

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

c/o Suffolk County Department of Economic Development & Planning
100 Veterans Memorial Highway, PO Box 6100, Hauppauge, NY 11788-0099

T: (631) 853-5192 F: (631) 853-4044

Joanne Minieri, Deputy County Executive and Commissioner, Department of Economic Development
and Planning

Sarah Lansdale, Director of Planning

Notice of Meeting

May 7, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Bergen Point Sewage Treatment Plant

600 Bergen Avenue

West Babylon, NY 11704

Tentative Agenda Includes:

1. Meeting Summary for April 2014
2. Public Portion
3. Chairman's Report
4. Director's Report
5. Guest Speaker
 - Babylon Town Supervisor Rich Schaffer
6. Section A 14-14 thru A 14-23 & A 14-25 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code
None
7. Section A-14-24 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code
None
8. Other Business:
 - Consideration of Model Geothermal Code
 - Update/Discussion on Suffolk County Comprehensive Plan

NOTE: The **next meeting** of the SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION will be held on June 4, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Maxine S. Postal Auditorium Evans K. Griffing Building, Riverhead County Center, 300 Center Drive Riverhead, New York 11901

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COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION SUMMARY OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

David L. Calone
Chairman

Sarah Lansdale, AICP
Director of Planning and
Environment

Date: May 7, 2014
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Bergen Point Sewage Treatment Plant
600 Bergen Avenue, West Babylon, New York 11704

Members Present (10)

Ramon Accettella – Town of Babylon
Michael Kelly – Town of Brookhaven
Matthew Chartrand – Town of Islip
Barbara Roberts – Town of Southampton
Nicholas Planamento – Town of Southold
Adrienne Esposito – Villages Over 5,000
Michael Kaufman – Villages Under 5,000
Kevin G. Gershowitz – At Large
Glynis Margaret Berry – At Large
David Calone – At Large

Staff Present (6)

Sarah Lansdale – Director of Planning and Environment
Andrew Freleng – Chief Planner
John Corral – Planner
Christine DeSalvo – Senior Clerk Typist

Call to Order

- The meeting of May 7, 2014 was called to order by Adrienne Esposito, Vice Chairperson, at 2:05 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speaker (taken out of order) – Hon. Richard Schaffer, Town of Babylon Supervisor, updated the Commission on the soon to be completed “Wyndanch Rising” project, and new Wyndanch LIRR Train Station. The Supervisor also mentions other upcoming project in the Town of Babylon, specifically in Copiague and East Farmingdale, as well as the “Route 110 Corridor”. He pointed out that the Town uses stake-holder meetings and implementing a ‘visioning process’ for creating and/or redeveloping downtown and transit-oriented-developments at several locations. The Supervisor also mentioned the Town’s ongoing Super-storm Sandy recovery efforts taking place in Town of Babylon, the hardest hit by the storm of all the towns in Suffolk County. Currently in the Town of Babylon, 550 to 600 homes are target for government buy-out for environmental restoration of the local waterways and shorelines. In closing, the Supervisor stressed the importance, both economically and environmentally, of the extension of the sewer lines up Straight Path Road.

Adoption of Minutes

- The adoption of the April 2014 Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt as amended made by Commission member Accettella, seconded by Commission member Chartrand. Vote Approved: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Public Portion – No one from the public asked to address the Commission.

Chairman’s Report – Chairman Calone updated the Commission as follows:

- On Sewer Infrastructure Funding the Chair stated that the County Executive continues to emphasize the need to protect water quality as one of his top priorities and one of his first steps in doing so is to seek utilizing Federal Sandy funds to expand sewer infrastructure to flood vulnerable areas along Suffolk’s south shore, and improvements to its Bergen Point sewage treatment plant.
 - Vice Chair Esposito mentioned a series of meetings sponsored by the New York Governor’s office on the issue of protecting water quality. She indicated that these meetings are to be held on several different dates and at different locations on Long island.
- Chairman Calone thanked Director Sarah Lansdale for her leadership towards winning an IBM Smart Cities award that will have IBM consultants coming to Suffolk to help analyze data and come up with recommendations.
- Agriculture initiatives; The Chair mentioned that a few weeks ago the Planning Commission co-host a breakfast discussion at East Hampton Town Hall with Town Supervisor Larry Cantwell and Congressman Tim Bishop that focused on new farmers and the obstacles they are facing. Chairman Calone indicated it was very well attended, and included farmers, advocates, and town and county officials. The Chair acknowledged the work of Commission members Carl Gabrielsen and Barbara Roberts, and especially Commission member John Whelan who was the main organizer of the event.
 - The Chairman went on to acknowledge that Mr. Whelan has resigned from the Commission in order to accept his nomination for the position of Chairman of the Town of East Hampton’s Zoning Board of Appeals.

Chairman's Report (Continued)

- With regard to 'Professional Certification' Chairman Calone stated that he had spoken with Des Ryan of the Association for a Better Long Island and he said that he had talked with Senator John Flanagan on trying to get this through the upcoming legislative session. Chair indicated that if it does not get through this year then they will continue working on educating the Long Island lawmakers about this issue, based on the work of Commission members Jennifer Casey and John Finn have done. The Chair reminded the Commission that the Towns of Brookhaven and Huntington are interested in pursuing this if we can get the necessary state approvals.
- On 'Housing', the Chair restated the lack of good housing data in Suffolk County; Such as how many units are being created? How many are workforce housing? How many are rentals? Etc. And said that working with LIBI, has come up with a plan for the County Planning Commission to start collecting that data on an annual basis so we can better establish regional housing strategies and goals.
- On the 'economic development conference', the Commission is working with the Suffolk County IDA, and has been putting together a rough agenda. Our partner in this, former IDA Executive Director Anthony Manetta who stepped down a few weeks ago, he is still eager to get this done since he will remain involved with the agency on a part-time basis for a while. The Chair also indicated that the County Executive and Commissioner Joanne Minieri would also like to see the conference happen. And the Chairman stated that he is still hoping that the event can happen before the summer but if that it is not possible that the conference will need to wait until September.
- Regarding the 'Geothermal Model Code'; Chairman Calone indicated that the model geothermal code has been circulated to some of the key stake holder, and got several comments back, including several from the Towns. The Chair stated that the comments are in the process of being incorporated into the model code and that it is not quite ready and would like to hold off the Commission considering its adoption until its next meeting when it is fully ready.
- With regard to the Comprehensive Plan; Chairman Calone indicated that the consultant group AKRF is finished with their work on the Plan. And the Chair stated that from here on out the Commission and staff will incorporate the Farmland Protection Plan and the Water Quality Plan when those are finalized over the next few weeks, and then layer over an overview chapter to knit the findings together. The Chairman also stated that they will then have public hearings on the draft plan, which is required by the County Charter. Once finalized by the Commission, it will be submitted to the Legislature.
- With respect to other Commission business;
 - The Commission's sewer plant tour will begin in a couple of minutes;
 - On Friday the County is doing a fertilizer survey and the Chair asked for each one of the Commission members to visit at least two fertilizer retailers in their area to help with the survey.
 - The Town of Shelter Island has made a recommendation to the County Executive for a replacement for Ed Shillingburg, so hopefully that vacancy will be filled soon.

- o Chairman Calone stated that the County Ethics forms are due May 15th and that Commission members should put the 'H. L. Dennison Building' as their business address on the first page of the form.

Meeting Summary (Continued)

May 7, 2014

Director's Report – Planning Director Sarah Lansdale informed the Commission about recent activities within the Division including the following:

- First acknowledging the great work of the staff; and indicating that the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) report is just about completed and soon to be submitted as a 'draft' to HUD, and when the report is finalized she will submit it to the Commission. And she noted that all the staff time worked on the report was billed to HUD.
- Director Lansdale stated the staff is also completing the Commack Road traffic mitigation study as well, and hopes to get that report out to the N.Y.S.D.O.T. as soon as possible so they can review it.
- Regarding the 'septic tour' there is a 42 page summary report prepared on it available for the Commission members to review; the Director thanked Commission member Berry for her work on it.
- The Director mentioned that tomorrow there is a press conference being held to announce the "crap-shoot film festival" and short film contest, which will be partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency – Region 2 to piggy-back off of their national "Septic Smart Week" which is in September, and is soliciting from Long Islanders short-films on wastewater.
- Director Lansdale also mention another press conference coming up on Monday with Congressman Tim Bishop and County Executive Steve Bellone on the Regional Conservation Partnership Application; the County is competing for one of 5 designations nation-wide to partner with U.S.D.A. and receive funding for reducing the nitrogen impacts of agricultural. The location for that press conference will be Wickham Farm.
- The Director also stated that the County is looking to 'pilot' both alternative septic systems used in other state, and also innovative septic system not yet used elsewhere, and implement those 'pilot program' here in Suffolk County Park Facilities.

Section A14-14 thru A14-25 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code – there were no regulatory items to be consider at the meeting. Chief Planner Andy Freleng handed out a data sheet and discussed information on the referral process with the Commission. Mr. Freleng stated that 263 referrals were received and process in the month of April of this year, but none those referrals rose to the level of 'regional significance' and/or fell under the Commission's jurisdiction in order or the Commission to consider it.

Meeting Adjourned (3:15 p.m.)

- The motion to adjourn the meeting was made and unanimously approved.