

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION  
MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2012  
BERGEN POINT  
WEST BABYLON, NEW YORK**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Miles Borden            | Chairman, Town of Smithtown             |
| Kathleen Gooding, Ph.D. | Trustee, Town of Shelter Island         |
| Dawn Hopkins            | Vice Chair, Trustee, Town of Brookhaven |
| Debra Kolyer            | Member of the Board                     |
| Alexander McKay         | Trustee, Town of Huntington             |
| Terrence Pearsall       | Member of the Board                     |
| William B. Sickles      | Trustee, Town of Southampton            |
| Richard F. White, Jr.   | Trustee, Town of East Hampton           |

**ABSENT**

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Gil Cardillo | Trustee, Town of Riverhead |
| VACANT       | Trustee, Town of Babylon   |
| VACANT       | Trustee, Town of Islip     |
| VACANT       | Trustee, Town of Southold  |

**PARKS DEPARTMENT**

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Greg Dawson     | Commissioner                    |
| Nick Gibbons    | Principal Environmental Analyst |
| Barbara Rittman | Senior Clerk Typist             |

**GUESTS**

|           |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Tom Young | County Attorney's Office |
|-----------|--------------------------|

**PUBLIC PORTION**

There were not any members of the public present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2012**

Page 2 - last word in 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph changed to Commissioner.

**A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Dawson presented the operating budget and asked for support from the Trustees.

**A recommendation to approve the requested operating budget was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. The operating budget was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

Commissioner Dawson suggested canceling the August 16th meeting. The September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting is scheduled to be held at Montauk County Park, tentatively at the Third House.

**A motion to cancel the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Sickles. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

The Commissioner and Legislator Schneiderman will be meeting to discuss the GATR issues for the cell phone tower. Trustee White stated that East Hampton Town and the communications people are not going for the cell tower. They are going for the emergency radio because there will be no town or county money used to pay for the tower. Previously, T-Mobile was going to cover the cost of the installation. Nick stated that there are certain criteria that were required and already approved, and as long as they haven't been substantially modified, we should still be in compliance with CEQ.

The July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday went well, and attendance and revenue has been up.

Commissioner Dawson thanked Vincent Cosentino of Gemelli, Inc., the new catering concession at Bergen Point for their hospitality.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Borden inquired if we needed to close down any parks due to crowding on the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. The Commissioner reported that beaches and camps were at full capacity and needed to close for day trippers only at the outer beaches.

Chairman Borden expressed concern for any issues the Commissioner may be having due to the shortage of staff. Commissioner Dawson was appreciative of his concerns and reported that the department is trying to consolidate wherever possible and managing despite the cuts.

Chairman Borden inquired if any parks have been closed due to West Nile. Commissioner Dawson reported that Gardiner County Park in West Islip must close to the public at 6 pm daily, has been fully signed and all necessary public health precautions are being taken. Nick is working closely with public works and they have been spraying.

### **ROUND TABLE**

Trustee McKay brought up the question discussed at a meeting he attended in Huntington of whether or not horse farms could be included in the farmland preservation program. He researched that a legislator had introduced a bill pertaining to horse farms and inquired if anyone had any information on it. Nick Gibbons stated that there was a proposal to add an additional 50 acres to the North Fork Preserve property for an equestrian center which presently falls under the agricultural definition by New York State.

Terrence Pearsall reported that he attempted unsuccessfully to acquire three much needed Trustee volunteers for the Towns of Babylon, Islip and Southold at the last meeting of the Legislature.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012 at Montauk County Park, Montauk, New York.

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**