

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
January 15, 2003

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Council on Environmental Quality was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on January 15, 2003.

Members Present:

Theresa Elkowitz - Chairperson
Larry Swanson - Vice-Chair
Thomas Cramer
Ginny Fields
John Finkenberg
Michael Kaufman
Lance Mallamo
Nancy Manfredonia
Adrienne Esposito

Also in Attendance:

James Bagg - Chief Environmental Analyst/Department of Planning
Penny Kohloer - Department of Planning
Richard Martin - History Services
Joy Squires - CAC of Huntington
Nicole DeAngelo - County Executive's Office
Nick Gibbons - Suffolk County Parks Department
Tom Rogers - Department of Public Works
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

(*The meeting was called to order at 9:36 A.M.*)

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

I'm going to call the meeting to order and ask that the members -- well, we have minutes actually of the September 18th meeting, but given that we just got them I'd like to defer review of those minutes until the next meeting. I don't have any correspondence, so I'll go to Recommended Type II Actions. Jim has provided us with a packet of Resolutions Laid on the table for December 17th, 2002 and January 2nd, 2003 and he's done recommendations. Jim, is there anything you want to call to the Council's attention?

MR. BAGG:

Yes. One resolution, it's Introductory Resolution 2339-03 - Approving acquisition under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program, Stage II, Active Parklands, {Halaire} Drive, Property Town of Huntington. That's an Unlisted Action and an EAF is required.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay. Is there anything else?

MR. BAGG:

That's all.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Do any of the members have any questions for Jim? If not, I'll entertain a motion.

MR. SWANSON:

Motion.

MR. CRAMER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

I have a motion by Larry, I have a second by Tom Cramer. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Carried (VOTE: 8-0-0-1 Not Present: John Finkenberg). Okay, we have another request for a Type II Action, Maintenance of existing firebreaks at Nohemia Equestrian Center County Park, Town of Islip. Nick, is there something you would like to tell the Council about this?

MR. GIBBONS:

Good morning. This proposal is pretty straight-forward. It originally came to us as a request from the local fire district. I'm not sure if I included an aerial in your package or not --

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

No.

MR. GIBBONS:

-- but it's an existing firebreak, it runs along the north side of

the property besides residential homes and parkland. It requires a clearing of some trees on either side of the firebreak and some overhead branches so that equipment can have adequate access.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Anybody have any questions for Nick on this?

MS. MANFREDONIA:

I'm sorry. Nick, just -- the firebreak is there already?

MR. GIBBONS:

Correct.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

And it sounds -- do they want to widen it substantially?

MR. GIBBONS:

No, it hasn't been maintained over the years and the trees have sort of recruited in a little bit and in an effort to keep that open we'd like to clean it up.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

Gotcha. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay, so it's maintenance. Yes?

MR. KAUFMAN:

What is the actual condition of the firebreaks? You said that there's just some low vegetation in there, that we're not talking about mature trees or anything like that?

MR. GIBBONS:

No, some mature trees also would need to be removed.

MR. KAUFMAN:

Do you have a count or anything like that?

MR. GIBBONS:

No, I don't. I think I estimated. Mike, that determination is going to be made in the field by myself while we're out there doing the work, but I would put in no more than 30 trees.

(*John Finkenberg entered the meeting at 9:40 A.M.*)

MR. KAUFMAN:

Okay. So basically this was an old fire break, it has been maintained in the past.

MR. GIBBONS:

It continues to be used but the equipment sustained some damage. With recent fires in the area, they're concerned and interestd in getting things maintained on a more frequent basis.

MR. KAUFMAN:

We're talking Pitch Pines, things like that?

MR. GIBBONS:
Right, Pitch Pine exclusively.

MR. KAUFMAN:
I know the property a little bit, how much basically acreage are we talking about in terms of cutting down?

MR. GIBBONS:
A quarter acre.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Okay, thank you.

MR. CRAMER:
Was this requested by the fire department?

MR. GIBBONS:
Yes, it was.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Ginny, you had a question?

MR. GIBBONS:
Good morning.

LEG. FIELDS:
Hi. It's my understanding that the firebreak was cut down and that there are stumps of trees that are maybe two feet, one and a half feet, two feet tall, and that they actually pose a risk to the fire trucks and they're concerned about puncturing their tires. In addition -- and this is the last fire that was very, very close to the homes -- they're very concerned that if a truck gets in there and gets stuck, they're not going to be able to get another truck in to get back, so that it really is not wide enough either.

MR. GIBBONS:
Correct.

LEG. FIELDS:
So I think what they really do need for safety sake and, you know, the efficiency I think of the trucks is to have it wider and to have it, you know, really cleared rather than just cut.

MR. GIBBONS:
Just as a point of information, that work where the stumps are remaining, that's on the south east portion of the property, this is a new area of an existing firebreak, along the north area.

LEG. FIELDS:
Is it wider than the one that they're talking about?

MR. GIBBONS:
No, it's narrower than the one that you're referring to.

LEG. FIELDS:
So of what value then would it be if it were narrower if that one is

wider and they can't really --

MR. GIBBONS:
Right.

LEG. FIELDS:
They don't have the width.

MR. GIBBONS:
This firebreak hooks up with dead-end streets all along the north end of the property and each one of those has a gate, so the access and egress from that firebreak is available every 150, 250 yards or so. So they can access separate portions of the firebreaks, there wouldn't really be a need for two trucks to be passing by, even in an emergency situation because one would come down the next dead-end and back into and pull out a truck. And we're working on that area in the south east, incidentally, too, to satisfy the fire department.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Nick, can you come here because Ginny has an aerial photo and it might be helpful. So based upon your looking at this aerial photograph with Legislator Fields', I think -- I don't believe that there's an issue with this as a Type II Action because based upon the regulations, it clearly is. But I think what Legislator Fields is trying to point out is that there is, to her knowledge, an issue here with access from the fire department. And if I'm not incorrect, I think that Legislator Fields is asking the Parks Department to work more closely with the fire department to come up with a better access way, even if it requires clearing more, even if it requires an EAF, whatever it is, for fire safety purposes I think she's asking that this be looked at.

MR. GIBBONS:
Depending on how much clearing we agree to, I'll come back with either an EAF or correspondence.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right.

LEG. FIELDS:
Only in this area, the area that is the closest to the houses; the rest of it I think we would look at a lot differently

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Okay. So then I'll entertain a motion for a Type II Action.

MR. CRAMER:
Motion.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Motion by Mr. Cramer. Do I have a second? Second by Legislator Fields. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Carried (VOTE: 9-0-0-0).

MR. GIBBONS:
Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Thank you. Okay, next, Proposed CR3 - Wellwood Avenue, Bridge Widening over the Southern State Parkway, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County.

MR. ROGERS:

I'm Tom Rogers from Public Works. This is a widening of Wellwood Avenue over Southern State Parkway. This is a bridge, Southern State Parkway bridge and we're proposing to widen it on each side, 15 feet on each side to provide left-turn lanes to alleviate the traffic problems. We hired a consultant to do a design report and that's complete and it's ready to be approved by the State. The bridge is owned by the State Parks Department and they've approved the design report. The plan is to remove the stone that's on the face of the structure and replace it, so the bridge will look the same from the parkway view as it does now. And there's a little bit of taking along the cemetery property, a sliver piece, and we've talked to them and we can work out some right-of-way acquisition with them.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

The stone is going to be replaced completely, it will look like it does now?

MR. ROGERS:

Yes, the same stone will be used.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

Okay.

MR. ROGERS:

We'll take it off, widen the bridge and replace it.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

You're not making the bridge any taller.

MR. ROGERS:

No.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Larry?

MR. SWANSON:

You're not going to be disturbing any graves?

MR. ROGERS:

No, can't do that.

MR. MALLAMO:

Are you doing both sides of the bridge or are you widening one side and taking the face --

MR. ROGERS:
Both sides.

MR. MALLAMO:
Both sides, so both stone faces are going to come off.

MR. ROGERS:
Correct.

MR. MALLAMO:
I'm just trying to remember, this particular bridge, does this have a stone railing on the top? One of them does, I think it's this one.

MR. ROGERS:
Yes.

MR. MALLAMO:
Is this the one?

MR. ROGERS:
Yeah.

MR. MALLAMO:
Is that railing going back the way it is?

MR. ROGERS:
Yes, the plan is the same way.

MR. MALLAMO:
Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Any other questions? I'll entertain a motion.

MR. CRAMER:
Motion, Unlisted Neg Dec.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
I have a motion. Do I have a second?

MR. KAUFMAN:
Second.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Second by Mike Kaufman. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
Carried (VOTE: 9-0-0-0). Thank you.

MR. ROGERS:
Okay, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Okay, Proposed Improvements and Expansion of Indian Island Campground,
Town of Riverhead. Hello.

MR. GIBBONS:
Good morning again. This EAF was originally reviewed by the Council

in September and at the time I had provided what were then out of date plans for the council's review.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right.

MR. GIBBONS:
We then took a look at the new plans. I submitted just the part one of the EAF to update it and also to reflect some clarification that was requested by the Council, specifically with regard to the tree removal issue --

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right.

MR. GIBBONS:
-- and quantifying sewage, solid waste and water usage. So those issues have been addressed and I'm here to discuss them today and then hopefully --

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Okay, why don't you go over the responses to those because I believe that those were the only -- at least in my recollection, those were the only outstanding issues, and then if people have questions for you.

MR. GIBBONS:
Okay. The -- I will just go down an order as listed in the letter here. The quantification of tree removal, and that's on page --

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
It's actually on the first page in the project description box.

MR. GIBBONS:
Right. Item 1B, 2B and 3A refer to the different sections or components of the project and that in each one of those there's an estimate or a limit to the number of trees that can be removed for the project; this is standing trees, either living or dead.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right.

MR. GIBBONS:
And that determination will be made by myself and I'll be out in the field with the crew when the work is being done.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
So you have a maximum for the entire project of 90 trees.

MR. GIBBONS:
Right, and that's 20 in the first section, 20 in the second and 50 in the third which is the new area.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Madam Chairman?

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Yes?

MR. KAUFMAN:

Chairwoman rather. I would note for the record that in the backup they said that they're going to be putting in 58 Red Oaks and 167 white Pines, so any trees that do come down are going to be more than replaced.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

More than, right. I think that was one of the questions actually, Mike, because they came up with a landscaping plan and we're trying to ask what they were removing.

MR. GIBBONS:

And as a point of information on that, I requested DPW change that White Pine to Pitch Pine, so maybe that modification can be made in the EAF.

MR. KAUFMAN:

Take a few of the Pitch Pines from Sycamore.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Jim, can you change that on the EAF on the file copy?

MR. BAGG:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay.

MR. GIBBONS:

Any further questions on that issue?

MS. MANFREDONIA:

Just the 50 mature trees, I mean, are there any really big trees; you know, what is the biggest tree you'll be taking down?

MR. GIBBONS:

They're a good size, 50 feet.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

Are they Pines?

MR. GIBBONS:

Pitch Pine.

MS. MANFREDONIA:

They're Pitch Pine, okay. I'm just curious in terms of the replanting of Pitch Pines, how successful are you with that? I know White Pines take pretty well but I don't know about Pitch Pines.

MR. GIBBONS:

Pitch Pines will do well, they do well in dry conditions as well because they're adapted for this climate. They do need, you know,

recruit -- depending on how much survival should we have we could replace them as needed.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
Can you get -- how big can you get them?

MR. GIBBONS:
Oh no, not very.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
I mean, I've never seen them bigger than like this.

MR. GIBBONS:
Three feet. We're certainly not replacing one for --

MS. MANFREDONIA:
No, I know that but, you know, some trees you can get a fairly decent size.

MR. GIBBONS:
Most of the trees cut down in that new area are not going to be replaced, they're being cut because they need to be cut to accommodate the campground. It's in the other areas where they want to remove trees for safety reasons that we might replace with new trees.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
Okay.

MR. GIBBONS:
Okay?

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Uh-huh.

MR. GIBBONS:
The second issue, I think that was resolved at the previous meeting.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Yeah, we said you were just going to show the gazebos on the plan.

MR. GIBBONS:
Right.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
And you've amended the plan to show the gazebos and you've described it in the EAF.

MR. GIBBONS:
Correct.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Okay.

MR. GIBBONS:
And those didn't require any additional clearing, just the square footage was increased for construction.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Right.

MR. GIBBONS:

And the final three issues are all in Section B. Quantification of the sewage, solid waste and water usage, that was brought up by Mr. Swanson, I requested DPW to provide those numbers as it's not my area of expertise and they in turn asked the consultant to provide those. So we can go over those but I'll confess, I can't do that in much detail.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay.

MR. GIBBONS:

So that's on page four, 3A, Sanitary Sewage, quantity is listed at 60 gallons per day per site.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Per campsite.

MR. GIBBONS:

Correct, and we have a contained dump station for that purpose.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

A contained dump station that gets -- it's like scavenger pump?

MR. GIBBONS:

Correct.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay.

MR. GIBBONS:

3D, Solid Waste, the number given was 13 cubic yards per day, that's for the campsite in total, removed by private carter as usual. The issue was -- I was requested to explore whether or not we recycle at Indian Island, we don't and we don't in any of our other campgrounds as well, we just found it programmatically impossible to get constituents to abide by those rules.

MR. SWANSON:

Just a comment on that. Nick, as you probably remember, we did not go along with the Plastics Ban Act in Suffolk County but it was certainly the idea that the County was going to aggressively go to recycling instead. So while maybe you can't do it successfully at the campgrounds, I think it should be done at your other sites like at Deepwells, etcetera.

MR. GIBBONS:

Uh-huh, okay. I don't know what -- I'll pass that on to the Commissioner, I don't know if the Council wants, by way of correspondence, to bring that to the Commissioner's attention as well.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

I would be happy to have Jim prepare a recommendation to the Parks

Commissioner regarding recycling at County facilities, obviously not the park and campgrounds but the other facilities. Okay. And then you had a water -- there was a water use question, right?

MR. GIBBONS:
Correct. That's --

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
It's on page five.

MR. GIBBONS:
Page five, item 6?

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
I'm not sure that I really understand the answer, but I'm not sure it really has all that much environmental significance either. Because if you -- you should know how much water you use because if you -- it says that you're in the Riverhead Water District so you must get water bills; so if you get water bills, you know -- but I'm not sure that it really has all that much significance because you are buying public water.

MR. GIBBONS:
Right. Well, the increase -- there would be a net increase, though, because of the new expansion of the new campground.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right, but the flow rate really doesn't tell you what that is.

MR. GIBBONS:
Right, so I guess that's somewhat left unanswered.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Right, but I also don't think it's an issue for significance.

MR. SWANSON:
Well, it is because if you don't know the water use how can you calculate the sanitary disposal?

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Well, they probably -- he said they gave it to a consultant, obviously I wasn't the consultant, but if somebody asked me to do this there would be two things I would do. There are factors for sanitary waste for different uses so you would look up the factor. The way I would have gotten the water use, I would have called the Riverhead Water District, I would have looked at the water bills and then I would have divided it among the uses and project it by campsite. But the reality is that there may not be such a direct interrelationship as you would have like in an office building or something because you use water in a camp a little bit differently than you would use it will elsewhere. Anybody else have any questions? Okay, then I'll entertain a motion.

MR. CRAMER:
I will make a motion, Unlisted Neg Dec.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

It is unlisted, right, Jim; we're not -- we don't hit the Type I threshold, do we?

MR. BAGG:

No.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Because we're not altering 2.5 acres, it seems it's only 1.7, okay. So I have a recommendation for Unlisted Neg Dec, a second by Larry Swanson. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Carried (VOTE: 9-0-0-0).

MR. GIBBONS:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

You finally got it done, Nick; congratulations. Okay, don't go anywhere. DEIS for the Proposed Plan for 2002-2012 Restoration & Management of Maritime Grassland & Savana in Theodore Roosevelt County Park, Montauk, Town of East Hampton. Hello.

MR. GIBBONS:

Hello.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay, you want to tell us about your EAF?

MR. GIBBONS:

A couple of points I just want to make before we get started. The public comment period for this has not ended yet, it ends the end of the month.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

The public comment on the DEIS.?

MR. GIBBONS:

Correct.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Has the Parks Trustees or the Commissioner accepted the DEIS as complete and circulated notices and published in the ENB and done all those things?

MR. GIBBONS:

Not in the ENB, no, we decided to do that in-house.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Sorry.

MR. GIBBONS:

Okay. The trustees have reviewed it, though, and the Commissioner has deemed it complete.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

The law requires that for you to deem it complete it has to be published and noticed, including in the ENB, and it has to be circulated and that starts your 30 day period. So then are you looking at CEQ just to provide commentary to the Commissioner regarding what we believe are adequacies or inadequacies of the draft?

MR. GIBBONS:

Well, I was unsure if you would want to review it at this point knowing that the public comment period hadn't been completed yet anyway and I can bring it in February.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Well, let me ask what the procedure is then. If the Parks Department, whether it be through the Park Trustees or the Commissioner acting as lead agency which they're certainly able to do, has deemed this complete, it's out for public review. So what CEQ then is functioning as is a review entity, so if any of us have any comments we -- or the body has comments as a body, we have to provide it to the Commissioner by the end of the public comment period which is when?

MR. GIBBONS:

Well, it hasn't started yet because we don't have any -- haven't notified the ENB.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Did you distribute notices of completion pursuant to the law, did you prepare actual notices of completion that the law requires?

MR. GIBBONS:

We sent a notice to DEC as an involved agency.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Jim, can you help make sure that these notice are done correctly and the distribution is done correctly.

MR. BAGG:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

All right. So would you work with Jim to do that?

MR. GIBBONS:

Sure.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

All right. So I guess what we're saying is that there's going to be some 30 day period and CEQ is going to be like any other entity, if it wishes, to make comments on the DEIS. So how would we like -- what is our pleasure, how would we like to do that? Larry.?

MR. SWANSON:

I don't know how we would want to do it, but I certainly have comments.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

So do I.

LEG. FIELDS:

Use the mike.

MR. SWANSON:

I'm not sure how I would say, recommend that CEQ handle comments, but I certainly have comments that I want to relate to you and work with you to try to resolve.

MR. GIBBONS:

Would it be better for the Council to have TNC here at the time and put it off till the February agenda?

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Well, actually I think that it would be better if we actually prepared written comments and we provided them. What's going to happen, unless you don't get substantive comments, the way the law works, if you don't get substantive comments, at the end of the 30 day or whatever day public comment period from whenever we decide or you decide it begins, the Commissioner can issue a Negative Declaration that ends the SEQRA process. However, if you get substantive comments, the law requires that you address them in a final EIS. So I'm not really sure other than for informational purposes that the verbal exchange between the Council and you and the The Nature Conservancy has any bearing, other than to maybe help you the respond in FEIS. But I think that because we're actually in a process we should give them written comments, in addition to the back and forth.

MR. SWANSON:

Actually, I would like to see the concerns that I have addressed because I think it's technically flawed before you send it out for public comment.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

It's too late because I've just -- that's why I asked the questions that I asked. They, the Commissioner or whomever has the responsibility, I guess the Commissioner, has already made an official determination that this document is complete and adequate for public review. So we're now just like any other member of the public except we're a body. So my suggestion is that we put together written comments and we distribute them and then if the Parks Department wants to come back with The Nature Conservancy and go over those comments so that they are better able to address them in a final EIS, they can do that but we can't force that. Okay?

MR. SWANSON:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

So you have a lot of comments?

MR. SWANSON:

I don't know that I have a lot but certainly the basis for their

argument for doing the berms I think is flawed in their interpretation of historic maps.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay. Well, I have some questions about some of the conclusions they reached because I don't see any data or analysis to support the conclusions and that's a problem that I have in a number of these things. So Larry, maybe what we'll do is that you and I, unless anyone else has a problem, what I suggest is that maybe if people could jot down comments and maybe give them to Jim and I'll do the same thing and Larry will do the same thing and then maybe Jim can put together a list of comments, circulate them, but make sure we do it within whatever the 30 day period is, okay? And then if they want to come to the February meeting and talk about it, wonderful, if they don't it's their choice. Okay?

MR. KAUFMAN:

Terry, I would like to be included on that. Larry and I had both sat down with Nick and with the TNC.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

It's fine, but I just think that everybody should get -- I think everybody is going to get included. Just put down your written comments, get them to Jim, Jim will circulate them. And I have no problem with you and Larry continuing to be the conduit, no problem at all, but I just think that we're in an official process and we have to do what the law requires.

MR. KAUFMAN:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay? Is that it? I don't think there's any other discussion about this. Do we need a resolution? I don't think we need a resolution, we know what we're doing, right? Okay? Thanks, Nick.

MR. GIBBONS:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Okay, Proposed Installation of Fish Ladder at Woodhull's Dam, Cranberry Bog Nature Preserve, Town of Southampton.

MR. GIBBONS:

I have a short four minute I think video, if you will entertain that.

(*Video Presentation*)

LEG. FIELDS:

Nick, can I ask who made that film?

MR. GIBBONS:

Cornell.

LEG. FIELDS:

They did a great job.

MR. KAUFMAN:
How could anyone vote against this?

MR. GIBBONS:
How are you going to say no to that?

LEG. FIELDS:
No. Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
You know, what's the impact of it? You're talking about --

LEG. FIELDS:
Nothing.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
You're talking about 600 square feet and, you know, a permanent impact of 20 square feet. I mean, unless somebody has a specific question, I'll entertain a motion. Yes?

MS. SQUIRES:
I have a question, Nick, about how they did this film, the whole process and how much it costs. That was beautiful.

MR. GIBBONS:
I have no idea but I could get you some information on that.

MS. SQUIRES:
And is that -- because we're trying to do a fish ladder on 25A at Twin Ponds and, you know, it's been taking a long time. We have approvals, but that's beautiful to show to people.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Why don't you call Cornell?

MR. MALLAMO:
I think they have an in-house unit that does that.

MS. SQUIRES:
It's grand.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Jack?

MR. FINKENBERG:
Are there other types of fish that would use that?

MR. GIBBONS:
Not that I'm aware of.

MR. FINKENBERG:
There used to be -- I know there used to be Atlantic --

LEG. FIELDS:
You have to use the microphone.

MR. FINKENBERG:

There used to be Atlantic Salmon and I know Eels still migrate in most of the creeks. So it probably would be beneficial for them, too. That's all.

MR. MALLAMO:

Let's hope that Tyland Killer Fish doesn't find its way into that pond.

MR. KAUFMAN:

Actually, Nick, regarding the Atlantic Salmon, etcetera, they do come back to where they were originally spawned at and this might be an interesting idea that Jack has brought up regarding possibly placing some eggs in the area and, you know, or some fry or something like that and seeing if they can reproduce -- not reproduce but basically go down the river system. They have done that successfully in New England in a lot of streams where they have removed dams and put in fish ladders and things like that. It's an idea, that's all.

MR. GIBBONS:

The stock is already there, I don't think the DEC is going to entertain right at this moment reintroducing any species that aren't already there, but it's an option.

MS. ESPOSITO:

At least not until the Peconic River gets cleaned up in the upper reaches.

MR. CRAMER:

I make a motion for an Unlisted Neg Dec for the plunky little fish.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Second by Mike Kaufman. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Carried (VOTE: 9-0-0-0),

MS. ESPOSITO:

Nick, I have just a quick question, just my ignorance about fish ladders. Is that a device that can be just -- is it open seasonally when the fish is spawning or is it open all year? Like a damn could be open or closed; what about a fish ladder?

MR. GIBBONS:

The one in Grangible Park in Riverhead Town is removable seasonally. They take it out at the end of the spring run which is April and they power wash it, clean it down for the algae that grows on it and replace it in the fall. The one here at Cranberry Bog would be a permanent structure, free-flowing.

MS. ESPOSITO:

Okay, thanks.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Historic Services?

MS. MARTIN:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:

Good morning.

MR. MARTIN:

Just to report, at Deepwells our Biographies on Stage Program has come to an end after seven years. Sal St. George, the producer of the show, has gotten a one year contract out in {Branson}, Missouri, which I'm just learning about.

LEG. FIELDS:

That's a big place.

MS. MARTIN:

It's a big place and he is going to be doing a show at the Wayne Newton Theatre. The owner of Pizza Hut is the producer and -- so he has a one year contract and he couldn't see that he could still work at Deepwells and fly back and forth to Missouri. So that program is on hold. We're not looking to replace it at this point but to explore different ideas of programming that we can bring to the site. One that we'll look to expand is the Cornell Cooperative Extension Farm Program for children which we started last year and was very popular, so we'll give that more time at the house and we'll be exploring different ideas for the time there. The sales and the admission for the holiday show, we're down 9% this year which just relates to the overall economy. But because the shows will not be there next year, we'll really have to beef up our promotion to get people to go to Deepwells. So that's what we'll be working on this year. At Sagtikos Manor we will have -- schedule the Historic Trust Committee Meeting for February 13th at 9:30.

LEG. FIELDS:

At Sagtikos?

MR. MARTIN:

We'll start the meeting across the street at Gardiner Park in the meeting hall there which has heat. I've been kidding everybody that we're going to sell earmuffs and heated underwear for Sagtikos Manor because there's no heat in the main house. We will be able to take a tour of the main house and the property, though, and then run back across the street and have a meeting. And also though some elements at Gardiner County Park, the possibility of including that into the Historic Trust also; that was originally part of the Sagtikos Manor. We have met with KeySpan and the County contractor that has our contract to install the heat in both the Carriage House and the Main house to come up with some ideas which we'll go over at the Historic Trust meeting. And there's the Bay Shore Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a fund-raising cocktail party in the Carriage House February 23rd between 1 and 3, a \$35 donation and that's towards the restoration of the Carriage House that they have adopted in a sense

and invitations will be sent out to you. And that's all I have right now.

LEG. FIELDS:
What was the date?

MS. MARTIN:
February 23rd.

LEG. FIELDS:
No, the historic --

MS. MARTIN:
The Historic Trust Committee is February 13th which is a Thursday.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
No, that generally isn't.

MS. MARTIN:
That's just as according to need we have meetings.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Are you going to send out a written notice?

MR. MARTIN:
Yes, the notices will be sent out this week.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Because we will need directions.

MS. MARTIN:
Yes.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
Rich, can you just update us on Blydenburgh if anything is new?

MS. MARTIN:
We did -- unfortunately we had a whole plan to install the heat at the Miller's House with the heating contractor that lost the County contract, so I have to go back to square one. That was to be installed in September, he lost the contract at that time so I need to bring a new contractor in to give me a plan and a price and get that approved. There's still money available to do that job there and that's -- and also, the plans are going ahead for the Mill, the designs for the restoration of the Mill which would start with the restoration of the timber framing, the problems that we have there with the building and those plans are going forward.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
All right. Do you think -- at this point, do you have any clue when any work will actually get done, this year or anything?

MS. MARTIN:
I think we can have plans hopefully put out to bid this year, yes, for the restoration of the timber framing. We only have \$72,000 in the budget at this point.

MS. MANFREDONIA:
Okay, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Mike?

MR. KAUFMAN:
Rich, quick question for you on the show houses. Anecdotally, have you heard from any other organizations that have run show houses as to how their volumes are doing; is everyone down on the Island, is everyone up?

MS. MARTIN:
I haven't checked that, but just reading the newspaper, all sales -- retail sales is what we relate to, so if the mall sales are down or if K-Mart is down, it relates to our sales also.

MR. KAUFMAN:
So if K-Mart is going broke --

MS. ESPOSITO:
They're down and out.

MS. MARTIN:
Well, my point is that our shows there relate to the overall economy; when the economy sales go so do our sales.

MR. KAUFMAN:
One other question regarding Southside George. Is he shutting down all of his other historic dramas?

MS. MARTIN:
Not as far as I know. We did ask him about the program that he does at the Vanderbilt, maybe Lance can speak on that, there's a radio show that they do there which is just a recurring show, it's not rewritten. The programs that we have at Deepwells are all separately written and we don't redo the shows a second time.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Is he closing down over at Stony Brook Community Fund or -- pardon me, the Ward Melville Heritage?

MS. MARTIN:
I don't know but I would think he would have to.

MR. KAUFMAN:
Okay, thank you.

MS. MARTIN:
You know, if he comes back after this year and wants to continue the program, we would like to do that, but he could also move on to other things, he doesn't know at this point.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Any CAC concerns?

MS. SQUIRES:
(Shook head no.)

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
Anything else?

MR. CRAMER:
Motion to adjourn.

CHAIRPERSON ELKOWITZ:
I have a motion. Do I have a second? I have a second. All those in favor?

LEG. FIELDS:
It's 10:20. What are we going to do with all this time?(*The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M.*)

Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson
Council on Environmental Quality