

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

Lawrence Swanson
Chairperson
CEQ

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES

DATE: April 17, 2019

TIME: 9:30 am – 11:45 pm

LOCATION: St. James General Store and Deepwells Farm County Park

PRESENT:

Larry Swanson, Chair
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair
Frank De Rubeis
Eva Growney
Thomas Gulbransen
Constance Kepert
Mary Ann Spencer
Andrea Spilka

ABSENT:

Robert Carpenter Jr.
Michael Doall
Hon. Kara Hahn
Hon. Al Krupski

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

STAFF:

Andy Freleng, Chief Planner
John Corral, Senior Planner
Christine DeSalvo, Principal Office Assistant

GUESTS:

Christina DeLisi, Suffolk County Legislative Aide, Presiding Officer Gregory
Diego De La Rocha, Intern, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and
Planning Division of Planning and Environment
Erik Bergey, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Joni Rivera, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Emerson Hasbrouck, Cornell Cooperative Extension
Carolyn Sukowski, Cornell Cooperative Extension
Elyse Jay, Principal Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic
Development and Planning

A tour of the St. James General Store was conducted at 9:30 a.m. The tour was followed by the general meeting which started at approximately 10:00 a.m at Deepwells Farm County Park

Minutes:

- February 20, 2019 and March 13, 2019

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to approve the February 20, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gulbransen. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to table the March 13, 2019 minutes until the April 17, 2019 meeting. The CEQ requested that a clarification be made relating to the CEQ's recommendation not to recommend a North Fork Preserve Advisory group. The CEQ also requested that the minutes include Legislator Hahn's discussed idea of developing a volunteer parks steward program as a potential way to improve public awareness and involvement in Suffolk County Parks. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilka. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- None

Public Portion:

- None

Historic Trust Docket:

Before Mr. Martin gave his Historic Trust Director's Report, Mr. Swanson thanked Mr. Martin for the tour of the St. James Store. Mr. Swanson also asked Mr. Gulbransen to discuss what he observed on the tour of the St. James General Store. Mr. Gulbransen noted that as a volunteer firefighter he was concerned by potential issues he observed relating to the electrical wiring at the St. James General Store. Mr. Gulbransen noted that faulty electrical wiring is common cause of building fires. In response, Mr. Martin noted that the Suffolk County Parks Department does have an agreement with an electrical contractor that can work with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works to inspect the wiring at Park facilities.

After the discussion, Mr. Gulbransen made a motion for the CEQ to make a recommendation to the Suffolk County Parks Commissioner for the Parks Department's electrical contractor to work with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works to assess the condition of the wiring at the St. James General Store to insure that the electrical wiring meets current electrical code standards. Mr. Kaufman seconded the motion. Motion carried

Director's Report:

- Updates on Housing Program for Historic Trust Sites

Mr. Martin stated that they will be having an Open House on the Isaac Mills house which is still vacant.

- Updates on Historic Trust Custodial Agreements

Mr. Martin stated that the Parks Department continues to work on the custodial agreements. Mr. Martin noted that Parks is doing site assessments on properties where custodial agreements are overdue and Parks will be meeting with the historical societies to work on the overdue contracts.

After the Directors Report Mr. Swanson also asked Mr. Martin if he had an update regarding the questions that came up at the February CEQ meeting regarding the issue of eutrophication of the pond at the Mills Pond House and the issue of ice skating on the pond. Mr. Martin noted he still needs to look into these issues and will then follow up with the CEQ.

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

- A. Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 26, 2019 and April 9, 2019

Mr. Corral noted that the following Suffolk County Resolutions: IR 1343-2019, 1345-2019, and 1350-2019 are limited to the planning stages of the project and do not involved construction funding.

The CEQ also had some questions regarding IR1287-2019 appropriating funds in connection with Removal of Toxic and Hazardous Materials and Components at Various County Facilities (CP 1732). The CEQ noted that the SEQRA for this project was completed by SC Resolution 256-2005 but there may be new materials that the County is currently dealing with that were not discussed in the 2005 SEQRA review.

Mr. De Rubeis made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 26, 2019. The motion included the additional recommendation that for IR 1287-2019 that the SEQRA recommendation applies to the action covered in the referenced 2005 SEQRA Review (SC Reso # 256- 2005) and that any proposed work not covered by the 2005 SEQRA review should be submitted to CEQ

for additional SEQRA review. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program Annual Report 2019

A presentation was given by Mr. Hasbrouck, Marine Program Director, with Cornell Cooperative Extension on the Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program. Mr. Hasbrouck's presentation consisted of a power point presentation on the efforts and results of the Stormwater Management Program. The annual report can be found online at www.SuffolkStormwater.com

After the formal presentation Mr. Hasbrouck noted that it appears Cornell Cooperative Extension will have to reapply to the Suffolk County Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program Committee in order to continue its role supporting Suffolk County in its MS4 Stormwater Management Program. Mr. Hasbrouck noted, that if the CEQ were so inclined, Cornell Cooperative Extension would appreciate a letter of support for the work they have done on the MS4 Stormwater Program.

The CEQ discussed this issue and decided that they should write two letters to the Suffolk County Legislature and County Executive. One letter should express the CEQ's support for the Suffolk County Funded MS4 Stormwater Management Program and a second letter should acknowledge the good work Cornell Cooperative Extension has done over the past several years in assisting Suffolk County with its MS4 Program. The CEQ also decided that after the letters are drafted that they should be reviewed by the CEQ's legal counsel.

After the above described discussion, Mr. Gulbransen made a motion for the Chair of the CEQ to send two letters to the Suffolk County Executive and the Suffolk County Legislature. The first letter should express the CEQ's support for the Suffolk County Funded MS4 Stormwater Management Program and the second letter should acknowledge the good work Cornell Cooperative Extension has done over the past several years in assisting Suffolk County with its MS4 Program. Ms. Spilka seconded the motion. Motion carried

CAC Concerns:

No CAC concerns or comments were raised.

The regular CEQ Meeting Adjourned