

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: March 13, 2019

TIME: 9:35 am – 11:45 pm

LOCATION: Arthur Kunz Library

H. Lee Dennison Bldg. – 2nd Floor

Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York

PRESENT:

Larry Swanson, Chair

Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair

Frank De Rubeis

Michael Doall

Eva Growney

Thomas Gulbransen

Hon. Kara Hahn

Hon. Al Krupski

Constance Kepert

Mary Ann Spencer

Andrea Spilka

ABSENT:

Robert Carpenter Jr.

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

STAFF:

Andy Freleng, Chief Planner

John Corral, Senior Planner

Christine DeSalvo, Principal Office Assistant

GUESTS:

Christina DeLisi, Suffolk County Legislative Aide, Presiding Officer Gregory Catherine Stark, Suffolk County Legislative Aide, Hon. Krupski, 1st District
Diego De La Rocha, Intern, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning Division of Planning and Environment
Ken Zegel, Associate Public Health Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Health Services

Minutes:

- February 20, 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Swanson to table the February 20, 2019 minutes until the next CEQ meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Rubeis. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- None

Public Portion:

- None

Historic Trust Docket:

Director's Report:

The Suffolk County Director of Historic Services, Mr. Richard Martin, was not present so no report was given.

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

- A. Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 5, 2019

Mr. Corral clarified that Introductory Resolution 1166-2019 involves two road improvement projects on CR 21. One project involves road improvements from Longwood Middle School to SR 25. This project has been reviewed by the CEQ and the SEQRA review has been completed. The second project located just to the north of the LIE is in the planning phase. The CEQ staff noted that they confirmed with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works that they will be coming to the CEQ to complete the SEQRA review for this project. The CEQ also staff noted that they recommended to Suffolk County Department of Public Works that a resolved clause be added to the resolution that clarifies that no money will be used for construction for this second project until SEQRA is complete and that this recommendation was also placed on the LADS

report for IR 1166-2019. Ms. Spilka made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gulbransen. Mr. Kaufman abstained on IR 1203-2019 which is a resolution that reappoints Mr. Kaufman to the CEQ. Motion carried.

Other Business:

- **North Fork Preserve CEQ Subcommittee-Discussion**

To start the discussion an overview of this CEQ Subcommittee was provided. It was noted that this CEQ subcommittee/working group, that was comprised of CEQ members, was set up to research what an North Fork Preserve Advisory group would look like and whether the CEQ should recommend the formation of such an advisory group.

After this introduction the CEQ subcommittee reported their findings back to the full CEQ. The CEQ subcommittee noted that they found that there are already County processes in place that allow for public comment but they also believed that the public awareness of these processes could be improved. The CEQ subcommittee also noted that one established mechanism which could be utilized to increase public awareness is for a local municipality to recommend a Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) representative to the CEQ.

The CEQ also discussed Legislator Hahn's idea of developing a volunteer parks steward program as a potential way to improve public awareness and involvement in Suffolk County Parks. The CEQ also noted that it would be important to get the Suffolk County Parks Department input on this initiative.

After this discussion, Mr. Kaufman made a motion stating that the CEQ does not see the necessity to recommend a separate advisory group for the North Fork Preserve Property and that the CEQ refers the question as to whether a separate advisory committee is needed for the North Fork Preserve Property to Suffolk County Board of Park Trustees. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Ms. Spilka Abstained. Motion carried.

- **Update on the Suffolk County Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan and the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement**

Ken Zegel, Associate Public Health Engineer with the Suffolk County Department of Health Services gave an update on the Suffolk County Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan and the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

Ken Zegel informed the CEQ that the Suffolk County Health Department has been informed by their consultant that the final groundwater model run is taking longer than anticipated. As a result of this, the consultants notified the Health Department that the completion of the DGEIS is likely to be delayed by approximately 2 months.

The CEQ also discussed the status of the CEQ comments that have been made to the Health Department on the Task Reports of the Subwatershed Plan. Mr. Zegel noted that the Health Department is working on these comments and will respond back to the CEQ with responses to these comments. At the meeting the CEQ also provided Mr. Zegel with additional comments on the received Task Reports.

It was also recommended that if the CEQ had more comments that they be sent to the CEQ staff who would organize the comments and then send them on to the Health Department. The CEQ staff also noted that they are working to provide the CEQ with templates on the formal steps that the CEQ will need to take in its review of the Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

The CEQ also recommended that the Health Department do not provide the DGEIS to the CEQ in pieces but rather provide it to the CEQ as a complete document when it is finished. It was also discussed that when the revised schedule is available for the review of the GEIS that it will be provided to the CEQ.

As a result of this new information it was determined that the scheduled March 20, 2019 Subwatershed Plan's GEIS Subcommittee/Working group meeting will be cancelled.

CAC Concerns:

No CAC concerns or comments were raised.

The regular CEQ Meeting Adjourned