

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2007
CUPSOGUE BEACH COUNTY PARK**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ray Corwin	Chairman, Member at Large
Al Colina	Vice Chairman, Town of Southampton
Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Gregory Dawson	Trustee, Town of Islip
John Fritz	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Gary Olsen	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Todd Stebbins	Member of the Board
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Terrence Pearsall	Member of the Board
Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Tracey Bellone	Acting Commissioner
William B. Sickles	Sr. Superintendent of Parks
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Department
Janet Longo	Deputy Director, Real Property Acquisitions and Management
Roger Podd	Research Analyst, County Law Department
Terry Maccarone	Director, County Executive Community Relations Unit

Chairman Corwin called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2007

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Fritz. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

PUBLIC PORTION

There were no members of the public present.

PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND REAL ESTATE

Lauretta Fischer proposed three acquisitions. Colored site maps were distributed describing these properties. The first one is a low-lying tributary to Carlls River consisting of two parcels known as (1) Swiss National Asset Recovery Service, LTD Property (0.18 acres), and (2) Red Enterprises, LTD Property (0.09 acres). Both properties are located in Wyandanch, Town of Babylon. These properties

will be acquired under the Multifaceted Land Preservation Program-Land Preservation Partnership. Whether the property is large or small, our efforts are to protect the watershed.

A motion to approve these acquisitions was made by Trustee Fritz and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

The third acquisition is .043 acres Montauk Downs State Park Addition – Estate of Edna Capurso Property, located in Montauk, Town of East Hampton. It is the last parcel in this area for us to acquire. This will be acquired under the Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Land Preservation Partnership.

A motion to approve the acquisition was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Colina. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of *11-0-0.

***Trustee count increased due to the arrival of Trustee Stebbins**

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Introductory Resolution No. 1672-2007

Acting Commissioner Bellone provided everyone with copies of Introductory Resolution No. 1672-2007 - Linking County Park Fees for Community Emergency Response Team Volunteers to Park Fees for Senior Citizens. This resolution provides the same access for emergency response volunteers as it does to senior citizens, which gives them access to discounted camping and entrance fees, but nothing on golf. There will be one amendment to the distributed resolution in the 3^d resolved paragraph where it says...upon submission of a Suffolk County CERT Team Member Photo Identification Card with an expiration date of----- will be added to the verbiage after the word “Card.” The Commissioner explained that in an effort to be more prudent with time, she was bringing this before the Board now for a vote by the Trustees since they must approve any change in Parks fees.

Some discussion ensued about the definition of what a Community Emergency Response Team Volunteer (CERT) signifies. Mr. Terry Maccarone from the County Executive’s Office explained that it is a national program under Homeland Security with presently about 300 members. They conduct a 14 - 15 week course (3 - 4 hours a day) for volunteers who may then become certified as a CERT team member. Suffolk County FRES (Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services) will oversee this at the local level.

A motion to approve Resolution 1672-2007 was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. Approved by a vote of 10-0-1. Trustee Fritz abstained.

Blydenburgh Dog Park

Acting Commissioner Bellone provided an update on the dog park at Blydenburgh County Park. A fence has been completed for the dog run area and there will be an opening probably the first or second week in September. The area is the activity field by the campgrounds on the south side

Alternative Dog Park Locations

We have legislation that was passed saying we have to come up with a proposal by the end of September naming five additional, alternative locations for dog parks. At a meeting with the dog owners the following five (5) locations were discussed: the DARE area at Smith Point County Park; a proposed acquisition on Cherry Avenue in Sayville; Gardiners County Park; an area across from Indian Island County Park; and an area by Southaven County Park, called Peconic H property, which is not within the park but is across the street from the Trap & Skeet facility. We are waiting for feedback. The dog owners have also requested to have dog parks with natural borders. Although I am not in favor of natural borders, I agreed to revisit it after the five alternative locations are decided upon.

Big Duck Move

Southampton officials notified us that they are planning to move the Big Duck on September 14, 2007. The County is still working on the contract and legislation will have to be done, but tentatively that is the date they would like to have it moved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Trustee Representative for Indian Island Golf Course Committee

Chairman Corwin said he understands that Al Colina had already volunteered as the Trustee Representative on this committee and thanked him for that.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee McKay: Said he was sorry that he was not at the last meeting, but he appreciates the Trustees' approval of the acquisition of the Lewis Oliver Dairy Farm.

Vice Chairman Colina: Reported on two items: (1) Indian Island Golf Course RFP has been returned to the County Attorney's Office for further review and, when returned to Parks, a meeting will be scheduled to get this off the ground. (2) He has noticed extensive defoliation of the oak trees at Sears Bellows just before the Big Duck. Bill Sickles said that this is the result of gypsy moths.

Trustee White: Said he was hoping that Tom Hroncich would have been here because he would like more information on the Parks Foundation, i.e., how far we have come and how far we have to go. Commissioner Bellone explained that Tom will give an update at the September Trustee meeting.

Trustee Fritz: Asked the Commissioner for an update on the fishing pier. The Commissioner reported that we received an extension until August of '08 but we are still waiting on the Army Corps of Engineers. Trustee Borden noted that this does not seem to be a high priority to them. We reached out to Senator Schumer's Office to encourage the Army Corp to approve it, but surprisingly there has been no response. We are told that it is waiting to be signed.

Lauretta Fischer, Planning Department: Ms. Fischer said that the Planning Department completed a park policy acquisition plan and they would like it added to the agenda for next month's Trustee meeting so they may give a presentation on the plan. Ms. Fischer said that they have already presented it to the Environmental, Planning and Agriculture Committee. Chairman Corwin asked if this was related to the Parks Master Plan that was done some years ago. Ms. Fischer said the Master Plan concerned a comprehensive policy for existing parkland and the master lists were created by Planning to put together lists of properties for acquisition, and the acquisition plan relates to how we prioritize and decide what categories we buy properties in. It also contains the history of the county's acquisition program from the 1960's on through today and then prepares recommendations to move forward for policy issues.

Trustee Cardillo: Had a question on the RFP for Indian Island. What is the proposal for? Is it for a new golf pro? Commissioner Bellone answered that it was for a new golf pro concessionaire to run the golf pro shop.

Chairman Corwin: Asked if the RFP's have gone out. Commissioner Bellone said they went out and we received three responses. There were minor problems with all three responses and the County Attorney asked for some follow-up information.

Chairman Corwin announced that the next Trustees meeting will be at Theodore Roosevelt County Park in Montauk on September 20, 2007, with the back-up location at West Sayville.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee White and seconded by Vice Chairman Colina. Unanimously approved by a vote of 11-0-0.

Minutes submitted by Dorothy Rosado.