COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVE LEVY SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

R. Lawrence Swanson CHAIRPERSON

Michael Mulé SENIOR PLANNER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Council of Environmental Quality will convene a regular public meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17th, 2010 in the Arthur Kunz Library, H. Lee Dennison Building, Fourth Floor, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788. Pursuant to the Citizens Public Participation Act, all citizens are invited to submit testimony, either orally or in writing at the meeting. Written comments can also be submitted prior to the meeting to the attention of:

Michael P. Mulé Council on Environmental Quality Suffolk County Planning Department P.O. Box 6100 Hauppauge, NY 11788

Council of Environmental Quality R. Lawrence Swanson, Chairperson

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

R. Lawrence Swanson CHAIRPERSON Michael P. Mulé SENIOR PLANNER

AGENDA

MEETING NOTIFICATION

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 9:30 a.m.
Arthur Kunz Library
H. Lee Dennison Bldg. - 4th Floor
Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge

Call to Order:

Minutes: check the web at http://www.co.suffolk.ny.us/departments/planning/minutes.aspx#ceq May minutes available on line for review and approval

Correspondence:

Public Portion:

Historic Trust Docket:

Director's Report:

Updates on Housing Program for Historic Trust Sites Updates on Historic Trust Custodial Agreements Updates on EDF plaque for Stony Brook Post Office

Project Review:

Recommended TYPE I Actions:

A. Proposed Acquisition for Open Space Preservation Purposes Known as Forge River Watershed Addition – Beechwood Moriches Building Corp. property, Town of Brookhaven.

Recommended TYPE II Actions:

A. Ratification of Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table November 3, 2010.

Recommended Unlisted Actions:

- A. Proposed Declaration of 95.3 acres of Industrial/Commercial Zoned Property surplus/offer for sale, Town of Brookhaven. Tabled from October 20th, 2010.
- B. Proposed Acquisition for Open Space Preservation Purposes Known as Forge River Watershed Addition – Shaw Property, Town of Brookhaven. Tabled from October 20th, 2010.

Other Business:

CAC Concerns:

*CAC MEMBERS: The above information has been forwarded to your local Legislators, Supervisors and DEC personnel. Please check with them prior to the meeting to see if they have any comments or concerns regarding these projects that they would like brought to the CEQ's attention.

**CEQ MEMBERS: PLEASE NOTIFY THIS OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND.

***FOLLOWING THE MEETING PLEASE LEAVE BEHIND ALL PROJECT
MATERIAL THAT YOU DO NOT WANT OR NEED AS WE CAN RECYCLE THESE
MATERIALS LATER ON.

ORIGINAL

SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

100 Veterans Memorial Highway
Hauppauge, New York
November 17, 2010
9:33 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

R. LAWRENCE SWANSON, Chairman MICHAEL KAUFMAN, Vice Chairman HON. VIVIAN VILORIA-FISHER EVA GROWNEY RICHARD MACHTAY GLORIA G. RUSSO MARY ANN SPENCER DANIEL PICHNEY JAMES BAGG JOY SQUIRES, CAC Representative RICHARD MARTIN, Historic Society Representative THOMAS A. ISLES, Director of Planning LAURETTA FISCHER, Principal Environmental Analyst MICHAEL MULE, CEQ staff CHRISTINE DeSALVO, CEQ staff LINDA SPAHR, ESQ., Ass't County Attorney

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- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- THE CHAIRMAN: I would like to first off
- 3 welcome our old friend Jim Bagg. Nice to have you
- 4 aboard as a voting member.
- 5 MR. BAGG: Thank you very much. It's a
- 6 pleasure to be here.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Anybody check the minutes? We
- 8 had this issue with the May minutes; I don't know what
- 9 we do with it now.
- MR. MACHTAY: I was not here for May.
- MS. DeSALVO: Mary Ann sent in a few comments
- 12 on a letter that she had written. There were a few
- 13 words that were omitted. Otherwise, she approved her
- 14 section.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Anybody want to make a
- 16 motion?
- 17 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I'll second that.
- MS. SPENCER: I'll move.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion? All
- 20 in? Favor. Opposed?
- MR. MACHTAY: Abstain.
- MR. BAGG: Abstain.
- THE CHAIRMAN: I would like to review, if we
- 24 can, the issue of the minutes because clearly, all of us
- 25 do not read them because they are so extensive seeing as

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 they're stenographic records. I wonder if there isn't a
- 3 more efficient way that we can review them. For
- 4 example, would it be possible for staff to review them,
- 5 and if there are major glitches, call them to our
- 6 attention?
- 7 MR. MULE: Sure.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: I think it is sort of a sham
- 9 the way we are doing it now. If we can do that, I think
- 10 that would be helpful to the overall process.
- MR. MULE: Sure.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Secondly, since Legislator
- 13 Viloria-Fisher is here, Vivian, is it possible that we
- 14 could review the business of having to have stenographic
- 15 records for this?
- 16 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: We would save money.
- 17 This was on the insistance of a former legislator. I
- 18 would be happy to go back and take a second look at
- 19 that. When I had been on CEQ in 1999, 2000, 2001 and
- 20 2002, we didn't have verbatim minutes. It seemed to be
- 21 easier for us to review that because it wasn't as
- 22 extensive. I think it's up to the body also to see how
- 23 they feel about it. Although came in handy when we had
- 24 the vector control issue.
- THE CHAIRMAN: We could call, as staff and

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 people felt it was necessary, for example, when we had
- 3 vector control, or perhaps doing Legacy Village or
- 4 something like, that we could maybe foresee when we
- 5 might need a stenographer. I don't know, what do the
- 6 rest of you think?
- 7 MS. SPENCER: I know this is really
- 8 old-fashioned. Couldn't we get a tape recorder, and
- 9 that way if there was something that we needed to look
- 10 at again, there would be a verbatim record.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: That is good suggestion.
- MR. BAGG: In the past, the CEQ staff taped
- 13 the meetings and they had a verbatim record if
- 14 necessary. If the county attorney required it, those
- 15 were typed up for review and a record.
- If you go to Robert's Rules of Order, it says
- 17 minutes are a summary of business transacted, not every
- 18 word that is uttered. In essence, verbatim minutes
- 19 doesn't conform to the original intent.
- 20 MR. MULE: Article 1 of the Suffolk County
- 21 Charter, Environmental Bill of Rights, Section C-1-4 D.
- 22 "Council on Environmental Quality shall maintain
- 23 verbatim minutes of all council on environmental quality
- 24 meetings, i.e. regular meetings, special meetings,
- 25 committee meetings, and subcommittee meetings of the

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 counsel on environmental quality and provide copies of
- 3 such verbatim minutes to the county legislature within
- 4 thirty days after each such proceeding or meeting has
- 5 concluded."
- 6 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: In '99, why didn't we
- 7 have a stenographer here? They were taped.
- 8 MR. BAGG: That was passed by Legislator
- 9 Fields. That is when the change was made, 2002.
- 10 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: That is the change in
- 11 the charter.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: We can change back.
- 13 MR. GROWNEY: I like the idea of doing it by
- 14 tape. It's certainly an easy thing to do and not
- 15 terribly expensive to have it taped. For me, I think
- 16 there is value in hearing, being able to review
- 17 something intensely if need be.
- MR. KAUFMAN: In the past when there have
- 19 been tapes and I listened to a few of them, the taping
- 20 quality was not that good. We need to have several
- 21 microphones here to really have an efficient record
- 22 kept. So, verbatim taping, unless we are at the ledge
- 23 with mics, is a little bit of a problem.
- 24 Second off, I don't know, when I got here in
- 25 '92, I think it was we were having minutes taken by Gail

1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting

- 2 and Terry at that time, who were former personnel here
- 3 and dearly missed. They used to capture the essence of
- 4 the discussions that were going on. That also would
- 5 obviously record the votes and things like that. It is
- 6 a little bit of a burden upon staff, basically, to do
- 7 this beyond Mike, for example, just listening to what is
- 8 going on and helping guide us. That may place a burden
- 9 upon, for example, Christine, who would be the obvious
- 10 person to take some of these notes.
- 11 While I personally advocate that, I found
- 12 those synopsis to be very useful. Sometimes, I will
- 13 admit that some of the discussions and some of the
- 14 intricacies were lost in doing all of that and you had
- 15 to have a pretty good memory. So there is good and bad
- 16 to all of it. I think I would probably myself come down
- 17 on the side of continuing the way we are at this point
- 18 in time, unless we can be assured that the minutes with
- 19 the recording would be accurate and that we would have
- 20 some way of looking back. Sometimes you have to look
- 21 back a couple of years to see things. It's an issue.
- 22 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Technology has come a
- 23 long way since even a few years ago when we were doing
- 24 the taping. My office was keeping minutes, but my aide
- 25 was keeping minutes at one of my task forces. What she

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 did was we had the tape recorder that you could just
- 3 connect to your computer and it sent the digital message
- 4 and we had the minutes on the computer. And if we
- 5 wanted to refer to it, we could.
- THE CHAIRMAN: You will look into it?
- 7 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: All I would have to do
- 8 is introduce a change to the charter. But I would like
- 9 to know how the rest of everybody feels about going back
- 10 to where we were before 2002.
- MS. SPENCER; We tape the historic trust committee.
- 12 It was probably a twenty dollar tape recorder, it works.
- 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Everybody in favor of going
- 14 back to the old style minutes, raise their hands.
- 15 Opposed? I think what bothers me most of all now is
- 16 that I would venture to guess, well, in this case,
- 17 probably one person read the minutes and we all voted to
- 18 approve it. That is inappropriate. So, I think this
- 19 would be a good change. Yes?
- MS. JOHNSON: Mary Ann Johnson, President of
- 21 APCO. One of the purposes of having the minutes taken
- 22 here is to create transparency for the public so that
- 23 the public can see what the conversations were. You may
- 24 not remember them as they had been, but the public, not
- 25 having been here, has the opportunity, with verbatim

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 minutes, to know what transpired, and that is probably
- 3 the reason for having them in the first place.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: They're not minutes, it's a
- 5 transcript. Minutes is a summary of the meeting.
- 6 MS. JOHNSON: Verbatim.
- 7 DIRECTOR ISLES: From the department's
- 8 standpoint, I think we would want to confirm that we
- 9 have the ability to do it in-house. I think we do. I
- 10 would like to go over that with Michael and Christine to
- 11 get a sense of how much extra time it will take for
- 12 Christine to do. If there is any problem, I will let
- 13 you know.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: If you need a lap top, we
- 15 would certainly save very quickly the amount of a
- 16 stenographer.
- 17 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I think that
- 18 Ms. Johnson's comment was a very important comment and I
- 19 don't want to pass over it quickly because that was a
- 20 very important piece. When we were looking at vector
- 21 control, looking at the plan, as you remember, there
- 22 were people that wanted to be be able to see the
- 23 minutes. That is why I'm suggesting that we use a
- 24 recording device that has the digital capacity so we can
- 25 put it on the Web or have a record of it. So that we

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 can corroborate who said what on what basis, did we make
- 3 a vote.
- The county has been trying to be as
- 5 transparent in all of our deliberations as we possibly
- 6 can. Ms. Johnson's point is very important, but I think
- 7 we can fulfill that by having the right type of taping.
- 8 MS. JOHNSON: You can use technology to do
- 9 it?
- 10 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: We as a body would just
- 11 need actual minutes and not verbatim minutes to take a
- 12 look at it and I agree this is what happened at the
- 13 meeting and the salient points. I think that would
- 14 cover both pieces.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Correspondence. We all should
- 16 have received by e-mail, Vector Control Pesticide
- 17 Management Committee Annual Report.
- 18 MR. KAUFMAN: I was asked by the committee
- 19 to speak on this. This is an outgrowth of the vector
- 20 control and management plan that was adopted by the
- 21 county back in 2006 and '07. As part of that plan, a
- 22 yearly report was to be prepared dealing with
- 23 pesticides. And frankly, also, there is a yearly report
- 24 on marshes. We sort of split everything in two. They
- 25 have the vector control pesticide management committee.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 It's composed of people from E and E, Health, some
- 3 outside team people, some non-government people, myself,
- 4 and Carrie Gallagher is the chairperson.
- 5 We meet four times a year and go over all of
- 6 the issues that have come up regarding vector control
- 7 and chemicals that are being used and larvicides,
- 8 adulticides, whatever is out there. We look at emerging
- 9 literature, for example, dealing with methoprene. We
- 10 look at a number of control factors, how effectively
- 11 some of the chemicals are. Are they losing
- 12 effectiveness. We look at new chemicals that might be
- 13 coming out. The chemicals that are used of the
- 14 adulticides, one of them may be phased out that the
- 15 county uses now as part of the EIS; that may be phased
- 16 out in the next year or so, and some new adulticides may
- 17 come in.
- 18 You basically have the background of it, who
- 19 is on it. We tried to do some research proposals to
- 20 look at the various chemicals being used. We also do
- 21 literature reviews. We looked at issues for future
- 22 consideration, summaries, conclusions, things like that.
- 23 In essence, what we have found so far is the
- 24 conclusions regarding the chemicals used in larviciding
- 25 and adulticiding are pretty much in line with the 2006

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- 2 plan conclusions. Nothing has really changed. We have
- 3 not seen any, I think the proper word is teratogenic
- 4 effects, massive effects akin to say DDT. We are not
- 5 seeing it anyplace. We are not seeing major damage to
- 6 the environment, we are not seeing build-ups of
- 7 chemicals in the groundwater or soils.
- 8 We have gotten a research proposal out and
- 9 funded with the U.S. Geological Survey to do further
- 10 reporting on chemicals in -- or chemical detects in both
- 11 groundwater and in the marshes, and we are not coming up
- 12 with anything frightening. The literature itself, also
- 13 to this point, indicates we are essentially doing it
- 14 about the best we can. Again, I emphasize for the
- 15 fourth time now we are not seeing any giant impacts,
- 16 even at the lower order of species from the grass shrimp
- 17 on down to the other arthropods out there.
- 18 This is prepared every year. There is a
- 19 separate component of this. The triannual report I
- 20 don't think has been presented to CEQ just yet. That is
- 21 updating the entire vector control and marsh management
- 22 side of things. Just to let everyone know, the wetlands
- 23 research component is well under way to developing a
- 24 marsh management plan. That is sort of separate from
- 25 what we are being presented with here today. And

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 basically we are looking at everything about four times
- 3 a year and everything is in line with what we are
- 4 supposed to be doing under the EIS.
- If nothing else, this was presented to us for
- 6 informational purposes. No vote is required on any of
- 7 this at this point in time.
- 8 MR. BAGG: I have a question. I assume that
- 9 the Department of Vector Control will be submitting the
- 10 2011 vector control plan to the CEQ that requires SEQRA
- 11 review.
- 12 MR. KAUFMAN: That was done last month.
- 13 MR. PICHNEY: Mr. Chairman, may we go off the
- 14 record.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Off the record.
- 16 (Discussion off the record.)
- 17 MR. MACHTAY: I think one of the most
- 18 interesting things, they're still finding derivatives of
- 19 DDT in the soil when they do the testing. It's thirty
- 20 years, almost thirty years since it's been banned. It's
- 21 really a very persistent chemical. You don't know what
- 22 we will find thirty years from now from the stuff we're
- 23 putting on now.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Doing the same types of test
- 25 and trying to look at chromosomal components, as far as

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 I understand, no one has ever seen that kind of impact.
- 3 DDT was, shall we say, in a class by itself. The
- 4 chemicals that are being used right now seem, and I
- 5 emphasize seem not to have that kind of impact deep
- 6 inside the cell.
- 7 MR. MACHTAY: The last thing, the farmers for
- 8 many years used arsenic to keep the weeds down, and you
- 9 go out to a new development that was farmland and test
- 10 the soil, the Health Department has all kinds of
- 11 problems with that sort of thing because there is
- 12 arsenic in it in the first six inches, no matter how
- 13 many years ago it was put in.
- 14 MR. KAUFMAN: The County Health Department, a
- 15 couple of years ago, came out with a massive report and
- 16 it was showing massive amounts of chemicals that the
- 17 farmers used, especially on the East End, and also very
- 18 heavily on the West End and it was getting into the well
- 19 fields. Basically, the groundwater you can literally
- 20 detect a lot of that stuff. It is a problem. No one is
- 21 denying that in any way, shape or form. That is what we
- 22 are trying to avoid. So far, we haven't seen those
- 23 effects. We are praying we don't.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: It took thirty to forty years
- 25 for people to realize the impacts from PCB's. The

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 chemical started out to be a good chemical and it turned
- 3 out to be terrible. Now its bisphenol A, what is that
- 4 doing. That was not used as a pesticide, it was used in
- 5 our cups. The truth is, we don't know what the impacts
- 6 of chemicals are. It's important to keep a very close
- 7 eye on long-term effects.
- MR. KAUFMAN: That has been some of the
- 9 research proposals we are trying to get funded through
- 10 the county.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Historic Trust. Rich.
- MR. MARTIN: Good morning. With our housing
- 13 program in Suffolk County Parks we have four vacancies,
- 14 two -- long, actually one longstanding vacancy at
- 15 West Hills County Park known as the Stimpson House. We
- 16 have not been able to rent that since the program had,
- 17 as you know, a number of years ago gone to market rate.
- 18 We have since modified the rate due to the cost of the
- 19 utilities here, but we have not gotten anyone
- 20 interested.
- 21 Also, another house, similar size and time
- 22 period is the Oakley House, also in West Hills County
- 23 Park. The tenant has moved out and we have not been
- 24 able to rent that building. The Parks Department has
- 25 decided we need to take a take a second look at these

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- 2 houses in Huntington, so we will be calling another
- 3 housing committee meeting. That notice is just going
- 4 out now. It was just decided yesterday.
- 5 MR. MACHTAY: Mr. Chairman, question. You
- 6 say they have modified the rent. What is the rent? Are
- 7 we talking about a thousand dollars a month?
- 8 MR. MARTIN: Two thousand, plus utilities on
- 9 top of that.
- 10 MR. KAUFMAN: The utilities are horrible.
- 11 Those houses are unheatable. No insulation in the walls.
- MR. MACHTAY: Two thousand dollars a month is
- 13 high.
- MR. MARTIN: The point of the program is to
- 15 get them rented. We can also go to private rentership.
- 16 We only canvassed county employees. We can make the
- 17 decision to do that again or start to advertise this
- 18 locally to get that rented. We are allowed to do that.
- 19 I would suggest contacting historic societies in
- 20 Huntington and other groups. Maybe their membership has
- 21 someone who would appreciate the historic structure.
- 22 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Richard I don't think
- 23 you were here to try to introduce legislation to try to
- 24 make it more affordable. Having someone from the
- 25 historical society would give us points to help lower it

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 more. There are a number of criteria. The intrusion,
- 3 the lack of privacy, security issues.
- 4 MR. MACHTAY: I don't know if you were here
- 5 when I said about the rentals where the county, so as to
- 6 encourage affordable housing, they take a unit and make
- 7 it two or three thousand dollars a month. That is not
- 8 very affordable for a young couple or one single or
- 9 retired person, especially if it's in a public place
- 10 where you have all kinds of strangers walking by, and
- 11 have to put up with all kinds of God knows what. It's
- 12 sort of the antithesis of what the county is trying to
- 13 promote.
- 14 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Richard has to walk the
- 15 fine line between gifting county property because of
- 16 favoritism or whatever; all of the allegations that were
- 17 made. That is why we developed a grid to show what the
- 18 different criteria were that would allow us to give
- 19 discounts. An important thing is we are securing county
- 20 property.
- MR. MACHTAY: No question about it.
- 22 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Two thousand is not
- 23 cheap.
- MR. MACHTAY: As long as we understand one
- 25 another.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: We are on the same
- 3 page.
- 4 MR. MARTIN: Those would be given a second
- 5 look. The two houses at Robinson Duck Farm are also
- 6 vacant. That is due to the parks warden hadn't finish
- 7 the work in order to rent them. Both of those
- 8 buildings, the tenants had done a lot of damage to the
- 9 buildings and they need to be fixed up. That is in the
- 10 works right now. Those rents, we haven't advertised
- 11 those too. We need to get them finished and advertise
- 12 them.
- We are hoping, at this point, have the
- 14 committee take a look and then by the first of the year
- 15 put another mailing out to county employees.
- MS. GROWNEY: I have a question about the
- 17 damage. Are there security deposits involved that are
- 18 put towards the damage?
- MR. MARTIN: There is not a security deposit
- 20 at this time. The committee could take a look at that
- 21 point. What we found, and what the priority of the
- 22 program is to have a county employee rent these, and we
- 23 find that works better for us. We're not a real estate
- 24 company. Their rent comes out of their checks
- 25 automatically and we feel we have a little more control

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 over the units when they are county employees.
- 3 Those two units at the duck farm were private
- 4 individuals that rented. We feel we have more control
- 5 when they are a county employee and tied into the
- 6 program. We need to screen, if we bring private
- 7 individuals in, to screen them better, and it's possible
- 8 a security deposit would be placed on them.
- 9 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I think that would be
- 10 worthwhile to take a look at that, or some sort of
- 11 clause.
- MR. MARTIN: You can definitely ask for them
- 13 to pay for the damages. In the one case, though we had
- 14 to evict the tenant, they didn't go willingly and left
- 15 the state, and sometimes people leave and don't pay the
- 16 rent. We have had that issue also. We have incidents
- 17 where we had to go to the court, but we are not usually
- 18 successful.
- MS. GROWNEY: I think it's worth looking at,
- 20 putting in something to give greater protection.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Anything else?
- 22 MR. MARTIN: That is all I have on the
- 23 housing. For the custodial agreement report, I sent out
- 24 requests for the historic trust and CEQ to approve the
- 25 new contracts that the Parks Department is developing

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- 2 with these two organizations. The first I would like to
- 3 discuss is the Long Island Maritime Museum. I sent just
- 4 a cover letter with some information, which is actually
- 5 from our Website on the museum activities.
- 6 The Maritime Museum has been been with the
- 7 Parks Department since the beginning of the Parks
- 8 Department. This museum site, which we had a number of
- 9 visits over the years with the historic trust committee,
- 10 is located at West Sayville County Golf Course, which is
- 11 officially known as Charles R. Dominy County Park. It's
- 12 within some of the estate buildings dedicated to the
- 13 Suffolk County Historic Trust, and it's approximately a
- 14 fourteen acre parcel at the southeast corner of the
- 15 property.
- 16 The museum was organized and established in
- 17 1966 at the site. They had worked with the Hart family
- 18 to establish the museum site there before the county
- 19 purchased. So we have been working with them for a
- 20 number of decades. They have an active program there
- 21 especially for the restoration of the boats and maritime
- 22 history, and we are looking to just renew their contract
- 23 at this time.
- 24 Since they were established before the CEQ
- 25 existed, we never had a CEQ review to approve their

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 custodianship at that site. We do have eight historic
- 3 trust buildings that they are involved with and that
- 4 they use.
- 5 MR. KAUFMAN: We reviewed a number of
- 6 projects that came out of this thing. I remember the
- 7 marine railway. Was that ever completed?
- 8 MR. MARTIN: No, that has not been
- 9 completed. They have a grant to create a boathouse,
- 10 which is tied into the railway completion. That also
- 11 came forward here. The final plans are being worked on
- 12 now by an architect and they will be coming to you in
- 13 January for final review.
- 14 MR. KAUFMAN: I have been down there a few
- 15 times. The condition of the buildings under the
- 16 stewardship for this particular group, have you found
- 17 that to be proper?
- 18 MR. MARTIN: Yes. Again, like our other
- 19 historic sites, the county takes care of a majority of
- 20 the exterior work, painting, anything that is needed for
- 21 the utilities, furnaces, electric. It's a similar
- 22 arrangement that we have with our other historic sites.
- 23 They have gone forward and done some of the work
- 24 themselves with getting grants. The oyster house, they
- 25 got a grant to restore that building and also one of the

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 storage sheds they got a grant to restore that building.
- 3 They have been good partners with us to keep the
- 4 buildings intact.
- 5 MR. KAUFMAN: They hold a number of festivals
- 6 down there. So they were bringing people down there to
- 7 be part of the historic experience in that area; is that
- 8 correct?
- 9 MR. MARTIN: Yes. They have had a contract
- 10 with us. Because this had been done so early, we never
- 11 formally came before the CEQ to get approval that this
- 12 is the right organization.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Have they been good stewards of
- 14 the property?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments? Do you
- 17 want to get approval of the committee to move forward
- 18 with this agreement?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Make a motion to approve the
- 21 proposed custodial license agreement for the Long Island
- 22 Maritime Museum.
- You have to make it a type two action.
- MR. KAUFMAN: I would also classify this as a
- 25 Type II action.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 MS. GROWNEY: Second.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Any further comments? All in
- 4 favor? Opposed? Motion carries.
- 5 MR. MARTIN: Second one today.
- 6 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I'm sorry to interrupt,
- 7 I have a question. The Mills House, how is that going?
- 8 I thought it's being divided.
- 9 MR. MARTIN: The Mills Isaac House in
- 10 Saint James, we do have a tenant in the west wing of the
- 11 house. It's a park police person, so the building is
- 12 secured. We have put a new roof on the building, worked
- 13 on landscaping around it, but we do not have any tenants
- 14 for the east part of the house, which is the larger part
- 15 of the building, and we still need to upgrade that
- 16 facility for public use.
- I can move another resident in there. I can
- 18 use it for the existing use, but I cannot put in an
- 19 office space, which is what we planned.
- 20 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: That park police
- 21 officer was there when we had our meeting. How much is
- 22 the rent going to be there on the bigger side, the east
- 23 part of the house?
- MR. MARTIN: What we are hoping is to get an
- 25 organization with a custodial agreement. I can't go

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 forward until I have funding for that site. The funding
- 3 for the roof, which needed to be done, did come from the
- 4 hotel-motel tax fund. As everybody understands, that
- 5 has been cut back, so I do not have the funds to do the
- 6 upgrading and renovations to the buildings at this
- 7 time.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: I thought the proposal was
- 9 that you wouldn't get anything.
- 10 MR. MARTIN: Division of Historic Services in
- 11 Suffolk County is completely funded by the Suffolk
- 12 County hotel-motel tax. That has diminished the funds
- 13 available for restoration work.
- 14 MS. SPENCER: It's a significant cut to their
- 15 budget.
- 16 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: It's not illegal, but
- 17 it really does go counter to the legislative intent of
- 18 the increase of the hotel-motel tax. That was supposed
- 19 to be above and beyond the personnel cost and general
- 20 fund budget of the Parks Department.
- 21 Unfortunately, what it was used for was to
- 22 offset general fund expenditures so that influx of funds
- 23 that was supposed to come in for the restoration of the
- 24 homes, moving forward with the plans for all of the
- 25 historic buildings, has been stymied because it's now

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 gone into personnel and just running the division.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Can that be corrected?
- 4 MR. KAUFMAN: Twelve votes.
- 5 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: No, not twelve votes.
- 6 We corrected it in other areas where it was more
- 7 critical, no offense. But the 477 Account was being
- 8 raided. The other parts of that was being raided. But
- 9 we didn't really have the -- well, last year I tried to
- 10 get the money back out there. There wasn't anybody
- 11 really to really represent the Parks Department at the
- 12 top, telling legislators that they had to keep the money
- 13 there.
- 14 So my colleagues, when I tried to -- because
- 15 we talked to people, Mary Ann, last year said well, that
- 16 is what people are doing, taking care of the houses, so
- 17 the money should go there. You remember the argument.
- 18 So I was unsuccessful in convincing my colleagues to
- 19 leave the money in its original legislative intent
- 20 because they felt it was serving the same purpose by
- 21 going to personnel and routine maintenance of the
- 22 homes. So we lost that -- not lost it, but it was
- 23 diverted. And these are tough economic times, just to
- 24 be fair.
- 25 MR. BAGG: If I recollect, I think that

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 Commissioner Foley came in and said they were hiring
- 3 additional carpenters in the Parks Department that were
- 4 going to handle routine maintenance. Did that ever take
- 5 place?
- 6 MR. MARTIN: I don't know all the vacancies
- 7 department has right now, but I think there are
- 8 approximately seventeen vacancies in the Parks
- 9 Department and some of them are in the maintenance
- 10 division. I would have to check.
- MR. BAGG: He said that that money was being
- 12 used to hire those individuals to handle the maintenance
- 13 of the county historic buildings.
- MR. MARTIN: Yes.
- 15 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: But they have to be
- 16 filed.
- 17 MR. BAGG: People left because of the
- 18 incentive. Did that ever take place?
- MR. MARTIN: My memory relating to that when
- 20 we took the housing program, the funds from that, when
- 21 we cancelled the Friends of Long Island Heritage
- 22 contract and they were maintaining a number of the
- 23 rental units and took the rent money, then it was put
- 24 into the general fund. I think at that time
- 25 Commissioner Foley said the idea was that it would come

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 back to the department as additional hiring to maintain
- 3 funds and hiring to maintain staff to maintain these
- 4 historic residences. That is what I remember.
- 5 MS. SPENCER: Which did not happen.
- 6 MR. MARTIN: That is what I remember.
- 7 MS. SPENCER: That's right.
- 8 MR. MARTIN: That conversation occurred at
- 9 that time when those funds from the rent were put
- 10 towards the general fund.
- 11 MR. BAGG: Has anybody done a review to
- 12 determine how much money is coming from the rent and how
- 13 much money is being spent by the Parks Department to do
- 14 this work?
- MR. MARTIN: I don't know if there was a
- 16 formal review.
- 17 MR. BAGG: It appears like a nutshell game.
- 18 As the rents go in, it goes to the general budget. And
- 19 they want to use the hotel-motel tax, which was for
- 20 restoration. The Department of Historic Buildings is
- 21 being shortchanged dramatically.
- MS. SPENCER: Can we go off the record?
- MS. SPAHR: No, I don't think we can.
- MR. ISLES: Unless it's an executive
- 25 session.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you want to wait?
- MS. SPENCER: No, this is very important.
- 4 With all due respect, I think that something has been
- 5 put forward here that needs to be clarified. That is
- 6 that the enabling legislation, the hotel-motel tax was
- 7 for structures that were open to the public. That is
- 8 what it's for. Last year, when the county executive put
- 9 the entire historic services line out of Planning into
- 10 hotel-motel, I think that a legal opinion is needed
- 11 because that line pays salaries, and it pays for
- 12 materials and services for structures that are owned by
- 13 the county that are not open to the public.
- So, it's not clear to me that this move is
- 15 legal. What is even more important is it's a
- 16 significant reduction in this line. It used to be that
- 17 there was a line under Parks for historic services, and
- 18 as the enabling legislation provided, then there were
- 19 additional funds for important historic structures that
- 20 were open to the public.
- Last year, we did work together. You worked
- 22 very hard, and I will always be grateful for the effort
- 23 you made to correct that. As I recall, the problem was
- 24 that in order to move it back out of hotel-motel and
- 25 into Parks where it belongs, you had to find somewhere

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 to offset it, and the legislature wouldn't go along with
- 3 the way that you found to offset it. I did not have the
- 4 sense that the Suffolk County Legislature was opposed to
- 5 the idea. I had the feeling that you and your
- 6 colleagues would have liked very much to find a way to
- 7 fix it, and times were tough and times are even tougher
- 8 this year, but I think it's important for the record
- 9 that it be understood what went on then and what is
- 10 being perpetuated today.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: So you are requesting a legal
- 12 opinion; is that correct?
- 13 MS. SPENCER: No, because this is a legal --
- 14 I wanted to go off the record because I didn't want to
- 15 risk offending Vivian in any way.
- 16 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: No offense taken
- 17 because I put what you said on the record last year.
- MS. SPENCER: That was on the record last
- 19 year and I'm repeating it this year. I want there to be
- 20 no misunderstanding of what has been done by the county
- 21 executive and perpetuated by the legislature and the
- 22 effects that it has on the historic structures in
- 23 Suffolk County.
- MR. KAUFMAN: We should go back to 2003 when
- 25 the promises were made by Commissioner Foley to hire

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 more staff to take care of the buildings. I'm not sure
- 3 that the buildings, frankly, have been kept up to that
- 4 standard.
- 5 MS. SPENCER: That one is stickier because if
- 6 you look at the rents that come in for the historic
- 7 properties and then the amounts of money that the county
- 8 spends on those historic properties, it's not at all
- 9 clear to me that there is a huge difference there.
- 10 I'm far less concerned about that issue
- 11 personally. I understand what Foley was doing and he
- 12 was doing it because the historic trust committee pushed
- 13 him to do it. I understand what he was trying to do.
- 14 That one is not so clear to me.
- 15 MR. KAUFMAN: I've seen different numbers and
- 16 it's a little bit clearer to me.
- 17 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I agree with Mary Ann
- 18 that that is not as clear. When we had the Friends
- 19 operating this, they were bringing in money and spending
- 20 money so there was kind of a lockbox situation. When
- 21 the county collects money, it goes into the general
- 22 fund, so you don't have that very clear conduit of funds
- 23 coming in and going back out.
- With the enabling legislation, you're
- 25 absolutely right, Mary Ann, and I didn't go as far as

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 you did because I didn't want to get political about
- 3 it. But you have to remember that one legislator can
- 4 state an opinion, but you need the vote of a majority to
- 5 make a change. So I don't take offense at all.
- 6 MS. SPENCER: Thank you.
- 7 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Because I presented the
- 8 case and I just didn't have the votes. However, the
- 9 case here is the enabling legislation directs the use of
- 10 the funds. This is why this last budget I was able to
- 11 convince my colleagues, even though it's harder this
- 12 year when there was even a greater raid of the
- 13 hotel-motel tax, to use that hotel-motel tax for three
- 14 salaried positions in Economic Development. I said we
- 15 have to draw a line in the sand. Otherwise, we are
- 16 perpetuating a public lie that we told people that they
- 17 would have an increase in hotel-motel tax and it would
- 18 be used for that purpose and it's not being used for
- 19 that purpose.
- This year we did put those three salaries back
- 21 into the general fund and didn't allow to continue to
- 22 raid the hotel-motel tax. Last year, I guess because it
- 23 was the first time with the hotel-motel tax and it
- 24 seemed to be flush, people weren't as willing to do it.
- 25 This year it became clearer that we can't continue to

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 raid that. We had the same problem with 477 year after
- 3 year. You know how many Parks personnel are paid for
- 4 out of 477.
- 5 This year we drew a line in the sand. There
- 6 were six positions being taken out of 477. I brought
- 7 them out of the working group and we put them back into
- 8 the general fund. Last year I couldn't convince my
- 9 colleagues and I need the twelve votes.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Where do we go from here? It
- 11 seems there has been a need identified for a little
- 12 accountability. But I don't know that asking the Parks
- 13 Department of the executive part of Suffolk County
- 14 government to do that it will solve the issue, and CEQ
- 15 does not have a lawyer, and our past experience, I think
- 16 is we have not been particularly well represented by
- 17 Suffolk County legal counsel on a couple of issues.
- 18 What can we do, Vivian?
- 19 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: We do have a lawyer
- 20 because you're part of the county. We can ask our
- 21 county attorney to opine on this, for an opinion
- 22 regarding the enabling legislation, and we can also ask
- 23 legislative counsel for his opinion because you are a --
- 24 you do work in giving recommendations to the
- 25 legislature. So, I think I would like to make a motion

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 that we ask both Christine Malafi, our county attorney,
- 3 and George Nolan, attorney for the legislature, for a
- 4 written opinion regarding the use of hotel-motel tax
- 5 vis-a-vis its enabling legislation, and whether or not
- 6 the use of those funds for Parks Department functions --
- 7 MS. SPENCER: For historic services.
- 8 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Is appropriate.
- 9 MS. SPENCER: I second that one.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion? All
- 11 in favor? (Show of hands)
- MR. MARTIN: To finsh, the other contract we
- 13 are working on is for the Cedar Point lighthouse. There
- 14 is with the Long Island Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse
- 15 Society. And we had initiated some work with them seven
- 16 years ago, with just a Parks Department agreement. They
- 17 were very eager to start programs on the site, which
- 18 basically just involved tours, walking tours out to the
- 19 lighthouse.
- 20 We told them the first request we had to help
- 21 us would be to get the lighthouse placed on the National
- 22 Register of Historic Places, which we didn't have all
- 23 the historic information needed for that. They did
- 24 proceed doing that research, wrote the nomination
- 25 themselves and submitted that and the building is now

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it's
- 3 a great help. If there are grant moneys in the future
- 4 available, it would now be eligible.
- 5 The organization now would like to have some
- 6 new members and they really are interested to start the
- 7 restoration of the lighthouse itself. The first phase
- 8 ofg that would be to put a new roof on the building.
- 9 The lighthouse did have a fire after the county
- 10 purchase, so the interior is gutted. The Parks
- 11 Department put a roof on it at that time, but it's in
- 12 need of replacement with a more historically accurate
- 13 design. They are looking to campaign and fully fund
- 14 that at this time.
- I do not have any county funds to back up
- 16 their efforts at this point. I would like to support
- 17 their effort. This is going forward with the county
- 18 land agreement, which is a more formal agreement to have
- 19 that group be able to raise funds and go ahead with the
- 20 restoration.
- 21 MR. KAUFMAN: First off, didn't we just
- 22 review a master plan for the lighthouse that was for the
- 23 parks?
- MR. MARTIN: For the record, it's called
- 25 Cedar Point County Park.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 MR. KAUFMAN: What you have was about three
- 3 months ago. I'm all in favor of this. Don't
- 4 misunderstand the questions that I will ask. A lot of
- 5 groups formed in the past to preserve lighthouses. You
- 6 have any idea how successful some of these groups have
- 7 been?
- 8 MR. MARTIN: Yes, there are a few groups on
- 9 Long Island. The county only owns one lighthouse, so I
- 10 don't have the experience on that issue. To be honest,
- 11 that is why we were reluctant to run ahead with a formal
- 12 group in the beginning. We wanted to see what they were
- 13 able to accomplish.
- I think at this time we realize they're
- 15 serious and probably will be able to fundraise. They
- 16 have a hired architect who they were paying for to start
- 17 the design of the roof. We had another group that
- 18 started maybe twenty years ago that did not stay
- 19 active. I think this group will stay active, and
- 20 they're also tied in with the national organization
- 21 which is the U.S. Lighthouse Society, so they have that
- 22 backing. They're not just out there on their own to get
- 23 experience from the other members. We are confident
- 24 that they will be successful.
- 25 MR. KAUFMAN: The reason I ask that is because

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 some of the lighthouses on the North Shore you had
- 3 groups formed. They got some fund work done and the
- 4 funds dry up and they disband, and they are not able to
- 5 do the work that they wanted to do.
- There are so many lighthouses on the North
- 7 Shore, something like sixteen, that has had interest.
- 8 From the Huntington lighthouse to Execution Rocks off
- 9 of Port Washington. The groups only get so far and
- 10 because the costs become daunting, I don't want to see
- 11 the structure fall apart, and it's in terrible condition
- 12 right now.
- MR. MARTIN: I appreciate your point. They
- 14 realize the county's financial situation. That is why
- 15 they are willing to go ahead with the replacement of the
- 16 roof. Normally would be the county's responsiblity. We
- 17 do not promise them anything. We don't have a capital
- 18 line on the lighthouse. They understand that and are
- 19 willing to go ahead. In better times, the county
- 20 appropriated fund for projects.
- 21 MR. KAUFMAN: You think these people are
- 22 serious?
- MR. MARTIN: They took the suggestion
- 24 seriously when they met with Parks. It was like okay,
- 25 you realize we don't have funds right now. The priority

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 would be the roof. You can't go inside and start
- 3 rebuilding the interior. They agreed. We met with
- 4 Public Works, so they understand the guidelines they're
- 5 under when they put the job out to bid. They understand
- 6 those points.
- 7 I have a professional architect that can stamp
- 8 the plans. That is why we are willing to go ahead with
- 9 the contract.
- 10 MS. GROWNEY: Have they mapped out, after the
- 11 roof, what their plans are? Do they have a list what
- 12 they are trying to address?
- 13 MR. MARTIN: In basic concept. Some of the
- 14 points are on their Website. They're hopeful of, I
- 15 guess, of a complete restoration of the interior. That
- 16 is going to take a lot. They can also, which I call
- 17 Plan B, is maybe create a staircase and platform for
- 18 viewing inside the lighthouse and just restore the
- 19 structure itself, the granite walls.
- I think there are different options to work
- 21 with them. There goal is full restoration. They feel
- 22 once they get the word out on the East End, they will
- 23 garner that support. Hopefully, the county can back up
- 24 with some funding.
- MR. GROWNEY: Are there tours there at the

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 moment?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes. They have what they call
- 4 lighthouse challenge or something like that, where they
- 5 organize a tour on Long Island where people visit all
- 6 the lighthouses on the weekend. They get a passport and
- 7 their hand gets stamped.
- 8 MS. JOHNSON: The Cedar Point Lighthouse
- 9 happens to be a lighthouse very close to my heart. I
- 10 was probably one of the last people to be in it before
- 11 it was burned down by the welder. It is a special
- 12 place. It's not just people on the East End that love
- 13 the lighthouse. I come from Babylon and travel the full
- 14 seventy miles and walk out there were my border collie.
- I would be happy to lend the auspices of APCO
- 16 to do what we need to do to lend efforts to do what we
- 17 need to do to help restore that lighthouse.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Richard, would you follow-up
- 19 on that kind offer?
- MR. MARTIN: Yes.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: We need a motion to approve.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Motion. I believe that would
- 23 be a Type II action. This is not a historic trust
- 24 property, if I remember correctly.
- 25 MR. MARTIN: Yes. Definitely it is.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 MR. KAUFMAN: So if also has to be an
- 3 approval of the the Historic Trust for the custodial
- 4 agreement. That is my motion.
- 5 MR. GROWNEY: Second.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion? All
- 7 in favor? (Show of hands) Motion carries.
- 8 MR. MARTIN: That is all I have today.
- 9 MR. ISLES: Larry, did you intend to skip the
- 10 public portion?
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: What do you mean? We had the
- 12 public --
- MR. ISLES: I'm making the point, maybe there
- 14 were some general statements. I wasn't sure if it was
- 15 your intention or not.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: No. Christine, gave me a
- 17 letter today to sign for or to go to Gloria Rocco
- 18 requesting that we put a plaque on the Stony Brook post
- 19 office commemorating the formation of EDF and banning of
- 20 DDT, so we will get that out.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Recommended Type I action,
- 22 proposed acquisition for open space known as Forge River
- 23 Watershed Addition, Beechwood Moriches Building Corp.,
- 24 Town of Brookhaven. Welcome, Lauretta.
- 25 MS. FISCHER: Good morning. I have before

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 you the Forge River Watershed Addition, Beechwood
- 3 Moriches Building, Corp. property is a multi-step
- 4 acquisition. It will be a fifty-fifty acquisition with
- 5 the Town of Brookhaven, for a total of a hundred fifty
- 6 acres approximately in four different groups of
- 7 acquisitions that we have identified as Exhibits A
- 8 through D in the resolution for acquisition.
- 9 The first, Exhibit A, is the properties that
- 10 are presently owned by the Beechwood Moriches Building
- 11 Corporation, which totals seventy-two point two six
- 12 acres, plus or minus, and they're identified in red
- 13 outlined on your map. The second portion of this are
- 14 properties outlined in yellow, and listed in Exhibit B,
- 15 as those properties that are to be condemned for this
- 16 acquisition by the Town of Brookhaven in working with
- 17 the Beechwood Moriches Building Corporation.
- 18 That totals four point eight acres at
- 19 this point in time. The town has moved forward in their
- 20 condemnation procedure through town resolution. Exhibit
- 21 C identifies properties presently owned by the Town of
- 22 Brookhaven totaling forty-nine point three eight acres,
- 23 outlined in purple on your map. And those properties
- 24 were primarily transferred to the town, via the
- 25 Beechwood Moriches Corporation subsequent to this

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
 - 2 acquisition.
 - 3 There are also two parcels owned by the County
 - 4 of Suffolk, totaling point five five acres that will
 - 5 also be part of this acquisition that we took in the
 - 6 past by tax lien. So, how this will be combined is
 - 7 through acquisition and transfer of properties from the
 - 8 town and the county through a fifty-fifty ownership of
 - 9 all properties outlined, for a total of a hundred
- 10 forty-nine point four five acres.
- I just want to make two points for you with
- 12 regard to the resolution. There was an error in the
- 13 13th resolved. It should read as a Type I action. It's
- 14 unlisted, but it's a Type I and we will make that
- 15 correction in the resolution.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: That is because it's more than
- 17 a hundred acres.
- 18 MS. FISCHER: Yes. Mike Mule sent out a
- 19 letter for coordinated review. We got a response back
- 20 from New York State. They were are also partnered in
- 21 this. They will be contributing approximately a million
- 22 dollars to the acquisition as well. They signed off for
- 23 lead agency to the county. We are still waiting for the
- 24 town's response, but we don't see any problem with that.
- 25 We will reach out to them before this is laid out on the

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 table. If there are any issues, we will bring it back
- 3 to you.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Any comments?
- 5 MR. KAUFMAN: Okay. This actually would be
- 6 directed towards you, Mr. Chairman. This is inside the
- 7 watershed, I believe, of the Forge River. I'm looking
- 8 at maps and it looks like it comes close, but I can't
- 9 detect any streams in there. Is this still in the
- 10 groundwater contributing area?
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: It looks like it, yes.
- 12 MS. VILORIA-FISHER: Does show on the map.
- 13 You see the blue outline of the DEC fresh water
- 14 wetlands. That is the headwaters of the river
- 15 corridor.
- 16 MR. KAUFMAN: It comes close but doesn't
- 17 actually touch the water.
- 18 MS. FISCHER: It's a watershed area;
- 19 in other words, the surface water contributing area of
- 20 that river is located here and incorporates this
- 21 acquisition area.
- 22 MR. KAUFMAN: One other question. I think
- 23 you said something about the purple on that particular
- 24 map, proposed acquisition. You said the Town of
- 25 Brookhaven has acquired it?

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- MS. FISCHER: Yes, they have. As part of the
- 3 proposed acquisition. We will be taking fifty percent
- 4 of the ownership of those as well. In regard to the
- 5 county, the town will also get fifty percent of our
- 6 existing county owned properties.
- 7 MR. KAUFMAN: It's sort of an interest
- 8 sharing.
- 9 MS. VILORIA-FISHER: An interest sharing
- 10 situation.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments?
- MR. BAGG: Because this is a Type I action, I
- 13 assume the resolution is going to have to be changed to
- 14 incorporate that the County of Suffolk is a SEQRA lead
- 15 agency.
- MS. FISCHER: We will put that in. Thanks,
- 17 Jim.
- MR. BAGG: On the EAF in the back, on the
- 19 last page, it says "involved agencies." It says that
- 20 the town, and it quotes, "that it's passive active;"
- 21 however, the proposal is for acquisition with no
- 22 development. Therefore, maybe "active" should be
- 23 stricken.
- MS. FISCHER: What page is that, Jim? I'm
- 25 sorry.

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 MR. BAGG: Page 9. You will notice it says
- 3 the Town of Brookhaven involvement, existing passive
- 4 active park.
- 5 MS. FISCHER: Okay, that was a typo.
- 6 MR. KAUFMAN: I think Page 19 too,
- 7 preservation of open space and creation of a public
- 8 recreation area.
- 9 MS. FISCHER: We can make those changes.
- 10 MS. GROWNEY: I just have a couple of quick
- 11 questions. The part of this area, as you go down
- 12 towards where most of the red area is concentrated, that
- 13 was a sand pit. It says "sand pit."
- 14 MS. FISCHER: Yes, in the center area.
- MR. GROWNEY: How long ago was that actively
- 16 mined?
- 17 MS. FISCHER: In the ESA, I believe it was
- 18 around twenty years ago, it was active. I can double
- 19 check that that. I believe they estimated the time of
- 20 use as twenty plus years.
- 21 MS. GROWNEY: Since that activity, nothing
- 22 else has really be going on there?
- MS. FISCHER: No, it's been quiet since then.
- MR. KAUFMAN: It's still a pit, it's not been
- 25 filled in with C and D or anything like that?

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- MS. FISCHER: No, it's a sandy area. It's
- 3 starting to infill with pitch pine vegetation, but you
- 4 can see on the aerials that it's primarily a sandy
- 5 soil.
- 6 MS. GROWNEY: I didn't look at the soil
- 7 testing. Are there any clay lenses of any kind? In
- 8 other words, is there any pooling of water that
- 9 happens?
- 10 MS. FISCHER: Not that we are aware of.
- 11 There wasn't any indication on the soil survey
- 12 information that indicated that. I don't think it was
- 13 identified anywhere. It's a pretty sandy soil area.
- 14 It's part of the Pine Barrens. It's a Pine Barrens
- 15 habitat and it's pretty sandy soil, so the infiltrating
- 16 is pretty quick. I'm not aware of any kind of clay
- 17 lenses in the area.
- 18 MS. GROWNEY: The new access to this
- 19 potential recreational, passive recreational area will
- 20 be along that roadway?
- MS. FISCHER: That is the service road of
- 22 Sunrise Highway, also the access on the northern piece.
- 23 Middle Island-Moriches Road can also be accessed from
- 24 that point on the north side as well.
- MS. GROWNEY: Is that planned that there will

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- 2 be two accesses?
- 3 MS. FISCHER: There hadn't been a
- 4 determination at this point. That will come further
- 5 down the line for some very small parking area for
- 6 access to connect into the trails. We are also
- 7 acquiring property to the east on the southeast corner
- 8 here. We picked up quite a few old filed map parcels
- 9 there and we might be able to connect in better from
- 10 that avenue as well.
- 11 Depending on how this all plays out in the
- 12 next few years, it will give us a better feel for how
- 13 best to provide access to the site.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Lauretta, is any of this
- 15 property former duck farms?
- 16 MS. FISCHER: No. The closest duck farm is
- 17 this property to the east of the river north of the
- 18 Sunrise Highway. That is the Shultz property. We are
- 19 not moving forward on that acquisition at this time.
- 20 This was identified on the master list to acquire but we
- 21 required further Phase 2 evaluation of the property, and
- 22 the owner refused to give us access, so we stopped
- 23 moving that forward, that acquisition.
- 24 THE CHAIRMAN: We don't have to worry about
- 25 contaminated soil as a consequence.

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- MS. FISCHER: Not on that property.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Is this inside the Pine Barrens
- 4 core or is this compatible growth?
- 5 MS. FISCHER: Compatible growth.
- 6 MR. SWANSON: Any other questions?
- 7 MS. JOHNSON: I came in particular because I
- 8 started the battle to save the Mastic Woods. We don't
- 9 call it Beechwood because it's always been known as
- 10 Mastic Woods to my community. I live less than a
- 11 hundred feet away. This is a view of my block from
- 12 Mastic Woods. It does tend to have, in rainy weather,
- 13 pooling of water. It has a mile long swale that runs
- 14 from a latitude of approximately thirty-five feet to
- 15 eighty feet and then down and then up again, so it does
- 16 provide the drainage for the waterway, the Forge River.
- 17 We have always looked at it as a public
- 18 recreation area, so I'm pleased to see it going
- 19 forward. The original fifty-four acres on the northern
- 20 end was deeded as part of Beechwood's zone change that
- 21 was transferred by the Order of Judge Costello in a pro
- 22 se lawsuit that I filed to save this land. So I'm very
- 23 pleased to see this has finally been heard and we're
- 24 moving forward. I can't thank you enough. This is a
- 25 piece very close to my heart. Thank you.

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- THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have a motion?
- 3 MR. KAUFMAN: Motion, Type I, Negative
- 4 Declaration as amended.
- 5 MS. GROWNEY: Second.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion? All in
- 7 favor? Opposed? Motion carries.
- 8 MS. VILORIA-FISHER: I will make the changes
- 9 and get that back out to you.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Recommended Type II action.
- 11 Any recommendations that we ought to particularly look
- 12 at?
- MR. MULE: It's pretty straightforward,
- 14 nothing major. You will see in one of them that the
- 15 Foley Nursing Home was reintroduced and it was just a
- 16 time that the resolution was going to expire, but they
- 17 had to reintroduced it.
- 18 MR. KAUFMAN: Just as you said that,
- 19 something hit me. Last month when we were talking about
- 20 the Legacy Village project, one of the issues that came
- 21 up was that the land had not been partitioned,
- 22 ninety-five acres that Legislator Kennedy was talking
- 23 about, and that land did not exist as a separate lot.
- 24 That process was going forward, but it had not actually
- 25 been finished.

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- 2 It was recommended to us by Chris Kent, Deputy
- 3 County Executive, as an important point preventing us
- 4 from voting on this particular project. I remember when
- 5 we were talking about the sale of John J. Foley that we
- 6 were presented with an outline map, and there had been
- 7 no partition done with that. I have no idea why that
- 8 suddenly hit me. But I do remember that.
- 9 We did not have a partition, we just had a map
- 10 with dotted lines. We were approving fifteen acres.
- 11 There was no deed description or anything like that.
- 12 I'm suddenly a little bit puzzled by the difference
- 13 between the two. I know we did vote on this a while
- 14 back. I think I'm the one that made the motion that it
- 15 was an Unlisted Neg Dec.
- 16 I'm suddenly seeing the juxtaposition on this
- 17 extra piece of paper. Suddenly, it's bothering me, put
- 18 it that way.
- MR. BAGG: If I might address that, Michael.
- 20 The description of action included partitioning of the
- 21 property. It was included in the description of the
- 22 property as part and parcel of the project. It didn't
- 23 exist, but the project included the partitioning of the
- 24 property.
- MR. KAUFMAN: This is the Foley?

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- MR. BAGG: Yes.
- 3 MR. KAUFMAN: In which case, my objection is
- 4 withdrawn.
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have a motion to accept
- 6 staff recommendations?
- 7 MR. KAUFMAN: Motion to accept staff
- 8 recommendations.
- 9 MR. MACHTAY: Second.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor? Motion carries.
- 11 Ms. Johnson, would you care to make any other comments
- 12 or anyone else in the audience that would like to
- 13 comment?
- MS. JOHNSON: The Shaw Nursery also happens
- 15 to be a parcel that I advocated for in the Forge River,
- 16 and we would like very much to see it moved forward. We
- 17 understand it had some soil issues as it had been
- 18 farmland. It's close to the surface waters, especially
- 19 since the March 8th storm when the river actually
- 20 diverted its path from the culvert that runs under
- 21 Sunrise Highway, and so there is water that stands there
- 22 to this day.
- 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Peaking my interest, since I
- 24 did a little research out there. You're saying that
- 25 there is something wrong with the culvert that goes

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- 2 underneath?
- 3 MS. JOHNSON: For whatever reason, the volume
- 4 of water coming down from the northern end, which is
- 5 significantly higher than the elevation at the southern
- 6 end, where the headwaters are, it had a tendency to
- 7 flood, sometimes in the backyard at this neighbor's
- 8 house, Barnes Road and Sunrise Highway Service Road
- 9 opposite Shaw. The March 8th storm, the river just
- 10 diverted itself, completely flooded his entire backyard,
- 11 picnic table and everything marching away, and to this
- 12 day we have standing water and the river has literally
- 13 changed its course.
- 14 It extended its boundary into the parcel owned
- 15 by this neighbor. I don't know if that's the parcel she
- 16 was talking about. But no one wants to live in that
- 17 house any more.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Does that eventually feed into
- 19 East or West Pond?
- 20 MS. JOHNSON: It feeds into West Pond.
- 21 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: Are you talking about
- 22 Shultz or Shaw?
- 23 MS. JOHNSON: Shaw is opposite, diagonally
- 24 across the street from this parcel. Shaw is a good
- 25 acquisition as well in the watershed.

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- THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments?
- 3 Recommended Unlisted Action, proposed restoration of
- 4 ninety-three point five acres of intdustrial-commercial
- 5 zoned property surplus, offer for sale. Town of
- 6 Brookhaven. This was tabled last month. Anybody here
- 7 to speak to the issue today?
- 8 MS. JOHNSON: We consider that as part of
- 9 the Carmans River Coalition. We consider this sale
- 10 separate from the Pos Dec that was issued on the Legacy
- 11 Village project, the segmentation of that project. We
- 12 want to put that on the record we believe this would be
- 13 segmentation, and that your charge was to review the
- 14 possible negative impacts or environmental impacts of
- 15 the entire project that was presented by the county
- 16 executive, and segmenting this off, as a secondary aside
- 17 is that the L-1 zoning category in Brookhaven doesn't
- 18 have anything specific to solar arrays or zero carbon
- 19 footprints. Whatever you put in L-1 you can put on this
- 20 site, and that is something that the board needs to
- 21 consider when it makes its determinations.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have any guidance, Mike,
- 23 on the issue that we raised last month concerning the
- 24 fact about the property boundaries?
- MR. MULE: We reached out to Legislature

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- 2 Kennedy's office and received no further information on
- 3 this resolution.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Where do we go from here?
- 5 MR. MULE: Table it.
- THE CHAIRMAN: There no nobody here to speak
- 7 on it. It will stay tabled. Proposed acquisition for
- 8 open space preservation purposes know as Forge River
- 9 Watershed Addition, Shaw Property, Town of Brookhaven.
- 10 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I made the motion to
- 11 table last time. I spoke to Paul at Soil and Water and
- 12 they don't have any problems with us going forward with
- 13 this at this point. Jim, did you have different
- 14 information?
- MR. BAGG: I have a point that the assessment
- 16 was received and there were certain points at the end of
- 17 the assessment that should be done when the county
- 18 acquires. It seems it might be right for them to read
- 19 the Neg Dec. Do you want to read those, Michael?
- 20 MR. MULE: Recommendations from Phase II
- 21 should be determined if the stained soils in the area of
- 22 the former irrigation pump were disposed of in an
- 23 appropriate facility as recommended in the prior limited
- 24 Phase 2 ESA prepared on the subject property.
- 25 Irrigation pump should be removed and all

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- 2 wells on the property be closed pursuant to Health
- 3 Department and New York State DEC standards.
- 4 Drums, liquids propane gas tanks and two
- 5 hundred seventy-five gallon former diesel fuel tank that
- 6 are on the property should be removed and properly
- 7 disposed of.
- 8 If any of the on-site buildings are to undergo
- 9 major renovations or demolition, an asbestos survey
- 10 should be conducted. Confirmed asbestos containing
- 11 material must be removed prior to demolition in
- 12 accordance with New York State DEC Department of Labor
- 13 Industrial Code 56.
- 14 Assorted trash, wood chips, mulch boat and
- 15 farm equipment should be removed from the subject
- 16 property and disposed of or stored at an appropriate
- 17 facility.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: That is proposed to be done
- 19 before acquisition. Do we have an agreement to do
- 20 that?
- MS. VILORIA-FISHER: It's contingent.
- 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Anyone want to question
- 23 Lauretta on this particular piece?
- MR. BAGG: CEQ has said in the past when a
- 25 property is to be acquired and has been developed in the

- 1 11/17/10 CEQ meeting
- 2 past, that technically the Phase 1 and Phase 2 should be
- 3 considered and anything that would be required to
- 4 remediate should be incorporated in environmental
- 5 review.
- 6 MS. FISCHER: If I could just add the soil
- 7 requirements on Number 1 in the letter. Maybe you might
- 8 want to reiterate those requirements as well. Soil
- 9 samples collected from the barn -- none were found.
- 10 MR. MULE: That just states that nothing
- 11 exceeded action levels inside the barn, which triggered
- 12 the Phase II.
- THE CHAIRMAN: We have this proposal. Do we
- 14 have a motion?
- 15 MR. KAUFMAN: Motion Unlisted Neg Dec,
- 16 contingent upon the issues that Mr. Mule wrote out or
- 17 incorporated into the recommendation.
- MS. GROWNEY: Second.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion? In
- 20 favor? Opposed? Motion carries.
- MS. FISCHER: Larry, just to reiterate, I did
- 22 go back on my notes of Beechwood. There are two acres
- 23 of muck soils in that swale area. I am sorry, I didn't
- 24 point that out before. That is two acres of muck soil.
- 25 LEG. VILORIA-FISHER: I never realized that

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2	"muck" is a technical term; official
3	MS. FISCHER: It's actually a technical soil
4	classification. I'm sorry I didn't bring that up
5	before, but I did mention it and identify it in the long
6	form EAF. I want to correct myself on that.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Any other business? Any CAC
8	concerns? Do we have a motion to adjourn?
9	MR. MACHTAY: I'll make a motion to adjourn.
10	MS. GROWNEY: Second.
11	THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor?
12	(Time noted: 11:00 a.m.)
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1	
2	CERTIFICATION
3	
4	STATE OF NEW YORK)
5) ss:
6	COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)
7	
8	I, JUDI GALLOP, a Stenotype Reporter
9	and Notary Public for the State of New
10	York, do hereby certify:
11	THAT this is a true and accurate transcription
12	of the Suffolk County Council on Environmental
13	Planning meeting held on November 17, 2010.
14	I further certify that I am not related,
15	either by blood or marriage, to any of the parties
16	in this action; and
17	I am in no way interested in the
18	outcome of this matter.
19	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
20	hand this 17th day of December, 2010.
21	
22	_ Judi Gallop
	JUDI GALLOP