

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Tom Gulbransen
Chairperson
CEQ

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: April 15, 2020
TIME: 9:37 am – 12:01pm
LOCATION: ZOOM Video Conference

NOTE : Due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency and State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 220.1 issued on March 12, 2020 suspending the Open Meeting Law, the April 15, 2020 Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality Meeting was held electronically via ZOOM. Instead of a public meeting open for the public to attend in person, members of the public were able to listen to or log into the video conference. The public was also encouraged to mail in their statements for the public portion to the Department of Economic Development and Planning or by email to Planning@suffolkcountyny.gov. The Minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Suffolk County Planning Commission website.

PRESENT:

Thomas Gulbransen, Chair
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair (by phone)
Rob Carpenter Jr. (by phone)
Frank De Rubeis
Hon. Kara Hahn
Constance Kepert
Hon. Al Krupski (by phone)
Mary Ann Spencer
Andrea Spilka
Larry Swanson

ABSENT:

Michael Doall

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

STAFF:

Sarah Lansdale, Director of Planning
Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner
John Corral, Environmental Projects Coordinator
Christine DeSalvo, Principal Office Assistant

GUESTS:

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Nick Gibbons, Principal Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Frank Castelli, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality
Camilo Salazar, Senior Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality
Susan Filipowich, Senior Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
August Ruckdeschel, Open Space and Farmland Administrator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Melissa Kangas, Planner, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Erik Bergey, Senior Civil Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Daniel Hurley, Consultant, LiRo/LUES
Kelly Risotto, Consultant, LiRo/LUES
Paul Clinton, Architect, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Larry Salvensen, Consultant, BBS Architect
Emerson Hasbrouck, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County
Carolyn Sukowski, Water Quality Program Coordinator Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County
Christina DeLisi, Suffolk County Legislative Aide for Suffolk County Presiding Officer
Amani Hosein, LIBI

Minutes:

- February 19, 2020 and February 26, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. De Rubeis to approve the February 19, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kepert. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Spencer to approve the February 26, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilka. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

John Corral, staff to the CEQ, noted that the CEQ received correspondence from Royal Reynolds on the Suffolk County Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan approximately two and a half weeks ago and that CEQ staff forwarded said correspondence on to the CEQ members at that time. Mr. Gulbransen noted that the CEQ would keep this correspondence on file but there is not an action warranted for this CEQ to take regarding this letter at this time.

Mr. Gulbransen noted that he received correspondence from CEQ Member Michael Doall indicating his need to resign from the CEQ. A motion was made by Larry Swanson to accept Mr. Doall's resignation. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeRubeis. All CEQ members presented voted in favor and the motion carried to accept resignation.

Public Portion:

None - Mr. Gulbransen asked if anyone from the public wished to speak but no one from the public requested to speak.

Historic Trust Docket:

Director's Report:

Housing agreements:

Mr. Martin noted that a tenant has moved into the Cottage at Blydenburgh Park in Smithtown. The resolution IR 1283-2020 approving the tenancy of this individual at the Cottage at Blydenburgh Park is included on the LADS Report. Mr. Martin also noted that Suffolk County Parks had done an upgrade of interior prior to the tenant moving into the cottage.

Custodial agreements:

There are quite a few custodial agreements that have expired at historic sites and contracts. Mr. Martin noted that the Suffolk County Parks Contract Division is working to complete the extensions of these contracts.

Project Review:

Recommended Type I Actions:

None

Project Review:

Recommended Unlisted Actions:

A. Proposed Improvements to CR 16, Horseblock Road, in the Vicinity of Brookhaven Waste Management Facility to CR 56, Victory Road, Town of Brookhaven

In a presentation by Erik Bergey, Senior Civil Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the project. Mr. Bergey noted that the consultants for the project were also present to any questions that may come up. It was noted that the proposed project involves safety and mobility improvements including: reconfiguring the intersections of CR16/CR21 and CR 16/CR 56, widening the shoulder on CR 16 from east of CR 99 to CR 56, and on CR 21 from CR 16 to north of Mason Street, and constructing ADA-compliant pedestrian accommodations along the north side of CR 16 and west side of CR 21. It was also noted that the safety and mobility improvements also include providing traffic signal improvements to the intersection of CR 16 and the Town of Brookhaven Landfill as well as road signage and striping. The proposed project will also improve drainage through the cleaning of existing drainage structures and the construction of new drainage infrastructure along CR 16 as well as improvements to the two existing recharge basins at the intersection of CR 16 and CR 21.

The CEQ had questions regarding whether there was a need for adding a sidewalk in the area. Mr. Bergey noted that there are some residential uses and commercial uses in the area that may result in a need for the sidewalk. The CEQ also had a question whether a bike lane would be added. It was noted that there is space on the shoulder for a bike lane but there is not plan to add a painted bike lane at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Rubeis. Motion carried.

B. Proposed New Addition to the Suffolk County Police Property Bureau Building, CP 3514, Yaphank, Town of Brookhaven

In a presentation by Paul Clinton, Architect, with Suffolk County Department of Public Works, it was explained that the project consists of an approximately 16,000 sf warehouse and storage space addition to the existing Suffolk County Police Property Bureau Building. The building is located just west of County Road 21 and south of the Long Island Rail Road Tracks at the Suffolk County Yaphank County Complex. The addition would be a one story addition with a new mezzanine storage vault.

A motion was made by Mr. De Rubeis to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilka. Motion carried.

C. Proposed Acquisition of Land Under the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program – Hamlet Park/Historic Park and/or Cultural Park Component – For the Lawrence Simms Property, Town of Riverhead

In a presentation by Melissa Kangas, Planner, with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning. It was explained that the project involves the acquisition of land by Suffolk County under the New County Drinking Water Protection – Hamlet Park/Historic Park and/or Cultural Park Component – For the Lawrence Simms Property, Town of Riverhead. The proposed acquisition is located south of the intersection of West Main Street and Kroemer Avenue in the hamlet of Calverton, Town of Riverhead (SCTM #s 0600 11900 0200 056000, 0600 11900 0200 057000 and 0600 11900 0200 058000). It is proposed that the Town of Riverhead would improve and maintain the park in perpetuity and access to the park will be provided to all Suffolk County residents. The proposed improvements (as indicated by the Town Concept Plan attached to the EAF) include a parking area, gravel walking path and wildlife viewing area along the Peconic River.

It was also noted that the proposed acquisition was a former duck farm and that there are a number of structures that still exist. It was stated during the presentation that it will be the responsibility of owner of the property to remove the structures before the property is acquired by the County. It was also clarified that it will also be the responsibility of the landowner to complete the environmental cleanup that needs to occur on the property and that the Suffolk County Department of Health Services will be involved in the review of this environmental clean-up.

A motion was made by Ms. Keper to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Rubeis. Motion carried.

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 3, 2020 and March 17, 2020.

Mr. De Rubeis made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 3, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilka. Motion carried. Note: the March 3, 2020 LADS Report was voted on after the Other Business portion of the CEQ meeting. This was done to allow the CEQ members time to review the CEQ staff recommendations for this LADS Report which was sent to the CEQ members via email.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative

Resolutions Laid on the Table March 17, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kepert. Motion carried.

CAC Concerns:

No CAC concerns or comments were raised.

Other Business:

Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report 2020

A presentation was given by Mr. Hasbrouck, Marine Program Director, with Cornell Cooperative Extension on the Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program. Mr. Hasbrouck's presentation consisted of a power point presentation that summarized the Stormwater Management Program. The annual report can be found online at www.SuffolkStormwater.com

The regular CEQ Meeting Adjourned