

VILLAGE OF OCEAN BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Present: Sage Block, Camille Guigliano, Beth Jacobwitz, David Lipsky, Lisa Lowe, Joe Difrancisco (VOB liaison)

Guest: Griffin Pollak

1. **Minutes:** Draft Minutes for April 28 meeting were approved.
2. **Membership:** JD said he was confident that a vote to approve GP's membership in VOBEC would be placed before VOBOT at a Board meeting on May 17th.
3. **Newsletter:**
Action: VOBEC members need to think of, and bring to next VOBEC meeting, potential topics for summer newsletter.
4. **EAD:** No update
Action: DL needs to make more progress by next meeting on identifying speakers for EAD on water quality, aquaculture, oysters.
5. **LWRP:** No update from JD on whether the VOB board is still considering preparing revisions to LWRP for submission to NYSDEC.
6. **Beach Management:** JD sent KS the list of questions that VOBEC has prepared on the role of VOBPW in beach management.
7. **Natural Resource Inventory:** No progress
8. **Community Composting:** CG and JD agreed to have an in-person meeting with KS this week on possible community composting site locations, as well as to identify any concerns about operation and maintenance of the site.
9. **Recycling Containers:** SB provided several examples of possible signage for the two recycling containers being purchased by CoC. Plastic signs are preferable to metal signs

Action: Need to discuss with CoC and others: signage language and sign composition, how and who will attach the signage to the containers being purchased by CoC, and who will pay for the materials and labor for attaching signage to containers.

10. **Instagram Account:** Need more content

12. **Plant Swap/Brush collection:** Trees for plant swap sent by NYS Tree Nursery via FedEx to VOB office arrived earlier than expected (May 7th) and were picked up by VOBEC from FIF freight house in O.B on May 12. SB provided draft poster and signup sheets for the event.

Action: VOBEC to review and SB to finalize the poster/signup sheets. DL to contact KS to request that VOBPW provide 3 tables, 2 chairs, and if available, one large umbrella (for shade). Setup should be at 10:30 at ballfield, May 18th.

13. **Banners:** BJ and JD reported that for some reason, the printing company would not accept the information that JD provided on VOBs tax free status. As a result, the banners order is still on hold.

Action: BJ suggested, and several VOBEC members agreed, that to expedite this, we will pay the sales tax ourselves.

13. **Oyster Shell recycling kick-off event.** CG sent an introduction email and spreadsheet to Diane Montes about the program. CG has visited all the restaurants. Three oyster shell shipping containers will be needed and located in the east, west, and middle of the VOB business district.

14. **Enforcement of Tree legislation:** No change.

15. **Dune Day:** Too early to tell if Dune Day will be necessary this year.

16. **New business-Update VOBEC Website:**

Action: SB and EW to update VOBEC website. Everyone else asked to review existing content and suggest new topics for inclusion on website.

17. **OBYG Collaborative:** Griffin Pollak talked to Sophie Pollak. VOBEC participation requested for a one-day event. SP indicated she wanted more of a focus on ecology rather than composting.

18. **Next Meeting:** In person on Sunday June 1st at 1:00 (Sunday) at Windswept.

Action: BJ to call Bunny or Jackie to reserve Windswept if we have the meeting indoors. If we meet outdoors, no reservation is required.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Lowe & David Lipsky