

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

Lawrence Swanson  
Chairperson  
CEQ

## **SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES**

DATE: May 17, 2017

TIME: 9:36 am – 11:10 am

LOCATION: Arthur Kunz Library

H. Lee Dennison Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York

### PRESENT:

Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair

Robert Carpenter Jr.

Frank De Rubeis

Michael Doall

Eva Growney

Mary Ann Spencer

### ABSENT:

Larry Swanson, Chair

Thomas Gulbransen

Hon. Kara Hahn

Constance Kepert

### CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

### STAFF:

Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner

John Corral, Senior Planner

Christine DeSalvo, Senior Clerk Typist

**GUESTS:**

Joel Vetter, Chief Fire Rescue, Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services  
Mike Jensen, Associate P.H. Sanitarian, Suffolk County Department of Health Services  
Charlie Whitmore, Twisted Pine  
Lee Snead, Attorney, Pal-O-Mine Equestrian  
Ali Nazir, Chief of Staff, Suffolk County Legislator Leslie Kennedy  
Lauretta Fischer, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning

Note - Due to the absence of Lawrence Swanson, Chair of the CEQ, Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair of the CEQ, ran the May 17, 2017 meeting.

**Minutes:**

Minutes for the April 19, 2017 CEQ minutes were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Carpenter to approve the April 19, 2017 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Doall. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

Mr. Corral informed the CEQ that Edward Romaine, Supervisor of the Town of Brookhaven, sent a letter to the Chair of the CEQ, Larry Swanson and the Suffolk County Presiding Officer, DuWayne Gregory. The letter expressed Mr. Romaine's concern regarding the use of Methoprene by Suffolk County Vector Control. Vice Chair, Michael Kaufman gave an overview of the letter and passed it around to the Council members to read. Mr. DeRubeis noted that since he was not on the Council at the time that Vector Control Long Term Plan was considered he would like to review information related to this Plan. Mr. Corral noted that the Suffolk County Vector Control and Wetlands Management Plan is available online and that CEQ staff will send the CEQ members a link to the Plan and the related environmental impact statement.

**Public Portion:**

None

**Historic Trust Docket:**

Director's Report:

Updates on Housing Program for Historic Trust Sites

Mr. Martin noted that the house at Blydenburgh County Park has been rented.

## Updates on Historic Trust Custodial Agreements

Mr. Martin noted that Suffolk County Parks had a meeting regarding the County's historic Third House in Montauk and that it is planned that the Nature Conservancy will enter into a custodial agreement to run programs at Third House. Mr. Martin noted that it will still take time for Suffolk County and the Nature Conservancy to complete the needed custodial agreement.

## **Project Review:**

### **Recommended Unlisted Actions:**

#### A. Proposed 2017 Suffolk County Annual Agricultural District Modifications

Lauretta Fischer, Chief Environmental Analyst for the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment gave a presentation regarding the project. The project involves the proposed 2017 Suffolk County Agricultural District Modifications which consist of the inclusion of 13 parcels of land into a certified Agricultural District. Pursuant to NYS Agricultural Markets Law Section 303-b, the Suffolk County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board reviewed 10 applications totaling 13 parcels of land for possible inclusion within certified Agricultural Districts. The Suffolk County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board recommended that 13 parcels be included within certified Agricultural Districts. These recommended parcels were determined by the Suffolk County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board to be viable agricultural lands that would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the district.

After Ms. Fisher's presentation it was discussed that Mr. Carpenter would abstain from voting on the SEQRA recommendations for the proposed action which involves 10 applications and 13 parcels being added to an agricultural district. Ms. Growney also noted that she will abstain from voting on the Bridge A, LLC application. As a result the CEQ decided that there would be two separate motions. The first motion would be for all of the 2017 Suffolk County Agricultural District Modifications applications with the exception of the Bridge A, LLC application and the second motion would be for the Bridge A, LLC application.

A motion was made by Ms. Growney to recommend classification of the 2017 Suffolk County Agricultural District Modifications applications with the exception of the Bridge A, LLC application as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Doall. Mr. Carpenter abstained. Motion carried.

A second motion was made by Mr. De Rubeis to recommend the classification of the proposed 2017 Suffolk County Agricultural District Modification application

entitled the Bridge A, LLC consisting of two parcels SCTM # 0900-084.00-01.00-032.020 and 0900-084.00-01.00-032.021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman. Mr. Carpenter and Ms. Growney abstained. Due to the abstentions there were not the necessary votes to carry the motion and make an official recommendation to the legislature and as a result this recommendation was sent to the legislature as an unofficial recommendation.

Taken out of Order

- B. Proposed Acquisition of Land for Open Space Preservation Purposes Known as the Little Portion Friary County Preserve Addition – Society of St. Francis, American Province, Inc., Town of Brookhaven

A presentation regarding the project was given at the meeting by Laretta Fischer, Chief Environmental Analyst, with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning. The project involves the acquisition of 15.03 acres of land by Suffolk County under the New Enhanced Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program and its dedication to the Suffolk County Parks Department in order to assure it remain in open space for passive recreational use. The subject property is located in the hamlet of Miller Place in the Town of Brookhaven and is identified by Suffolk County Tax Map Numbers: 0200-067.00-01.00-007.001 p/o. This acquisition consists of 15.03 acres out of the total lot acreage of 20.51 acres and is to be acquired in partnership with the Town of Brookhaven (75% Suffolk County and 25% Town of Brookhaven).

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

Taken out of Order

- C. Proposed Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Passenger Rail Car Theatrical Training Prop, Town of Brookhaven

A presentation was given regarding the project by Joel Vetter, Chief, Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services. The project involves the installation of two hundred feet of standalone rail and bedrock to house two M3 passenger railcars (9801 and 9802) for future training purpose of the emergency service community at the FRES complex in Yaphank. The project involves simulation of fire done with digital LED panels to support full spectrum training for all emergency responders. The project does not involve live fire training and there will not be contaminated water runoff from this training prop.

A motion was made by Mr. DeRubeis to recommend classification of the proposed project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion included, as a reason for the Negative Declaration, that if in the future there are

substantive changes to the project's described firefighting training method (i.e. the introduction of fire chemical flame suppressants, etc.) the amended project will be resubmitted to the CEQ for review. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. Motion carried.

Taken out of Order

D. Proposed Shoreline Rehabilitation Project at Lake Ronkonkoma (At the Former Site of Bavarian Inn), Town of Smithtown

Mr. Corral, staff to the CEQ, provided an explanation as to why this proposed action is being brought to the CEQ and Ali Nazir, Chief of Staff, for Suffolk County Legislator Leslie Kennedy provided some additional information regarding the proposed action. The project involves the removal of debris (trees, logs, creosote rail road ties) along approximately 400 feet of frontage on the shore of Lake Ronkonkoma at the former site of the Bavarian Inn. This removal work, which is in the vicinity of the former retaining wall for the property, will then be followed by plantings and ground cover pursuant to a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) planting plan.

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

**Project Review:**

**Recommendations for LADS Report:**

Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table April 25, 2017

Mr. Corral noted that the staff's SEQRA recommendations are listed on the April 25, 2017 LADS reports.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion to accept staff recommendations for the April 25, 2017 Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

**Other Business:**

Vice-Chair Mr. Kaufman asked Mr. Martin about the possibility of an upcoming CEQ meeting at Hubbard County Park. Mr. Martin noted that he wanted to wait until the plan for Hubbard County Park and the related the environmental assessment form is finalized before holding the CEQ meeting at the Park.

**CAC Concerns:**

None

Meeting Adjourned