

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2014
PECONIC DUNES COUNTY PARK
SOUTHOLD, NEW YORK**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gilbert Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Kathleen Gooding, Ph.D.	Vice Chair, Town of Shelter Island
Dawn Hopkins	Chair, Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Debra Kolyer	Member of the Board
Peter Leis	Trustee, Town of Islip
Arthur Leudesdorf	Trustee, Town of Southold
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Terence McSweeney	Trustee, Town of Babylon
Terrence Pearsall	Member of the Board
William B. Sickles	Trustee, Town of Southampton
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Marisa Schifano	County Attorney's Office
VACANT	Member at Large

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Greg Dawson	Commissioner
Nick Gibbons	Principal Environmental Analyst
Barbara Rittman	Senior Clerk Typist

GUESTS

Chris Colahan	Cornell Cooperative Extension, Peconic Dunes CP Camp Director
Lauretta Fischer	Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Planning
Hon. Al Krupski	Legislator, 1 st District
Jill Lewis	Deputy Town Supervisor, Riverhead
Michael Reichel	Riverhead Sewer District
Frank Russo	H2M Consulting

PUBLIC PORTION

There were no members of the public present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2014

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Leudesdorf. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

PLANNING & REAL ESTATE

Lauretta Fischer distributed a list of parcels and maps being considered under the Old Drinking Water Protection Program, Section 12.5D. The funds were initially to be utilized for landfill capping in those towns

that wished to utilize the money for those needs. The remaining portion of the funds was to be used for acquisitions within the 12.5D towns. These towns include Brookhaven, Riverhead, East Hampton, Southampton and Southold. The Town of Riverhead's 12.5 D list was not presented today but will be at a future meeting.

Each of the five towns provided lists of the properties that they would be interested in. Legislator Krupski came forward with a resolution to provide the funding for each of the five towns.

Town of Brookhaven

1. Rocky Point/Twin Ponds Nature Preserve - 42 parcels, 14.4 acres.
2. Carmans River Watershed Addition – 1 parcel, 8 acres.
3. Beaverdam Creek Watershed Addition – 4 parcels, 2 acres.
4. Terrell's River County Park Addition in Center Moriches – 4 parcels, 1.1 acres

Please see attached list for Suffolk County Tax Map #s.

Trustee McKay inquired if there are sufficient funds to purchase all of the parcels on the list. Laretta stated that there is \$230,738 of residual funds from the old program for the Brookhaven parcels and Brookhaven was asked to provide a list of more parcels than could actually be purchased because the County first needs to have willing and available sellers to make purchases. The towns and county will work together to prioritize which parcels would be most valuable.

A motion to approve the proposed Brookhaven open space acquisitions was made by Trustee Hopkins and seconded by Trustee Borden. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

Town of East Hampton

1. Montauk County Park Addition – 1 parcel, 2.80 acres
2. Accabonac Harbor Addition – 1 parcel, 0.17 acres

Please see attached list for Suffolk County Tax Map #s.

A motion to approve the proposed East Hampton open space acquisitions was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Leis. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

Town of Southampton

1. Eastern GEIS/Noyac Greenbelt – 1 parcel, 7.54 acres
2. Peconic River Addition – 1 parcel, 1.30 acres
3. Pine Barrens Critical Resource Area/Hubbard County Park Addition – 2 parcels, 68.70 acres
4. Pine Barrens CGA/Maple Swamp - 3 parcels, 80 acres – Compatible Growth Area
5. Pine Barrens Critical Resource Area/Sears Bellows County Park Addition – 8 parcels, 83 acres
6. Pine Barrens CGA/East Quogue Watershed – 8 parcels, 563.10 acres – Compatible Growth Area
7. Weesuck Creek – 1 parcel, 33.10 acres
8. Quantuck Bay Watershed – 3 parcels, 105.60 acres.

Please see attached list for Suffolk County Tax Map #s.

A motion to approve the proposed Southampton open space acquisitions, with the exception of the Pine Barrens CGA/East Quogue Watershed parcel (144.70 acres, SCTM #0900 21900 0100 003001) was made by Trustee Sickles and seconded by Trustee White. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

Town of Southold

1. Pipes Cove Watershed – 2 parcels, 83.70 acres
2. Richmond Creek Addition – 1 parcel, 23.10 acres
3. Corey Creek – 7 parcels, 21 acres

****Please see attached list for Suffolk County Tax Map #s.****

A motion to approve the proposed Southold open space acquisitions was made by Trustee Leudesdorf and seconded by Trustee Gooding. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

GUEST SPEAKERS

TOWN OF RIVERHEAD SEWER DISTRICT AND H2M CONSULTING

Commissioner Dawson reported that a pilot program was instituted several years back whereby effluent water was used to irrigate a test section mimicking a hole at the Indian Island Golf Course. The Parks Board of Trustees voted unanimously to move forward with the pilot program at that time. Legislator Krupski stated that he has been working on this project for several years and approves of the effluent water reuse as an alternative to pumping it into the bay.

Frank Russo, an engineer with H2M Consulting stated that Riverhead would be the first on Long Island to use this process and fifth in all of New York State. Twenty-one percent of ground water is used in public water supply and the rest is used in industrial applications. Twenty-six percent of ground water becomes waste water. California has been using effluent water since 1910 and Florida has also been using it extensively for many years as well. One-third of all golf courses in the United States are irrigated with effluent water.

The pilot project was first presented in 2002, was widely accepted and went forward. The work plan was presented to Health Services and reviewed using the toughest standards. It was approved for night use only at the time. In 2006, two more reports were presented to Health Services and approved. The DEC contributed \$2.1 million to move forward and the Health Department approved a full scale project. H2M constructed a model golf course duplicating the Indian Island course exactly. A membrane reactor filters and screens out viruses from the water and the micro filters are estimated to last from 15-25 years. The mechanical equipment and piping are estimated to last approximately 20 years. The county would enter into an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Riverhead and if approved, the program could start in approximately 2016.

A motion to approve the pending Effluent Reuse project at Indian Island Golf Course was made by Trustee Cardillo and seconded by Trustee Sickles. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

PECONIC DUNES COUNTY PARK CAMP

Chris Colahan, Cornell Cooperative Extension Camp Director at Peconic Dunes provided a brief history of the camp. The property was used just after World War I as a convalescing community and in 1932 it became a boys camp. In 1971, Suffolk County took over operations at Peconic Dunes and in 2003 Cornell Cooperative Extension signed a license agreement with the County. In 2007, Chris came on board as the Camp Director at Peconic Dunes. The County did an internal review of the camp and recommended some needed upgrades to the

facility. In 2011, Cornell obtained an engineering report of the dining hall and in 2013 the dining hall was closed due to safety reasons. A meeting is scheduled with DPW to review the planning and design for an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a new dining hall.

Chris reported that Peconic Dunes runs several programs; overnight camp, day camp, a long weekend camp (to help children get used to sleeping away), spring break day camp and a Counselor-in-Training camp for the 16 year old age group. All Counselor participants attend an American Red Cross lifeguard training program, apprentice as instructors for different activities offered at the camp and shadow Program Directors as a workforce development program.

The camp's enrollment is currently at full capacity for every week during the summer for overnight and day camp. The camp is experiencing an increase in retention of campers ranging across all age groups and boys & girls. Last summer, Peconic Dunes had the highest staff return rate ever and the campers enjoy seeing their role models return.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Dawson congratulated Terry Pearsall on his recent retirement and thanked him for staying on the Parks Trustees board.

Kathleen Gooding was approved at the last Legislative meeting to continue on as the Parks Trustee representing the Town of Shelter Island.

At the last Trustee meeting, there was a lawsuit pending by the Audubon Society that was opposed to the re-nourishment project moving forward at Smith Point County Park. The temporary restraining order has been lifted and the project will be starting in early December. This project will greatly improve conditions for the 2015 season.

The new computer reservation system with Vermont Systems will changeover from USeDirect in December.

The annual Big Duck Lighting ceremony will be held on Wednesday, December 3rd at 7 pm.

\$100,000 in planning funds for the North Fork Preserve and supported by Legislator Krupski was approved at the last Legislative meeting.

Commissioner Dawson asked for Trustee recommendation for a fee change for the shot gun monthly season. Currently during bow hunting season, hunters can hunt paying a \$17/day or \$35 annual fee. There are approximately 22 bow hunting sites and 2 shot gun hunting sites (Montauk and Hubbard County Parks). The Sportsman's Advisory Committee has requested offering the same \$35 annual fee to shot gun hunters so that these hunters may be able to use their permit more frequently. All rules will remain the same for the lottery.

Trustee White made a motion to recommend the fee change and Trustee McKay seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Dawn Hopkins inquired about a cultural landscape walking tour that she participated in at the National County William Floyd Estate. The Park Ranger who gave the tour stated that the pitch pines were infested with beetles. Nick Gibbons reported that these Southern Pine beetles have been found at Connetquot, Heckscher, Sears Bellows, Hubbard, and Munn's Pond Wildlife Rescue Center. He stated that a theory for the cause is that many of the pine trees were stressed from Hurricane Sandy and the winds may have

carried the beetles from the New Jersey Pine Barrens. John Pavacic, Executive Director of the Pine Barrens Commission is coordinating all of the local agencies to respond to the issue and the DEC has regulatory oversight. It will however, involve some significant cutting of trees.

Trustee Hopkins also inquired about the Parks program on exercise. Commissioner Dawson reported that Legislator Hahn sponsored the resolution and the idea is based on a program that started in Washington. The legislation requires that a database be created listing all local, town and state parks and trails that would be shared with physicians so that they can prescribe exercise to their patients at specific local parks.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee McKay reported that he sent a note to Larry Hynes to see how he was feeling and heard back from him that he is doing well and he is thankful to everyone for all of their well wishes. He expressed that he has many good memories of his years working in the park system.

Trustee White announced that the holiday lighting of the Montauk Lighthouse will be the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 29th at 5:15 pm. Live music begins shortly after 4 pm, hot cocoa is served free of charge and the museum store is open. On Sunday, Santa returns and there are pony rides free of charge.

Trustee Cardillo commented that the restrooms at Indian Island have not been completed Commissioner Dawson reported that a clean-up crew will be assigned there.

Trustee McSweeney reported that a non-profit organization named Kaboom has shown interest in building a playground at Van Bourgondien County Park to replace the worn tennis courts. He will have the town contact Parks with more information.

Trustee Leudesdorf thanked all for attending the Parks Trustee meeting at Peconic Dunes.

Trustee Sickles thanked Trustee Terry Pearsall for all of his years of service for Suffolk County. He also commended Trustee White for all of his years of service for the benefit of the Montauk Lighthouse.

Commissioner Dawson reported that the clean-up from the fire at Cupsogue County Park had been completed and the park is currently open to fishermen. A meeting was scheduled with Parks, DPW and the Beach Huts concessionaire, Fred Marsilio to discuss plans for next summer's season and arranging for restrooms at the park.

Trustee Sickles thanked Richard Martin for representing Suffolk County Parks at the Big Duck event and speaking about the history of the property.

The next Parks Trustee meeting will be held at Meadowedge, West Sayville Golf Course in West Sayville on Thursday, December 18, 2014.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee White and was seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 12-0-0.