

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION  
MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2008  
TIMBER POINT, GREAT RIVER**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Vice Chairman, Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Ray Corwin	Member at Large
John Fritz	Chairman, Trustee, Town of Babylon
Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Gary Olsen	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Bill Shilling	Member of the Board
Todd Stebbins	Member of the Board
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

**ABSENT**

Gregory Dawson	Trustee, Town of Islip
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**PARKS DEPARTMENT**

John W. Pavacic	Commissioner
William B. Sickles	Senior Superintendent of Parks
Nick Gibbons	Principal Environmental Analyst
Colleen Hofmeister	Principal Contracts Examiner
Terry Maccarrone	Coordinator of Community Based Programs
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner

**GUESTS**

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Department
Roger Podd	County Attorney's Office
Thomas Ryan	Office of Legislator Vilorina-Fisher
Legislator John M. Kennedy	Suffolk County Legislature

Chairman Fritz called the meeting to order and welcomed Legislator Kennedy.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

There were members of the public present, however they did not wish to address the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 20th, 2008**

Under "Chairman's Report – House in Westhampton Dunes" – second paragraph - change *title wetlands* to "tidal wetlands".

Under "Chairman's Report – House in Westhampton Dunes" – fourth paragraph – change *access from Cove Road* to "access to the bay from Cove Road".

Under “Chairman’s Report – House in Westhampton Dunes” – fourth paragraph – change *right now the residents have access* to “right now the county residents have access to”.

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

### **PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND REAL ESTATE**

Legislator Kennedy spoke to the Trustees regarding his support of the Casaga property acquisition in the Town of Smithtown and asked the Trustees to embrace this acquisition and add it to our County Parks holdings.

Commissioner Pavacic passed around two emails he received also in support of this acquisition.

Lauretta Fischer proposed twelve acquisitions. Colored site maps were distributed describing each property.

#### **Lake Ronkonkoma County Park Addition – Casaga Builders, Inc. as Contract Vendee of the Strum Street, Corp. Property**

The acquisition of .36 acres in Lake Ronkonkoma, Town of Smithtown. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program 12-5(E)(1)(a).

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

#### **Carlls River County Park Addition – Manteen Property**

The acquisition of .37 acres in Wyandanch, Town of Babylon. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program 12-5(E)(1)(a).

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Chairman Fritz and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

#### **Carlls River County Park Addition – Manteen Property**

The acquisition of .09 acres in Wyandanch, Town of Babylon. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program 12-5(E)(1)(a).

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Chairman Fritz and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

#### **Carlls River County Park Addition – Audirsch Property**

The acquisition of .18 acres in Wyandanch, Town of Babylon. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program 12-5(E)(1)(a).

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Chairman Fritz and seconded by Trustee White. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

#### **Miller Place/Yaphank Road Nature Preserve Addition – Klein Property**

The acquisition of .137 acres in Miller Place, Town of Brookhaven. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Open Space Preservation Program.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Miller Place/Yaphank Road Nature Preserve Addition – Reverse Estate Property

The acquisition of .09 acres in Miller Place, Town of Brookhaven. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Open Space Preservation Program.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Chairman Fritz. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Mastic/Shirley Conservation Area – Phase I – Wetzel Property

The acquisition of .60 acres in the Hamlet of Mastic Beach, Town of Brookhaven. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0-1. Trustee McKay abstained.**

Forge River County Park Addition – Meadow Property

The acquisition of .183 acres in Mastic, Town of Brookhaven. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee Stebbins. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Forge River County Park Addition – Ruth Allan, LLC Property

The acquisition of .52 acres in Mastic, Town of Brookhaven. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Olsen and seconded by Trustee White. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Nissequogue River Addition – Decarmine Property

The acquisition of 4.92 acres in the Hamlet of Smithtown, Town of Smithtown. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Stony Brook Headwaters – Lecky & Randall Property

The acquisition of 2.2 acres in Head of Harbor, Town of Smithtown. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Stony Brook Headwaters – Lecky & Randall Property

The acquisition of 12.25 acres in Head of Harbor, Town of Smithtown. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program 12-5(E)(1)(a) and the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Pavacic reported on the following:

### Capital Budget 2009-2011

The Commissioner reported Parks has requested a modest increase from 2008. We've asked for increases in a number of areas: fencing and surveying, campgrounds, general improvements to parks, spillways within County parklands, issues related to newly acquired properties, historic preservation and renovation and funding for golf courses.

**A motion to approve the Capital Budget was made by Trustee Stebbins and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

### Fuchs Pond

Terry Maccarrone reported he spoke with Tom Rogers, DPW. Fuchs Pond is the next RFP that will be going out. DPW is looking to hire a consultant for the design work. The survey is already done. DPW cannot do this in-house because they don't have the manpower. According to Tom Rogers, this is a relatively small job and they are hoping that if it's below \$20,000 they won't have to go through the whole RFP process. They can solicit 3 bids and award the job relatively quickly.

### Smith Point Fishing Pier

Terry Maccarrone reported that we received 3 bids which are being reviewed by DPW.

### Bay Access at Cupsogue (Boardwalk)

Bill Sickles reported that Parks submitted conceptual plans to DPW and we are waiting for a response from DPW.

Nick Gibbons reported DPW needs to make our plans into a biddable document and will forward this document to Parks for a final review.

Trustee Fritz asked if there was a time line for the fishing pier and boardwalk.

Terry Maccarrone will report on the time line at next Trustees meeting.

### Maritime Museum Dredging Issues at the Mouth of the Boat Basin

Terry Maccarrone reported that DPW did soundings last week and as far as they are concerned, most of them were O.K. Most of the soundings were between 3 and 4 feet. Only one location was 2 ½ feet and would require dredging. DPW felt there was so little material there to be removed that they weren't sure it would be feasible due to the cost to mobilize the equipment.

Commissioner Pavacic suggested we schedule a meeting with the Long Island Maritime Museum, DPW and Parks.

### Theodore Roosevelt County Park Outer Beach Camping – Auxiliary Camping Area

A proposed "draft report" and accompanying aerial photo was distributed to each Trustee. Commissioner Pavacic reported the proposal was a result of many meetings. An auxiliary camping area which will serve as a back-up for camping on the outer beach is being proposed. The Master Plan adopted for Montauk set a cap of 200 campers for outer beach camping. Due to erosion, that maximum

number has never been achieved. Regardless of that, there are times when the outer beach campground has had to be evacuated due to storms or high surf conditions. What's being proposed is that instead of sending some of these campers home, we would create a holding area (auxiliary camping area). It would hold a maximum of 40 campers and could also be used during peak periods, i.e. July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Commissioner Pavacic asked that the Trustees review this proposal. He will also be forwarding this proposal to groups he previously met with including Concerned Citizens of Montauk and other user groups. The Commissioner will also invite them to attend the next Trustees meeting so they can share their concerns and comments. Commissioner Pavacic asked that the Board consider adopting this proposal at the next Trustees meeting.

#### Indian Island Golf Course

The Commissioner reported that Parks was engaged in "a process" with the Town of Riverhead. The Town had issued a stop work order, however that process had ceased. The county and the town executed a stipulation settlement that required the removal of the soil that had been brought into the target green area at the driving range. The county has agreed that any soil brought into the target green area has to come from one of three approved town suppliers. The town has to be notified every time a load of soil is brought into that area and be allowed to inspect the soil. The town has also asked that the lights comply with dark skies lighting requirements and that they be notified, and provided copies of, any plans that we have for the area.

#### Historic Rental Properties

The Commissioner reported a committee has been established to address the issues of vacancies and the rental fee structure. The committee has met once and reached out to other municipalities in Nassau County to find out how they operate. They are gathering all the data and hope to have a proposal by the fall.

#### Smith Point

An issue was raised at a prior meeting regarding the lack of an alternate access when parts of the outer beach are closed.

Nick Gibbons passed around aerial views of the area. One of the photos showed cut 1 which is for outer beach buggy access and cut 1A which cuts through the dune to get back up to Burma Road, Burma Road itself and the eastern limit of the campground. At the last Trustees meeting it was brought up that in times of severe weather or erosion you cannot travel from cut 1 to cut 1A (a distance of several hundred feet). The request was for Parks to take a closer look at making an expansion in the eastern loop of the campground to allow alternate beach buggy access to Burma Road.

Commissioner Pavacic reported there were field meetings to look at the eastern end. Parks is looking at a proposal to possibly open up a fence at the far east end of the campground which would allow a connection to Burma Road. There were some issues that need to be reviewed and he will have a more definitive answer at the next Trustees meeting. At that time, we may have something for the Trustees to consider and vote on as a solution. Parks may look at this as a pilot project to see how it works out and what issues, if any, arise.

#### Cathedral Pines

Bill Sickles reported that both he and Nick Gibbons met with Debra Kuhlmann and her neighbors (who ride their horses at Cathedral Pines) to discuss their needs. There is a set of trails that they use and those are satisfactory. It's the access points into the park that have to be worked out. Nick and Bill will work with them to revolve this issue.

### Bergen Point

Colleen Hofmeister reported that the Contracts Dept. is feverishly working to complete the RFP for the Bergen Point Golf Course. As soon as it is ready for the Trustees review and approval, she'll be looking for a volunteer to go through the RFP process.

### Access at Westhampton Dunes

At the start of the meeting, Chairman Fritz passed around a tax map of this property. Commissioner Pavacic reported we are in the process of demolishing the house in Westhampton Dunes. Parks has to go through a permit process to demolish the house. At a prior meeting, the Commissioner mentioned that the concept there was to demolish the house and leave just the existing deck that would become an observation platform for wildlife and birds. There is an area between the house and Dune Road that could be used to develop a parking area. In terms of the areas around the house highlighted on the map passed around by Chairman Fritz, Parks will have to take a look and review the properties around the house.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Fritz thanked the Commissioner, Bill Sickles and Nick Gibbons for all their hard work on the various projects. .

### ROUND TABLE

Trustee White thanked the Commissioner for all his efforts. The GATR contract has been signed.

Trustee Borden said he is continually impressed with the level of expertise of the staff that supports the Trustees.

Trustee Corwin asked for an explanation, possibly at a future meeting, of the role DPW plays in the Parks budget process. How does DPW accommodate the Parks budget?

Commissioner Pavacic said that DPW's staffing is a chief concern for Parks. DPW is not only doing their own projects, they do ours, as well as other departments. Commissioner Pavacic thinks DPW does a great job with what they have, but Parks has to get in line for our projects. Projects that are being done now are using funds that were appropriated several years prior. It's a complicated process. Parks talks to DPW before we submit any paper work to capital budget.

Commissioner Pavacic reminded everyone Parks is holding their second annual Earth Day celebration at Indian Island from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Deepwells Farm, St. James, NY.

**A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. Unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**