

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, April 17, 2002

TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

PRESENT: Voting Members - Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson, Presiding; Larry Swanson, Vice Chair, Tom Cramer, Michael Kaufman, Nancy Manfredonia, Legislator Ginny Fields

Staff:

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst
Kathleen Rigano and Penny Kohler, Secretaries

Departmental Staff:

Suffolk County Executive's Office

Nicole DeAngelo, County Executive Assistant

Suffolk County Legislature,

B.J. McCartan, Legislature Aide

Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Nick Gibbons, Environmental Analyst

Richard Martin, Director, Historic Services

Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect

Ben Wright, Chief Engineer

Paul G. McMann, Sr. Civil Engineer

Victor Keneiby, Sr. Civil Engineer

Edward Davida, Assoc. Civil Engineer

Suffolk County Department of Economic Development

Carolyn Fahey, Intergov. Rel. Coordinator

Conservation Advisory Councils:

Joy Squires, Chairperson, Huntington CAC

Steve Brown, Brookhaven CAC

Guests: Ray Di Biase, Env. Principal, LK McLean Assoc.
Frederick Ernst, Associate, LK McLean Assoc.
Robert Steele, Project Engineer, LK McLean Assoc.

MINUTES:

On a motion by Larry Swanson, seconded by Michael Kaufman, the minutes of the March 20, 2002, meeting were approved with the following changes:

a. Page 5, CAC CONCERNS, should be changed to read: "Joy Squires questioned the status of the Empire State Carousel and if a permanent Suffolk County home has been found for it. It will be dismantled and stored in a trailer on Friday following the CEQ meeting. Legislator Fields will report back to CEQ with further developments."

b. Page 4, second paragraph under #6, line 3, should be changed to read: "...individual project is necessary...."

PROJECT REVIEW:

1. Recommended Type II Actions:

a. Ratification of Staff Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 19, 2002.

It was brought to the attention of the Council members that among the resolutions laid on the table are two resolutions for reappointments to the CEQ Council; Nancy Manfredonia and Theresa Elkowitz as submitted by Legislator Fields, as well as a resolution for a new appointee: Adrienne Esposito.

In addition, a resolution was submitted by Legislator Fields for verbatim minutes. Henry Barton's office will arrange to have a stenographer available for these meetings. It was decided that the meetings would remain in the Planning Department library in the H. Lee Dennison Building so files could be accessed, if necessary.

Jim Bagg stated that I.R. 1393, Authorizing a Lease for relocation of the Coram Health Center, is an Unlisted action requiring an EAF; I.R. 1412, Adopting a Local Law No. - 2002, A Charter Law adding Article XXXVII to the Suffolk County Charter to provide a Suffolk County Save Open Space Fund, is a Type I action requiring an EAF; I.R. 1488, Approving acquisition under Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program Town of Brookhaven, is an Unlisted action requiring an EAF; and I.R. 1490, Approving acquisition under Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program for Stage II Active Parklands....Town of Brookhaven, is an Unlisted action requiring an EAF. I.R. 1395 Initiating procedure for environmental impact statement for 2003 Vector Control Plan of work was discussed. Legislator Fields clarified that the EIS should be done in advance and that a 9-member committee be created to prepare an RFP to have this EIS done.

A motion was made by Larry Swanson to ratify the staff recommendations. The motion was seconded by Nancy Manfredonia and passed by a unanimous vote.

Larry Swanson questioned if e-mail could be used to remind the members of meetings in addition to the mailed packet. No objections were raised.

b. Proposed Replacement of Grilles in Inmate Housing Areas at Suffolk County Maximum Security Correctional Facility

A proposal was submitted by Alan R. Otto, Chief of Staff, Office of the Sheriff; and presented at the meeting by Chairperson Elkowitz who stated that the project involves replacement of the air handling grilles in each inmate housing area of the facility with tamper-proof security grilles as a suicide prevention measure.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Michael Kaufman and passed by a unanimous vote.

c. Proposed Renovation and Construction of Facilities at Gabreski Airport, Town of Southampton, CP 5702

A presentation regarding the proposal was given at the meeting by Carolyn Fahey, Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, in the Department of Economic Development, who stated that the project involves replacement of the existing generator only at Francis S. Gabreski Airport. The project description, as submitted to CEQ, was changed to reflect that.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Michael Kaufman and passed by a unanimous vote.

The portion of the initial request involving the renovation and demolition of buildings was tabled and will be submitted at a later date. Complete details, including maps, buildings to be renovated, etc., will be submitted to the CEQ at that time.

d. Proposed Planning and Design of the Redevelopment of Industrial Park at Francis S. Gabreski Airport, Town of Southampton, CP 5713

A presentation regarding the proposal was given at the meeting by Carolyn Fahey, Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, in the Department of Economic Development, who stated that the project involves an offset to fund the planning/design stage of the redevelopment of the Industrial Park at Francis S. Gabreski Airport.

A motion was made by Michael Kaufman to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Thomas Cramer and passed by a unanimous vote.

e. Proposed Improvements to Police Headquarters, Yaphank, Town of Brookhaven, CP 3122

A proposal, submitted by Tom LaGuardia, P.E., Chief Engineer, in the Department of Public Works, was read by Chairperson Elkowitz who stated that the project involves the replacement of the existing emergency generator and air conditioning in the second floor computer room.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Michael Kaufman and passed by a unanimous vote.

f. Proposed Development of a Plan to Expand Camping Capacity at Sears Bellows County Park, Flanders, Town of Southampton

A presentation was given at the meeting by Nicholas Gibbons, Environmental Analyst, in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, who stated that the project involves a study to address the potential of expanding camping capacity at Sears Bellows County Park, Flanders, Town of Southampton, which will weigh the environmental impacts with the benefits to park patrons.

A motion was made by Michael Kaufman to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Nancy Manfredonia and passed by a unanimous vote.

g. Proposed Replacement of Playground at Lakeland County Park, Bohemia, Town of Islip

A presentation was given at the meeting by Nicholas Gibbons, Environmental Analyst, in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, who stated that the project involves replacement of the existing, antiquated playground equipment at Lakeland County Park with equipment that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act on the same site.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Larry Swanson and passed by a unanimous vote.

h. Proposed Planning and Design Improvements to Athletic Fields at West Hills County Park, Town of Huntington

A presentation was given at the meeting by Nicholas Gibbons, Environmental Analyst, in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, who stated that the project involves retaining a consultant to make recommendations on how best to improve the athletic fields at West Hills County Park in Huntington, which will include grading, fencing and irrigation.

A motion was made by Michael Kaufman to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Thomas Cramer and passed by a unanimous vote.

i. Proposed Planning for Improvements to Shinnecock Marina, Hampton Bays, Town of Southampton

A presentation regarding the proposal was given at the meeting by Nicholas Gibbons, Environmental Analyst, in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation,

who stated that the project involves planning and design for the reconfiguration or expansion of docking to increase capacity, extension of utilities throughout the entire marina and improvements which include lighting, parking and landscaping.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Larry Swanson and passed by a majority vote. (One abstention - Michael Kaufman)

j. Proposed Perimeter Survey and Fencing of Gabreski Airport, Town of Southampton - CP 5721

A presentation regarding the proposal was given by Carolyn Fahey, Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, Department of Economic Development, who stated that the project involves funding for a survey and replacement of fencing for Francis S. Gabreski Airport. The perimeter fencing to be installed, an 8 ft. chain link with 2 ft. of barbed wire as recommended by the FAA, will replace the original 4 ft., 3 strand barbed wire fencing.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Larry Swanson and passed by a unanimous vote.

2. Proposed Improvements to CR 80, Montauk Highway, between NYS 112 and CR 101, Sills Road, East Patchogue, Town of Brookhaven - CP 5534

A presentation was made by Paul G. McMann, Sr. Civil Engineer, in the Department of Public Works and Ray DiBiase, Env. Principal, LK McLean Associates. With slides, Mr. DiBiase indicated those areas that warrant road improvements in order to decrease the accident rate in this area and for improved pedestrian safety. The project consists of realignment of key intersections, minor widening, drainage structures installation, new curb and sidewalk installation, resurfacing and traffic safety improvements. Concerns were raised by the CEQ members regarding the amount of runoff retained and direct discharge into Swan River.

A motion was made by Legislator Fields to table this project until the missing data in the area of the River was obtained and alternate stormwater plans to avoid direct discharge to the Swan River were evaluated. The motion was seconded by Larry Swanson and was passed with a unanimous vote that included Steve Brown, Brookhaven CAC.

3. Proposed Improvements to Suffolk County Sewer District #18, Town of Smithtown

A presentation was made by Ben Wright, Chief Engineer, and Edward Davida, Associate Civil Engineer, in the Department of Public Works, who stated that the project involves abandoning the two sewage treatment plants in District #18 and constructing conveyance facilities to the Suffolk Community College, Western Campus, sewer leading to the Pilgrim Psychiatric Center Pump Station and treatment at Sewer District #3.

A motion was made by Thomas Cramer to classify this project as an Unlisted action with a negative declaration. The motion was seconded by Nancy Manfredonia and passed with a majority vote (one abstention by Chairperson Elkowitz).

HISTORIC SERVICES:

Richard Martin briefed the Council on the following:

a. Maritime Museum - Richard Martin stated he is working with the Maritime Museum on their site plan which will be presented to the Council next month. The EAF will be done. Two additional projects will be presented as well (assuming that the site plan will be approved), the gatehouse project and the railroad restoration project.

b. Historic Trust Meeting - Richard Martin requested that the date for the next Historic Trust Meeting be postponed until the County acquires the Sagtikos Manor. As a result, the meeting scheduled for May was cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

c. Old Field - Plans for Old Field were revised to eliminate direct discharge into West Meadow Creek. A horse show has been scheduled at Old Field in August.

Legislator Fields updated the Council on the Carousel. It is planned to have it moved to the Duck stadium. There will be a meeting this Friday with the builder of the Carousel, a representative from the stadium and a representative from the County Executive's office.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.