to introduce my 8 month old granddaughter to the water and had a great time.

### **FRANCESCA RHEANNON**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

I support any laws and regulations that ensure that the public retains access to the beaches.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Beach driving is a great way for families to get together, as long as it conforms to regulations and is done in a manner that is safe for families, children and animals.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

The LWRP acknowledges that “water uses are subject to an ever-increasing array of use conflicts. These include conflicts between passive and active types of recreation, between commercial and recreational uses, and between all uses and the natural resources of a harbor. Increases in recreational boating, changes in waterfront uses, coastal hazards, what to do with dredged materials, competition for space, climate change and multiple regulating authorities, all make effective harbor management complex.” Clearly, the LWRP is a living document that must be updated to respond to changes in circumstances and in the scientific and cultural awareness about them. For example, the growing understanding of the need to use soft approaches to coastal conservation, instead of the hard approaches common in the past, needs to be reflected in the LWRP. As climate change threatens sea level rise, communities need to be able to adapt and change in a way that promotes resilience and long term survival. Changes in plans and policies need to arise out of the engaged involvement of all the stakeholders: community residents, advocacy groups, scientists, local/state/federal officials and the business community. My long time work as a grassroots organizer, director of an organization that advocated for workers’ health and safety and my work as an environmental advocate have convinced me that without the input of all stakeholders, effective policy cannot be accomplished.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

On hard vs. soft approaches, the science is clear — soft approaches enhance resilience and promote coastal conservation, whereas hard approaches provide short term fixes that result ultimately in coastal erosion, worsening the problem. With regard to the Army Corps of Engineers project in Montauk, I feel the use of the giant geo-textile bags was a mistake, causing damage to the beach and violating the LWRP and East Hampton town code. You can't fight Mother Nature! We need to work with Nature to preserve our coastlines. Sand replenishment and natural dunes are important; so is limiting development and considering, at least in the long term, a policy of compensated retreat inland from the edge.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I decided to run for Trustee because I believe in defending the Public Trust, especially as heightened threats to coastal communities from climate change and development increase pressures on the rights of the public. That means using all means at our disposal to protect the public's access to the beaches. Condemnation is a last resort, but one that may become necessary.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

Using effective fencing to keep out all traffic, including foot traffic, around the nesting sites themselves has been key to the success of the piping plover protection program. However, the town needs to devote more manpower resources to actually monitoring the nesting sites, rather than relying on "symbolic" fencing, to make sure that the area that is enclosed is appropriate to the goal of the program.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Piping plovers arrive on breeding sites in early spring. Nesting and egg-laying begin in late April and early May, with young fledged by late August or very early September. These dates happen to coincide

with the human beach season. The town of East Hampton's plan for management of piping plovers states that its "efforts are focussed on facilitating the earliest nesting successes" so that "public access restrictions are not prolonged." If there were more personnel devoted to monitoring the nesting sites, fencing could be assured to go up at the appropriate times.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

My favorite beach for swimming and sunset-enjoying is the one closest to me: Maidstone Beach. My favorite beach for sitting and relaxing, beach hiking and launching my kayak and SUP is Albert's Landing. My favorite beach for challenging the waves and getting a real workout is Atlantic Beach (it's also great for walking and, in the winter, spotting seals.) Each of these venues are so different, yet all are stunningly beautiful and make me so glad to have the privilege of living in this special place. That's why I want to protect and preserve it, not only for myself but for all, now and long into the future.

## **BILL TAYLOR**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes I support the laws as written. I was a part of the process when the laws were developed as a joint effort by the Town Board and the Town Trustees and they have stood up well. At the trial it was proven that the laws are not arbitrary or discriminatory and that is important I will always support Beach access..

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

Yes I do.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I was involved, with many others, in writing the original LWRP and I think it is an incredibly valuable document. It was designed to be a living document and it is being currently being updated

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

I support sand only beach replenishment projects.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do

not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I support condemnation. It settles the matter.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open` and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

Foot traffic and vehicle traffic are different issues and are legitimacy treated differently. I would like to see the Town devote more resources to plover protection to insure that the beach closings are as limited as possible.

7. The town has also recently started to use "symbolic string fencing" to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover's arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part "As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited", not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird's arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

Again, I think the Town should devote more resources to plover management to keep Beach closings as limited as possible, particularly in areas that are well used by the public.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

I love them all to swim, sit and to drive on.

## **SUSAN VORPHAL**

1. Do you support the laws and regulations as currently written pertaining to the use of and access to the beaches of East Hampton? If No, what would you change and why? If elected what actions would you take to support, protect, or expand public beach access?

Yes, I believe our current laws and regulations are uniform and fair for all user groups. As a Trustee I will work hard to ensure our rightful traditions and heritage are not infringed upon.

2. Do you support beach driving as a use of, and means of access to, East Hampton beaches? If No, how would you change the current laws and uses related to beach driving and why?

I strongly support safe and legal beach driving, use of and access to our beaches as this has been our rights granted to us by the Dongan Patent of 1686, a legal binding document.

3. Do you support the LWRP as currently written? If no, how would you change it, and why? What information would form the basis for your proposed changes? (i.e. personal experience, professional consultation, or education.)

I do not support the LWRP as written, foremost because it does not recognize Trustee properties or their jurisdiction. This so called locally prepared plan fails to recognize the Trustees patented authority and therefore should be rewritten.

4. Do you support a hard approach (revetments, groins) or a soft approach (sand replenishment, natural dunes) as a means of erosion control along the shoreline? Please explain briefly. Would you support another beach replenishment project along East Hampton's ocean or bay beaches similar to the one recently completed by the Army Corps of Engineers in Montauk?

Erosion is an ongoing process that has been happening for centuries. A hard structure approach has proven to be resistant to wave and wind action causing the digging out of the shoreline. Sand and dune replenishment is the least damaging approach for our delicate shoreline erosion control efforts. I would not support another project designed by The Army Corps of Engineers, like the failed one in Montauk along any of our shorelines.

5. Do you support the use of condemnation as a means of protecting public beach access and ownership in Napeague should the town lose the current appeal? Should the Town win the appeal, and considering the recent court ruling stating the plaintiffs in the Seaview and White Sands lawsuits do not own the beach in contention and that the public's use of said beaches are not a nuisance, would you consider condemnation of these beaches as a means of protecting public access and ownership against any future lawsuits and / or attempts at privatization?

I would support condemnation only as a last resort and only as long as the Town Board worked closely with the Trustees on absolute continued access for all residents.

6. Citizens for Access Rights completely supports the Town in protecting the nesting of Piping Plovers. The Town has had a successful history in implementing a federally approved Plover protection program that aggressively protects a relatively small area of beach around the nesting site with fencing that keeps all foot traffic as well as most, not all, predators from disturbing the nests while allowing for the maximum amount of beach to be open and accessible to the public. Recently Town policy has moved away from that program and has taken to closing off large areas of beach to specific user groups using "symbolic string fencing" while allowing foot traffic into the protected areas potentially harassing the nesting birds. Which policy/plan do you support in protecting the piping plovers? What changes would you make if any to either approach in protecting the piping plovers?

Any endangered or threatened species is deserving of protection, but closing off large areas of our beaches should be a decision based on the number of nests and fledglings in that area, the amount of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, and a decision that the Trustees should be included in. The East Hampton Town Natural Resources Department should be working more closely with the Trustees in



their protection programs, and the Trustees should be taking a more proactive approach. After all they are responsible for the stewardship of these lands.

7. The town has also recently started to use “symbolic string fencing” to protect potential nesting sites prior to the Plover’s arrival contrary to Town Code Section 91-4(F), which states, in part “As soon as the protected birds establish their annual nesting sites, the Trustees or the Town Board ...will cause each nesting site to be fenced, roped or flagged in a manner designed to alert the public that entry is prohibited”, not prior to. Do you support continuing closing beaches prior to the bird’s arrival? If so, would you move to change the town code in order to do so?

I do not support the closing of any beach prior to the plover’s arrival. Close monitoring of beaches by both the Trustees and the Natural Resources Department during the annual migration time should be sufficient in determining their nesting sites chosen.

8. Which East Hampton beaches do you enjoy? How do you use those beaches? (i.e. swim, fish, surf, sit and relax).

As a child I spent a lot of time with my late father, Stuart B. Vorpahl Jr. at Lazy Point. As a young girl when I was allowed to ride my bike to the beach my sister, cousins, neighborhood friends and I, would go to Alberts Landing. As an adult I still frequent this beach, finding it serene and a peaceful place to recharge.

## **WILY WOLTER**

AGE. 73

OCCUPATION. retired

TIME OF RESIDENCY. Part time: 27 years. Full time: last eight years, plus

ORGANIZATIONS I BELONG. East End Community Organic Farm. Board of Directors 12 years. Community Association, East Hampton Oaks, 27 years

### **IMPORTANT ISSUES TO ME:**

Beach access

clean water : ocean, lakes, ponds

clean harbors and waters which need it And to dredge effectively.

### **PROGRAM(S) ACTED ON BY CURRENT TRUSTEES I DISAGREE**

Deep Water Windmills.

Too many issues are delayed in studies and committees. We need action now to resolve these issues, especially clean water.

