

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

- Date: November 1, 2000
- Place: Arthur H. Kunz Memorial Library, 4th Floor, H. Lee Dennison Bldg., Hauppauge, New York
- Present: Donald Eversoll, Chairman (At Large)
Robert Martin (Smithtown), Vice Chairman
Edward Rosavitch (Brookhaven)
Richard London, (Village 5,000 & Under)
Thomas Thorsen (East Hampton)
Frank Tantone (Islip)
Linda Petersen (At Large)
Laure Nolan (Village 5,000 & Over)
Richard O Dea (Riverhead)
Ronald Parr (At Large)
David Casciotti (Southampton)
Basia Braddish, Esq., Counsel
Harold Withers, Deputy Director
Gerald Newman, Chief Planner
Andy Freleng, Principal Planner
Kathleen Rigano, Principal Stenographer
Claire Chorny, Sr. Clerk Typist
- Absent: Louis Dietz (Babylon), Secretary
William Cremers (Southold)
Michael Macco (Huntington)
George J. Dickerson (Shelter Island)
Stephen M. Jones, Director of Planning
- Guests: Lori Talmage, Office of the County Executive
Betty Gallagher, Office of the County Executive
Vi Hoglund

The meeting of the Suffolk County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Eversoll at 12:05 P.M. in the Suffolk County Arthur H. Kunz Memorial Library.

Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Petersen, seconded by Commissioner Rosavitch, the minutes of the October 4, 2000, Planning Commission meeting were unanimously approved.

Director's Report:

Harry Withers, Deputy Director of the Department of Planning, addressed the Commission in the absence of Steve Jones. He advised the Commissioners of the following:

1. Steve Jones was attending a meeting of the committee to select a site for a new Juvenile Detention Center. This Center will house young offenders for the night. The site to be selected has become very controversial. A committee has been formed to make a binding recommendation for the site location to the County Legislature.

2. A copy of the Smart Growth Report, as mandated by the Legislature, was given to each Commissioner. This report, as prepared by Steve Jones, Director of the Planning Department, has been submitted to the Legislature for review and acceptance.

3. The Annual Arthur Kunz Memorial Breakfast will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2000, at the Culinary Institute in Central Islip. The fee for the breakfast is \$20.00 and the scholarship award is \$750.

4. The Division of Real Estate is having an Affordable Housing Auction which will take place on Tuesday, November 14th. Unlike previous years, only prequalified bidders will be allowed to attend. The bidders must have an income of only 80% of the median income for Suffolk County. The maximum salary for a family with children is approximately \$61,000.

5. Supreme Court Justice Jack Dunn has overturned the Town decisions approving a shopping center on Route 58 in Riverhead. Justice Dunn disapproved the Town's action because a special permit was given before a final engineering site plan was submitted and approved by the Town.

Chairman Eversoll requested that all the Commissioners return their postcards indicating their intention to attend scheduled meetings.

Presentation by Andy Freleng: SEQRA and Farmland Preservation

Andy Freleng addressed the Commission with a draft regarding the purchase of developments to farms by Suffolk County. While doing so, Suffolk County and the towns are processing subdivisions which are converting these areas to home sites. As a result, farmers must decide whether to sell to a developer or sell development rights to the government. Building of homes have a great impact on school districts, garbage disposal, police and fire protection and traffic congestion. His presentation went on to describe the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) which provides the mechanism for declaring certain areas of farmland to be Critical Environmental Areas and states a policy that loss of farmland impacts the community negatively from a number of standpoints. He asked the Commission to consider this

for a "Planning Commission Advisory Bulletin." There will be additional discussion at next month's meeting.

Commissioners' Roundtable:

Commissioner Eversoll said it has become apparent that non residents of Suffolk County have no idea that Suffolk County is the largest agricultural county in New York State.

Commissioner Thorsen reported to the Commission that the Master Plan for the East Hampton Village is still being worked on which will not expand commercial development beyond its present borders, limit the maximum size for commercial buildings, keep local service businesses, consider business centers in other portions of the Town so as to free the heavy traffic in the Village, etc.

Commissioner Parr agreed that few people realize that agriculture is the number 1 industry in New York State. Higher density is not always necessary to provide affordable housing accommodations. He is of the opinion that Planning should review applications carefully for higher density for the purposes of building affordable housing.

Commissioner Casciotti stated that the moratorium has been extended for another four months to get the codes developed for implementing the comprehensive plan for preserving agriculture. Three objectives exist: preservation of farmland, preservation of farming as an industry and maintaining equity in the framework of trying to set a goal of 80% set aside and reduce density on the remaining parcels.

Commissioner O'Dea stated that the Town of Riverhead is putting emphasis on preserving farmland, conservation subdivisions, Grumman and the proposed building of the new Riverhead Center which has run into obstacles recently.

Commissioner Petersen said the Town of Brookhaven has been quiet this week since the Town Supervisor is running for Congress and the Highway Superintendent retired . It is expected that by next month, Brookhaven will be very busy with all the new changes.

Commissioner Rosavitch directed the attention of the Commissioners to the Veteran Registration Form for the Suffolk County Veterans Honor Registry which will be an Honor Roll for Long Island veterans on the data base inside the H. Lee Dennison Building.

Commissioner London spoke of the status of the West Nile Virus. The Department of Health will be looking for volunteers in the Township of Babylon to give blood samples. Since the disease is asymptomatic, many people may be unaware that they have the virus.

Commissioner Tantone said the Code Enforcement Department in the Town of Islip will be an independent department rather than under the Commissioner of Buildings and Planning.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section A14-24 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code of the Suffolk County Charter, the proposed subdivision plats and zoning actions are duly considered and acted upon as appended hereto:

<u>Resolution Number</u>	<u>File Number</u>
ZSR - 56	S-RH-00-03.1
ZSR - 57	S-BR-00-73

S-1 - Calverton Camelot (S-RH-00-03.1)

Motion: Approved, per Staff Report, with the stipulation that Comment #1 be changed to a condition, by Commissioner Thorsen, seconded by Commissioner Rosavitch.

Vote: 10 Ayes - 0 Nays - 1 Abstention (Commissioner O'Dea)

Z-1 - Ornstein Leyton Company (BR-00-73)

Motion: Disapproved, per the Staff Report, by Commissioner Rosavitch, seconded by Commissioner London.

Vote: 10 Ayes - 0 Nays - 1 Abstention (Commissioner Eversoll)

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Suffolk County Planning Commission was adjourned at 12:55 PM.