

SUFFOLK COMMITTEE FOR CAMPING  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Date: October 5, 2016  
HOLTSVILLE ECOLOGY SITE  
[WWW.SUFFOLKCOMMITTEEFORCAMPING.ORG](http://WWW.SUFFOLKCOMMITTEEFORCAMPING.ORG)

President David Lipman opened the General Membership meeting of Suffolk Committee for Camping at 7:30 PM.

Board members in attendance: Clare Gunning, David Lipman, Sharynn Lipman, and Carmella Masem.

Clubs Represented: LI Pathfinders, LI Castaways, Polecats, Mallards, Pioneers, LI Campers, Happy Campers of LI, Getaways, and LIBBA

The salute to the flag was led by Dave Lipman followed by a moment of silence.

Minutes from the last meeting were read. Motion to accept by John Groves, second by Russ Clock.

Correspondence: The Secretary read the letter from the Parks Department explaining the 2017 reservation lottery. For further info or if you didn't receive the letter, call 631-854-4949.

Park Liaison: It is confirmed that Smith Point Campground will be closing on November 1<sup>st</sup> for the Girl Scout Light Show. The reopening date is still up in the air. Dave requested that if they are going to keep it closed the whole winter, that they take advantage and get some repair work done. As far as we know, the beach will be open to 4 wheelers during the set up and the take down but not during the light show itself. There are sites that need the RCA fixed. There is concrete that needs to be repaired. The water problems there were caused by rigs backing into and rigs leaving without disconnecting. Member requested that something be done with the bushes that are overgrown on the upper level. That is something they say they can't do when the campers are there. Hopefully it will get done while the park is shut down.

In response to a question about picnic tables out at Cupsogue, Dave says there are no picnic tables at any outer beach park. Reasoning is metal ones will rust and plastic ones will sink or float when tide comes in. The picnic tables that should be at the 10 sites by the parking lot were taken by the workers who were working on the building and moved to their trailers. Dave will look into what happened to those picnic tables.

Dave spent time at Cathedral Pines, Indian Island and Southaven. In the Southaven group areas, clubs are supposed to put the ashes out by the post. People are dumping them in the middle of the site. At Indian Island, you are supposed to use the ash bins. The campers are just dumping them on the ground. At Cathedral Pines, the ashes are supposed to be put in ash barrels.

Dave spent a lot of time at the parks and the parks are clean. The workers are going into the sites and cleaning sites and fire rings.

The remainder of Southaven electric sites will not be completed this season. They will leave a few without electric for the tenters. Member questioned what will they do with the dump station when there are more campers. Dave addressed the limiting of the flushing of RV tanks as those tanks are smaller. Rigs are getting bigger, with bigger tanks, and people are flushing out their tanks and filling the dump stations. County may remove the hose attachments at the dump station like they did at Indian Island. At Southaven there are holding tanks not a septic system, like Smith Point has. They will need to address the dump station and the roadway to leave Southaven if you don't need to dump. Dave will inquire again.

Legislative: No reports

Membership: Dues for Clubs and individuals are due. Forms can be found online at [www.suffolkcommitteeforcamping.org](http://www.suffolkcommitteeforcamping.org).

Beaches: People made complaints about blown tires at Cupsogue. Frank from LIBBA checked and there were no metal stakes that would cause this problem unless they were already removed. He warned everyone to check to their tires.

There have been two local accidents recently, one involving a fatality. Reminder to all that according to NYS law, inspections are to be done annually.

Adina Beedenbender is the new Deputy Commissioner of Parks.

2017 Kick Off is scheduled for May 19 to 21. Please mark your calendars – it will be our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary campout.

Old Business: Dave announced that he and Bob Colwell and Carmella Masem have been doing this for a lot years and they need people to step up. We need help on the board. They need people to go to the legislative meetings. They don't want the organization to not have the representation that it should. They need new ideas.

Members camping at Sears Bellows and Cedar Point didn't have any problems to report. Dave hears less complaints this year. They are running a tight ship at Cedar Point. Complaint about the ashes being dumped in the middle of the sites. Old maps being given out at Sears Bellows showing swimming allowed in lake. Need to update maps.

Sharynn introduced Frank from LIBBA and Kathy from Happy Campers of LI and stressed how we all need to work together for great camping experiences.

Russ Clock had a complaint about the parking lot at Smith Point. It's closed at 10 but they close the gate before that. You can't drive in to drop off your guests to get their cars. If you attempt to go in through the exit, the Park Rangers will be right there. Russ will provide Dave with the dates. Also note that you can't get in if you have an overnight fishing permit.

New Business: West Nile has been discovered in Brookhaven Township. Request for some dry camping by the beach at Indian Island. Dave will look into it. Also will look into putting tents into the group area. There's plenty of room.

A treasurer's report was given.

Good and Welfare: Eileen and Todd Lavender became grandparents. Today is Dave's birthday. Kathy Murry, member of the Canine Club, lost her dad and her dog in separate incidents in the same week.

Next meeting: November 2<sup>nd</sup>

50/50 won by John Groves

A motion to close the meeting made by Russ Clock second by Gary Hoffman.

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EAST END RV CENTER.....	631-878-0017
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