

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVE LEVY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Theresa Elkowitz
CHAIRPERSON

James Bagg
CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING CONFERENCE ROOM
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2004

TIME: 9:35 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

PRESENT: Voting Members - Theresa Elkowitz, Chairperson; Jack Finkenberg, Adrienne Esposito, Lance Mallamo, Michael Kaufman and Tom Cramer

ABSENT: Jay Schneiderman, Nancy Manfredonia and Vice Chairman Larry Swanson

Staff:

James Bagg, Chief Environmental Analyst
Penny Kohler, Secretary

Departmental Staff:

Suffolk County Executive Office

Adam Santiago, County Executive Assistant

Suffolk County Legislature

Charles Bender, Legislator Aide

Kim Kennedy, Legislator Aide

Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Nick Gibbons, Environmental Analyst

Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Bob Bornholdt, Director Traffic Safety

Kenneth E. Phalen, Architect

Keith Larsen, Architect

Suffolk County Department of Economic Development

Neil Toomb, Intergovernmental Analyst

Conservation Advisory Councils:

Joy Squires, Town of Huntington

Guests:

William D. Lifford, Vice President, Dunn Engineering
Jesus Figueroa, Base Civil Engineer, NYANG

Gerard Gibsa, Vice President, Wiley Engineering
Bob Policastro, Hauppauge Little League
Doug Cohen, President, Hauppauge Youth Organization
Joseph A. Biondo, Hauppauge Football

Chairperson Elkowitz opened the meeting at approximately 9:35 a.m.

MINUTES:

The February 18, 2004 CEQ meeting transcript from the Clerk of the Legislature's Office was not available for review and comment. The March 17th, 2004 CEQ meeting minutes from the CEQ staff was also not available for review and comment. Because it is a Legislative Committee week, the Legislature's court stenographer was not available to take a verbatim transcript of the CEQ meeting. It was noted that Suffolk County Planning Department would be taking the CEQ minutes pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order as set forth in the Council's by-laws. The meeting was tape-recorded which will be kept in the Council's files for future reference, if necessary.

PROJECT REVIEW:

1. *Ratification of Staff Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions laid on the Table – March 23, 2004.*

The Council members reviewed the recommendations of the CEQ staff regarding the March 23, 2004 Legislature introductory resolutions. Mr. Bagg noted that since IR-1345-2004 Creating a County Department of Environment and Energy constitutes an unlisted action, an EAF is required to complete SEQRA.

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

2. *Proposed Use of 110 Acres for Temporary Parking at Gabreski Airport for U.S. Open Golf Tournament, Town of Southampton.*

Mr. Neil Toomb, Intergovernmental Analyst, with the Department of Economic Development, gave a presentation. The action includes the temporary use of approximately 110 acres of land at Gabreski Airport for the parking of approximately 10,000 vehicles for the U.S. Open Golf Tournament from June 14 to June 20, 2004. The EAF indicates only existing paved and grass areas will be used. The DPW Transportation Division has developed a traffic plan to mitigate impacts and porta lavs will be used. The Council considers the proposal to be a Type I action under the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR Part 617.4(b)(6)(iii) as this proposal involves the parking of more than 1,000 vehicles.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to recommend that the project is a Type I action with a Negative Declaration, seconded by Mr. Mallamo. Unanimously approved.

3. *Proposed Construction of an Aircraft Hangar at Gabreski Airport to Implement 365/24/7 Medivac Services, CP #5723, Town of Southampton.*

A presentation on the proposal was given by Mr. Neil Toomb, Intergovernmental Analyst with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development as well as Mr. William D.

Lifford, Vice President of Dunn Engineering. This project involves construction of an aircraft hangar for the medivac helicopter to implement 365/24/7 medivac services. Approximately .35 acres of woodland will have to be cleared. The project is in conformance with the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan standards within the CGA and FAA requirements. The Council considers the proposal to be an Unlisted action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR.

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

4. *Proposed Construction of a New NYANG Base Entry at Gabreski Airport, Town of Southampton.*

An overview on this project was presented by Mr. Neil Toomb, Intergovernmental Analyst with the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Major Jesus Figueroa, Base Civil Engineer with the New York Air National Guard (NYANG). The project involves relocating the main base entry from CR-31 to a location within the airport by the intersection of Smith and Cook Streets in order to comply with DoD Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection standards. Predominantly existing paved roadways and cleared areas within the airport will be improved. The Council considers the proposal to be an Unlisted action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer, seconded by Mr. Kaufman to recommend this project is an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration. Unanimously approved.

5. *Proposed Revision to Improvements to the Hauppauge Youth Organization Sports Complex Facility, Town of Islip.*

Mr. Keith Larsen, Architect, with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works and Mr. Doug Cohen, President of the Hauppauge Youth Organization, gave a presentation on this project. The revised project involves splitting the original building into two, with the construction of a storage building in the center of the site, construction of a bathroom/concession building adjacent to the parking area, as well as the expansion of the existing parking area to the south property line with fencing. Approximately 10,000 square feet of trees, mainly Black Locust, and underbrush will be removed. Trees adjacent to the road will be retained. DPW will clearly mark the trees that will remain. The Council directed to have the original EAF modified to reflect the changes. The Council considers the proposal to be an Unlisted action under SEQRA in accordance with the provision of Title 6 NYCRR.

A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to recommend that the project is an unlisted action with a Negative Declaration, seconded by Ms. Esposito. Mr. Finkenberg abstained. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. *Revision to proposed improvements and expansion of Indian Island Campground, Town of Riverhead.*

Mr. Gibbons updated the Council on the revisions to the landscaping plan for the Indian

Island campground project. He showed the Council the revised plan including the planting of additional trees which include 22 White Pine, 21 Red Oak and 9 Sweet Gum. The original plan was 212 trees + the additional 52 = revised total 264 trees. Motion by Ms. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Cramer to accept the revised mitigation plan. Motion carried

HISTORIC SERVICES – Director’s Report

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services in the Suffolk County Parks Department reported the latest developments concerning to county’s historic properties. Mr. Kaufman excused himself from the meeting since he is on the Friends of Long Island Heritage Board. Mr. Martin noted that there are problems with the Friends program at Deepwells County Park because the Legislature is reviewing the Friends contract, which hopefully will be approved. The following historic activities at county parks were noted:

- May 1st, 2004 – Suffolk County Light House Day will be held at Cedar Point County Park sponsored by the L.I. Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society and the County Parks Department.
- May 15th, 2004 – Spring Cleanup Day at Sagtikos Manor County Park sponsored by the People to People Student Ambassador Program which is part of the Eisenhower Foundation, the Sagtikos Manor Historic Society and Suffolk County Parks.
- June 6th, 2004 – L.I. Outdoor Conservation Day, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Smither’s property in Hubbard County Park sponsored by Ducks Unlimited and Suffolk County Parks.
- June 27th, 2004 – antique show at Sagtikos Manor sponsored by the Historic Society and Suffolk County Parks.

CAC Concerns

There are no CAC concerns.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:05 a.m.