

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVE LEVY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

THOMAS A. ISLES, A.I.C.P.
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
THERESA ELKOWITZ, CHAIRPERSON
JAMES BAGG, CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, January 21, 2004

TIME: 9:40 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

PRESENT:

Voting Members: Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson, Presiding
Lawrence Swanson, Vice Chairman
Thomas Cramer
John Finkenberg
Adrienne Esposito
J. Lance Mallamo
Nancy Manfredonia

ABSENT:

Hon. Jay Schneiderman
Michael Kaufman

STAFF:

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst, Department of Planning
Penny Kohler, Secretary, Department of Planning
Linda Di Cola, Secretary, Department of Planning
Christopher Wrede, Planning Aide, Department of Planning
William Faulk, Legislative Aide, Office of Hon. Joseph Caracappa, SC Legislator
Lisa Keys, Legislative Aide, Office of Hon. Michael Caracciolo, SC Legislator
Nicholas Gibbons, Environmental Analyst, Department of Parks
Ralph Borkowski, Landscape Architect
William Gardner, Supervisor, SC Police Department

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCILS:

Joy Squires, Town of Huntington

GUESTS:

R.C. Petersen, R.C. Petersen Assoc.
Jorge Labayo, AWS
Jacqueline Caputi, Attorney for AT & T, Munley, Meade, Nielsen & Re
William Parker, Attorney for T-Mobile, RCR
Michael Gerard, AT & T Wireless
John P. Sobiech, Clough Harbour & Assoc.

MINUTES:

Chairperson Elkowitz opened the meeting at approximately 9:40 a.m. CEQ will no longer be able to utilize the Legislature's court stenographer, and it was noted that Linda Di Cola of Suffolk County Planning Department would be taking future CEQ minutes. Ms. Elkowitz asked that all members and attendees identify themselves before speaking.

The minutes of the November 19th meeting were unavailable for approval. Hence it was decided that such approval would be deferred until February 18th, at the next CEQ meeting.

PROJECT REVIEW:

Chairman Elkowitz gave an overview of each project by reading correspondence from Ralph Borkowski, RLA, Landscape Architect, SC Department of Public Works.

1. Recommended TYPE II Actions

- a. *Ratification of Staff Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table – January 2, 2004.* It was noted that IR 1011, sponsored by Legislator Caracciolo, implementing Brownfield Policy for the Poulos property in Eastport, Town of Brookhaven is not a Type II action; an EAF is required because it is an Unlisted Action.

Resolution 1027, sponsored by Legislative Bishop, is a Type II action seeking to establish durable turf policy for athletic fields in County Parks. Mr. Swanson noted that Thomas DiNapoli will be holding a hearing this Friday at 11:00 on Long Beach, having to do with groundwater issues, one of which is to define means to use treated wastewater on County and State lands.

A motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Member Andrienne Esposito. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. *Proposed planning phase for Improvements to Armed Forces Plaza, CP#1756, Hauppauge, Town of Islip* to include developing a master plan for the plaza, refurbishing the existing monument and resetting the granite panels. The Department considers this project a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of NYCRR 617.5 (c), (21) as it involves the planning phase for this project.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Unanimously approved.

- c. *Proposed planning and construction phase to refurbish District Attorney Space, Cohalan Court Complex, CP #1134, Central Islip, Town of Islip.* This project consists of improvements to flooring, electric and computer terminal wiring and the establishment of workstations. The Department considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of NYCRR 617.5 (1) and (2) as this action concerns replacement and rehabilitation involving no substantial changes to an existing structure, or reconstruction of a structure or facility in kind.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Mr. Mallomo. Unanimously approved.

- d. *Proposed planning phase for the construction and reconstruction of Correctional Facilities, CP #3035, Town of Riverhead.* The project consists of the construction of a 10,752 square foot addition to the existing administrative area of the Sheriff's Office in Riverhead to provide necessary office space. There will be cosmetic changes to the existing administrative space including the installation of a 750 square foot all metal garage/warehouse type prefabricated building to provide storage for equipment in the Vehicle Maintenance area of the complex. The Department considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of NYCRR 617.5 (c), (21) as it involves the planning phase of this project. It was noted that Mr. Borkowski is to return with the necessary final project plan. The Department considers this project a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of NYCRR 617.5 (c), (21) as it involves the planning phase of this project.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Mr. Mallomo. Unanimously approved.

- e. *Chairperson Elkowitz read correspondence from Environmental Analyst Nicholas Gibbons of the Parks Department, into the record. Proposed planning steps for noise and lead mitigation at the trap and skeet shooting facility, Southaven County Park, Yaphank, Town of Brookhaven.* Parks is seeking to develop a plan to address noise pollution and lead contamination at the trap and skeet facility located within Southaven County Park. When completed, a representative from the Parks Department will return to the Council with the proposal for the facility. The Department considers this to be a Type II Action under SEQRA Title 6 NYCRR Park 617.5 (c), (18). Item 21, Planning and Studies, needs to be added to this recommendation. Clean-up will not be required if the site's use is to be continued as a skeet range.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Unanimously approved.

- f. *Proposed Planning and Construction phase of Improvements to the County Correctional Facility, C-141, CP #3014, Town of Riverhead.* The project will consist of the updating, upgrading and repair of the Com-Tech Gate Control System, updating 240 locking mechanisms, replacement of all flooring in the Medium Security portion of the Correctional Facility and the replacement of 5% of the prisoner's toilets. The Department considers this a Type II action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of NYCRR 617.5 (1) and (2) as the action concerns replacement and rehabilitation involving no substantial changes to an existing structure, or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Unanimously approved.

Chairperson Elkowitz abstained from the next three items as she represents AT&T Wireless and WirelessT Mobile. The remainder of the meeting was turned over to Vice Chair Lawrence Swanson.

2. *Proposed Wireless T-Mobile to Lease Space at S.C. Highway Maintenance Yard, Commack, Town of Smithtown.* William Parker of R.C. Petersen Associates presented an overview. This is an existing facility located in Commack, 130 feet in height, created approximately 12 years ago. Crown Castle International, Inc. operates said facility as a tenant of Suffolk County. There is an insufficient amount of leased ground space from the County to support any other carrier. Vice Chairman Swanson read a letter from CEQ Member Michael Kaufman (absent from said meeting), indicated that he has no objections to the proposal of additional equipment on the existing towers. Mr. Swanson noted that this is not a Type II activity and is Unlisted. Mr. Mallamo questioned the existing fencing and lease. Mr. Finkenberg expressed concern with regard to the safety of birds in that they are known to be attracted to such towers.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia to classify this project as an Unlisted Action with a Negative Declaration; opposed by Member Finkenberg. Motion carried.

3. *Proposed Wireless AT & T at Sixth Precinct – Middle Country Road, Coram, Town of Brookhaven.* Ms. Jacqueline Caputi, Attorney for AT & T Wireless, gave a presentation. Ms. Caputi distributed pictures of how the site will appear, and offered a report and resume that certified that they are within FCC guidelines. An amendment was made by Ms. Caputi within Environmental Assessment Form reading that the equipment will be within the existing compound.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia to classify this project as an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration; opposed by Mr. Finkenberg. Motion carried.

4. *Proposed Wireless AT & T at Mt. Misery Tower, Town of Huntington.* Ms. Caputi presented an overview of the project. The tower is currently 250 feet in height and has numerous other antennas on it. Photographs of the site were distributed. AT & T antennas are to be placed at 150 feet. A health report was also distributed. CEQ Member Joy Squires, of Huntington, had no opposition to the project.

Motion was made to accept staff recommendations by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Opposed by Mr. Finkenberg; motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

2004 CEQ Meeting Calendar: A proposal was made to reschedule the September 15, 2004 meeting to September 22, 2004, due to a holiday. Secretary Kohler distributed a revised schedule. It was agreed, for the time being, future meetings are to be held in the Department of Planning conference room.

A motion was made to pass said changes by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Ms. Manfredonia. Motion carried.

There was a suggestion to meet Michael Deering, Suffolk County Director of Environmental Affairs. An invitation will be extended in the very near future.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A motion to elect Theresa Elkowitz as Chairman and Lawrence Swanson as Vice Chair was made by Ms. Manfredonia, seconded by Mr. Cramer. Unanimously approved.

HISTORIC SERVICES – Director’s Report

Richard Martin of Suffolk County Parks Department was unable to attend.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Linda Di Cola