

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION SUMMARY OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

David L. Calone
Chairman

Sarah Lansdale, AICP
Director of Planning

Date: January 7, 2015
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Rose Caracappa Legislative Auditorium
William H. Rogers Legislature Building
North County Complex
Hauppauge, New York 11788

Members Present (14)

Ramon Accelletta Jr. – Town of Babylon
Michael Kelly – Town of Brookhaven
Samuel Kramer – Town of East Hampton
Jennifer Casey – Town of Huntington
Matthew Chartrand – Town of Islip
Carl Gabrielsen – Town of Riverhead
John Finn – Town of Smithtown
Barbara Roberts – Town of Southampton
Nicholas Planamento – Town of Southold
Adrienne Esposito – Villages Over 5,000
Michael Kaufman – Villages Under 5,000 (Left meeting at 4:00 p.m.)
Kevin Gershowitz – At Large
Glynis Margaret Berry – At Large
David Calone – At Large

Staff Present (6)

Sarah Lansdale – Director of Planning
Andrew Freleng – Chief Planner
John Corral – Planner
Ted Klein – Senior Planner
Christine DeSalvo – Senior Clerk Typist
Mary Porter – Assistant County Attorney (Counsel to the Commission)

Call to Order

- The Suffolk County Planning Commission meeting of January 7, 2015 was called to order by Chairman David Calone at 2:10 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Minutes

- The adoption of the November 2014 Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt as amended made by Commission member Kaufman, seconded by Commission member Roberts. Vote Approved: 14 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.
- The adoption of the December 2014 Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt as amended made by Commission member Kaufman, seconded by Commission member Roberts. Vote Approved: 14 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Public Portion – Four members of the public spoke to the Commission about an application on the agenda.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Calone updated the Commission as follows:

- On Agriculture; The Chair announced that the Commission found out a few weeks ago that the agriculture capital finance proposal designed to help new farmers purchase start-up equipment has received \$1 million in state funding. Chairman Calone indicated that along with the Commission's partners in the County Executive's office, the Farm Bureau, and the Peconic Land Trust we will be working on finalizing the program once the final amount is set. He also stated that he would be speaking at the annual Agricultural Forum about the program this Saturday. The Chair then recognized and thanked Commission members Carl Gabrielsen and Barbara Roberts for their work on behalf of the County Planning Commission.
 - o Commission member Gabrielsen informed the Commission that he has been in talks with Suffolk B.O.C.E.S., as well as the local school districts and colleges to look into offering a curriculum that included agricultural education including farm field trips, internships – particularly summer programs, and other ways to generate interest in farming in Suffolk County.
- Regarding "North Fork Traffic", Chairman Calone stated he has had conversations with some heads of the agricultural organizations, as well as with the East End Supervisors and Mayors Association, and together are looking at forming a working group along with County Legislator Al Krupski and Riverhead Supervisor Sean Walters to look at how to improve North Fork traffic flow during the busiest tourist times of the year.
- On 'Housing', the Chair stated that the Commission expects to get the new housing data survey out to the Towns within the next week, and indicating that it will allow the Commission to start collecting that data from Suffolk's municipalities on an annual basis so the Commission can better establish regional housing strategies and goals. The Chair reminded the Commission members to follow-up and to make sure that their respective Towns respond to the survey.

Chairman's Report (continued)

- On the 'Utility Solar'; Chairman Calone stated that he and Vice Chair Mike Kelly met with the Town of Brookhaven earlier this week to discuss the possibility of creating a working group to come up with a recommended code for siting utility solar projects. He mentioned that the Town Board voted to join forces with the Commission to look into the issue. This is an issue that is being grappled with not only by Brookhaven but by other towns as well. The Chair indicated that the Town of Riverhead agreed to be a part of the work group, and that they were reaching out to the Town of Smithtown as well. With the consent of the Commission, the Chair stated that they would set-up the working group and start hashing things out over the next few weeks.
- Regarding "Green Methodologies and Infrastructure for Storm-water Run-off", Chairman Calone stated that the Commission is working with Citizens Campaign for the Environment and the National Wildlife Federation on an update to its storm-water run-off guidance document. The Chair recalled the presentation given by Maureen Dolan Murphy to the Commission at its November meeting and how it generated good discussion and ideas. Chairman Calone indicated that the version for adoption was reviewed and edited by Vice Chair Adrienne Esposito, himself and staff; and was circulated to the Commission yesterday for adoption later today. The Chair also announced that the Commission has a 'Green Methodologies and Infrastructure for Storm-water Run-off Conference' planned for February 5th from 1 pm to 4 pm at the Hauppauge Legislative Auditorium.
 - Vice Chair Esposito informed the Commission that it has been confirmed that the U.S. EPA, Syracuse Environmental Planning Commission, and various storm-water experts will be attending and making presentations at the conference.
- With regard to the Comprehensive Plan; Chairman Calone stated that Director Lansdale and he have had multiple meetings with the Legislature and County Executive's Office to discuss next steps in the review process for the Comp Plan, as required by County Law, and anticipates doing two public hearings on the Plan sometime in the spring.
- Regarding other Commission business;
 - As a reminder Chairman Calone announced that the next Commission meeting will be held here, at the Hauppauge Legislature Auditorium at 2 p.m. on February 4th, and it will be the Commission's organizational meeting for 2015 where they will elect officers and adopt rules. Under County Law the Chairman is required to appoint a nominating committee to propose an officers slate and rules for 2015. The Chair indicated that the Commission's Nominating Committee comprised of members Jennifer Casey, Carl Gabrielsen and Samuel Kramer will issue their report today.
 - The Chair stated the Commission's idea of having a Village Innovation Award was moving forward and that the first award had been given in December to the Village of Patchogue at the Village Officials Association's annual dinner event. Chairman Calone indicated that it was very well received and that its presentation was covered by Newsday as well as The Advance, the local Patchogue paper. He went on to say that the Commission will be looking to consider other villages for the 2015 award and will welcome any involvement of any Commission member on the selection committee, which the Commission will look to get going early next Fall.

Director's Report – The Planning Director Sarah Lansdale informed the Commission about recent activities within the Division including the following:

- Director Lansdale announced projects that the staff has been working on in collaboration with the Commission and the County Executive's office; including the County Executive's "Reclaim Our Water" initiative, and she stated that along with the Legislature, recently selected 19 sites to 'pilot' the innovative alternative septic systems that reduce nitrogen. The Director also indicated the homeowners were chosen one per Legislative District, and that those new system should be installed sometime in the Spring.
- The Director also mentioned that staff was given the opportunity, provided in part by the EPA and FEMA, to attend a week long training session offered to municipalities and the two Counties in Long Island to receive training on software called "Community Viz", a GIS plug in software. She indicated that training would be very valuable to planners interested in building scenarios, and that the County has over 30 staff members from multiple departments scheduled for participation in the training, and acknowledged Chief Planner Any Freleng as one.

Guest Speaker – Rosemary Mascali, of Transit Solutions and the Sustainable Transportation Committee of the US Greenbelt Council's Long Island Chapter, gave a presentation overview of programs that promote transit ridership and transit oriented development, and then addressed questions from the Commission.

Section A14-14 thru A14-25 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code (taken out of order)

- **Suffolk Regional Off Track Betting VLT Facility**; referred by the Town of Brookhaven, received on November 28, 2015 – the Commission's jurisdiction for review is that the application is adjacent to NYS Route 495 and Suffolk County land. The Applicant requests site plan approval from the Brookhaven Planning Board for the construction of an Indoor Amusement Establishment consisting of a Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) facility, a pari-mutual off-track betting facility, restaurant, food court, and offices. The subject property is a 31.6 acre tract in the hamlet of Medford. The overall facility will contain approximately 98,735 S.F. of building and on-site parking for 1,400 vehicles.

After deliberation the Commission resolved to deem the application incomplete for the absence of a full statement of facts relating to environmental and traffic impact concerns, and supporting information for the rationale of the proposal relating to certain site plan design elements.

The motion to deem the site plan application incomplete was made by Commission Chairman Calone and seconded by Commission member Kramer, vote to Approve; 8 ayes, 5 nays, 1 recusal.

Additional Commission Business (continued)

The Commission considered and resolved to adopt the revised version of the Commission's Guidebook for "Green Methodologies for Managing Storm Water Run-off". The resolution to adopt was made by Vice Chair Esposito and seconded by Commission member Kaufman, vote to Approve; 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Chairman Calone took a moment to verify that there were no objections to forming the 'Utility Solar' working group with the Commission membership.

Jennifer Casey, the Chair of the Commission's Nominating Committee announced the Committee's recommendation for the next officers election. The recommendation was to re-nominate the existing slate as last years elected officers (Dave Calone-Chair, Adrienne Esposito-Vice Chair, Michael Kelly-Second Vice Chair), and makes no changes to current Rules of Proceedings.

Chief Planner Andy Freleng announced in addition to the standard IMA between the County and municipalities, the Town of Southampton proposed to extend the IMA to cover all Type II Actions pursuant SEQRA. The Commission decided to postpone action on that request until next month when the staff can offer a recommendation.

Guest Speaker – Pio Lombardo, P.E., President of Lombardo Associates, Inc., gave a presentation overview of Town of East Hampton's Comprehensive Water Management Plan – Lot by Lot and Watershed Analysis Report; and then addressed questions from the Commission

Meeting Adjournment (4:55 p.m.)

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commission member Kelly and seconded by Commission member Accettella. The motion was approved.