

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



ROBERT J. GAFFNEY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Theresa Elkowitz
CHAIRPERSON

James Bagg
CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, January 17, 2001

TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

PRESENT: Voting Members - Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson, Presiding; Larry Swanson, Vice Chair, Tom Cramer, Michael Kaufman, Nancy Manfredonia, Barbara Van Lieu

Staff:

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst
Gail Calfa, and Kathleen Rigano, Secretaries

Departmental Staff:

Suffolk County Executive's Office

Todd Johnson, County Executive Assistant

Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Peter Scully, Commissioner

Judy Gordon, Assistant Deputy Commissioner

Richard Martin, Director, Historic Services

Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Edward Byrne, P.E., Principal Civil Engineer

Jeffrey B. Martell, R.A., Facility Space Manager

Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect

Conservation Advisory Councils:

Joy Squires, Chairperson, Huntington CAC

Guests: Bob Brown, Landscape Design Association

Lori E. Horowitz, Island Properties, LLC

Wayne Muller, RMS Engineering

Chris Robinson, RMS Engineering

Elizabeth Nostrand, Legislative Aide to Vivian Fisher

The CEQ meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elkowitz at 9:30 a.m. In attendance were 6 voting members and the Chairperson of the Huntington Conservation Board.

MINUTES:

On a motion by Ms. Manfredonia, seconded by Mr. Swanson, the minutes of the November 15, 2000, meeting were unanimously approved as read.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Elkowitz drew attention to a letter dated December 28, 2000, from Health Services Commissioner Clare Bradley to Department Heads advising of the provisions of Local Law 34-1999 (effective January 1, 2001) to phase out the use of pesticides on properties that are leased or owned by Suffolk County. The law banned the use of any pesticide products that are in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Toxicity Category and those classified as possible carcinogens.

PROJECT REVIEW:

1. Recommended Type II Actions

a. Ratification of Staff Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table November 21, December 5, December 19, 2000, and January 2, 2001.

James Bagg stated that:

(1) I.R. 1022-2001 Implementing Greenways Program in connection with acquisition of active parklands at Riverhead (Town of Riverhead) should have an EAF and be classified as an Unlisted action.

(2) IR 2187-2000 Approving the Vector Control plan of the Department of Public Works, Division of Vector Control, pursuant to Section C8-4(B)(2) of the Suffolk County Charter should have an EAF and be classified as an Unlisted action.

(3) I.R. 2268-2000 Amending the 2000 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating funds for the reconstruction of the Bald Hill School House and grounds (Town of Brookhaven) has already been reviewed by CEQ.

A motion was made by Mr. Swanson to ratify the staff recommendations. The motion was seconded by _____ and passed unanimously.

b. Proposed Sewer District 1 - Port Jefferson Pilot Facility

A presentation was made by Edward Byrne, P.E., Principal Civil Engineer, Department of Public Works which involves temporary installation of a small facility adjacent to the existing tankage at the Pt. Jefferson site and would operate for approximately 6 months. A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to classify the project as a Type II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman and passed unanimously.

c. Proposed Sewer District 1 - Port Jefferson Engineering Services

A presentation was made by Edward Byrne, P.E., Principal Civil Engineer, Department of Public Works, which involves design of improvements to the sewage treatment plant. A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to classify the project as a Type II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cramer and passed unanimously.

d. Proposed Renovations to CO-50, North Complex, Hauppauge, Town of Smithtown, CP #1765

A presentation was made by Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect, Department of Public Works, which involves the replacement of mechanical equipment, lighting and suspended ceilings in various locations throughout the building. A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to classify the project as a Type II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman and passed unanimously.

e. Proposed New Residential Juvenile Detention Facility, CP #3012

A presentation was made by Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect, Department of Public Works, which involves the planning of construction of a 32-bed juvenile detention facility. A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to classify the project as a Type II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cramer and passed unanimously.

f. Proposed Addition to the 6th District Court, Town of Brookhaven, CP #1106

A presentation was made by Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect, Department of Public Works, which involves the construction of a 1,500 square foot addition to the existing 9,517 square foot building to provide two hearing rooms with offices, jury deliberation room with restroom, jury empanelling room and renovations to the existing facility as requested by the courts. The courtroom will be renovated to include a jury box, as well as reconfiguration of existing building space to tie into the building addition. A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to classify the project as a Type II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman and passed unanimously.

3. Proposed Development of Bergen Point Soccer Complex, Town of Babylon

Judy Gordon, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, introduced Bob Brown, Landscape Design Association, and Lori E. Horowitz, Island Properties, LLC, who gave a presentation on the design to develop the proposed Soccer Complex for the Long Island Junior Soccer League.

The presentation included a plan for 5 soccer fields, parking for approximately 123 cars, buffers, a warm-up and staging area in the center of the fields, wetlands, lighting, etc. Consideration will be given to residents in the area with regard to lighting. The traffic impact was questioned and Ms. Horowitz said the games would be staggered so as to avoid a problem.

It was the recommendation of the Council that this project should be reviewed by the Town of Babylon and a local civic association. It was stated that Legislator Bishop was in favor of this project, but is concerned about the opinions of surrounding residents.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to table the project until the wetlands are identified by the DEC, clearing limits are established including buffers along Bergen Avenue, the project is reviewed by the Town of Babylon, a traffic study completed and some input from a civil group is made available. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman and passed by unanimous vote.

2. Proposed Construction of Maintenance Building at Cedar Point County Park, Town of East Hampton

Judy Gordon, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, made a presentation to the Council on the project which involves the construction of a 4,000 square foot maintenance building at Cedar Point County Park, Town of East Hampton, on an existing paved area, the relocation of an existing basketball court and construction of a volleyball court in an existing cleared area as well as the purchase of playground equipment. The location of this project has been changed since it's last review. A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to classify this project as Unlisted with a negative declaration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Manfredonia and passed with a majority vote. Mr. Kaufman abstained from the vote.

HISTORIC SERVICES: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, addressed the Council and updated the status of the County's historic properties as follows:

- a. Blydenburgh County Park - A Capital Project for \$15,000 for planning to do an historic landscape study which would cover the 10-acre Blydenburg historic trust district and include the farm fields to the east of the officially designated district. The study would

document what is presently there and the changes over time. A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Manfredonia and passed by unanimous vote.

b. Hart Estate - West Sayville Golf Course - Planning and construction money for the Hart Estate at the West Sayville Golf Course. \$50,000 to spend to upgrade the electric, plumbing, heating and do a comprehensive study on the use of the building. A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Van Lieu and passed by unanimous vote.

c. Coindre Hall – The Historic Trust has been working with The Alliance for the Preservation of Coindre Hall to re-establish to tour program. No one is available from this group to conduct the touring at this time. Splashes of Hope (founded in 1995 which goes into hospitals and paints murals) was offered office and studio space at Coindre Hall and, in return, will offer walking tours throughout the property in early summer. In addition, they will provide approximately \$12,000 worth of work and staff time during the year which will include painting of the rooms, some video programs and do some historic research.

d. Deepwells – The Holiday show was very successful. Shows were well attended and, as a result, double shows were added on the weekends. The new year's program for 2001 will begin in March 13, 2001, with the topic being Julia Lowe, Founder of the Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts will be involved in the process. The schedule for the remainder of the year includes Mae West (June 7) and Annie Oakley in the fall.

With the start of the program in March, included will be an exhibit on the second floor of Deepwells, before and after the restoration. An exhibit on I.H. Green will be put on the second floor as well.

In May 2001, the Long Island Museum at Stony Brook is opening an exhibit on Colonial Revival on Long Island which will include I.H. Greene as part of the exhibit.

The roof over the front porch will be replaced since it is now leaking and the gutters must be realigned.

- e. The Annual meeting of the Historic Trust is scheduled for Tuesday, May 22, 2001.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Mrs. Van Lieu asked if any of the Council members knew the whereabouts of fire towers which were used years ago in Suffolk. Ms. Manfredonia said she would contact Larry Paul since he would know where they were located. Mrs. Van Lieu stated they would make good tourist attractions if they were restored.

2. Legislator Vivian Fisher stated that she would no longer represent the Legislature on the CEQ. The Parks Committee and the Legislature has been split into two committees. One is Environment and Land Acquisitions and the other is Cultural Affairs and Sports. It is not known who would be present at the CEQ meetings.

3. Legislator Fisher also stated that there has been community opposition as to the traffic at Timber point since rowing takes place.

4. The meeting calendar for the year 2001, as presented, was approved by the Council.

5. Election of Officers:

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to retain the present Officers for another year: Theresa Elkowitz as Chairman and Larry Swanson as Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kramer and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.