

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

Gloria Russo
Chairperson
CEQ

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MINUTES

DATE: October 19, 2016
TIME: 9:35 am – 11:30 am
LOCATION: Meadow Croft County Park
299 Middle Road
Sayville, NY 11728

PRESENT:

Gloria Russo, Chair
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair
Frank De Rubeis
Michael Doall
Eva Growney
Constance Kepert
Larry Swanson
Mary Ann Spencer

ABSENT:

Robert Carpenter Jr.
Thomas Gulbransen
Hon. Kara Hahn

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

STAFF:

Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner
John Corral, Senior Planner
Christine DeSalvo, Senior Clerk Typist

GUESTS:

Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality

Camilo Salazar, Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality

Jennifer McGivern, Research Technician, Suffolk County Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Nick Gibbons, Principal Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

Mary Dempsey, Biologist, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Vector Control Division

Ilia Rochlin, Lab Director, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Vector Control Division

Malgorzata Kawalkowski, Entomologist, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Vector Control Division

Moses Cucura, Entomologist, Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Vector Control Division

Kris Almskog, VP, P.W. Grosser Consulting

Eva Greguski, Legislative Aide, Legislator Robert Calarco

Janet Garvey, Associate Director, New York State Center for Water Quality Technology

Minutes:

Minutes for the September 21, 2016, CEQ minutes were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to approve the September 21, 2016 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. Mr. Swanson and Ms. Kepert abstained. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

None

Public Portion:

None

Historic Trust Docket:

Director's Report:

Mr. Martin updated the Council on the following:

- Housing Program:
Mr. Martin noted that Suffolk County Parks is continuing to work on the interior renovations at Blydenburgh Cottage in Blydenburgh County Park.

- Custodial Agreements:
There were no new updates on the custodial agreements.

Mr. Martin gave a brief explanation of the Meadow Croft County Park. Mr. Martin explained to the new members that the CEQ is the County Historic Trust and that the Historic Trust reviews all historic restoration work done in the County. Mr. Martin also noted that the Suffolk County Office of Historic Services, which is part of the Parks Department, supervises all the historic properties in Suffolk County. Mr. Martin noted that Meadow Croft is one of the best examples of County Historic properties. Robert Roosevelt the father of John Roosevelt (the first cousin of Theodore Roosevelt) was the original owner of the property. The County purchased Meadow Croft in 1973 mainly for the purpose of maintaining the headwaters of the Browns River. The purchase was before the Office of Historic Services was established in 1980. The Bayport Heritage Association, the local historic society, was then established in 1983 mainly to preserve this historic site. Since 1983, The Bayport Heritage Association has been a partner with the County in restoring this property. The Bayport Heritage Society has a contract with Suffolk County and in addition to the restoration work conducts programs and public tours on the site. The house was restored to its condition in 1910 which was the high point of activity in the home.

Project Review:

Recommended Type I Actions:

A. Proposed Invasive Species Eradication, Canaan Lake, Town of Brookhaven

A presentation regarding the project was given at the meeting by Frank Castelli, Environmental Projects Coordinator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, and Kris Almskog, Vice President, P.W. Grosser Consulting. The proposed project involves a phased approach to reduce the amount of invasive species in the Canaan Lake and to improve the Lake's overall water quality. Canaan Lake is a man-made 21 acre lake in North Patchogue that has been significantly impacted with invasive aquatic species which are severely hampering the natural habitat and recreation uses of the lake. The phased project approach includes the installation of a new culvert with an adjustable sluice gate which will allow for slow and controlled seasonal drawdown event(s) (anticipated to occur in the fall and winter months over an approximately two year period) of Canaan Lake. The Lake drawdown will be conducted to expose and potentially kill off some of the aquatic species and allow for the dry excavation and offsite disposal of some of the exposed built-up organic sediment. After the excavation of the dry sediments the sluice gate will be gradually raised to allow for the slow and controlled refilling of Canaan Lake back to its normal water level. Depending on lake conditions and excavation results the project may include more than one lake drawdown and excavation event.

As part of its project review the CEQ also discussed the following topics:

- The importance of the project sponsors taking core sampling to determine the deposition rate in the lake. Mr. Swanson also pointed out some specific sampling techniques that can be utilized to determine the rate of deposition.
- The importance of stormwater management on the adjacent roadways to reduce the amount of runoff/sediments entering the lake. It was noted that the Town is working on reducing non-point source runoff into the lake but the CEQ recommended that the County should continue to work with the Town on stormwater management particularly for the Town roadways adjacent to the lake.
- The importance of protecting the freshwater wetlands located on County land to the northwest of Cannan Lake.
- The importance of protecting the fish and other wildlife that may be affected by the project.
- The importance of sampling the sediment removed from Cannan Lake bottom prior to removal.

After the extended discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to recommend classification of the proposed project as a Type I Action with a Negative Declaration. The motion included that the project sponsor would obtain any required freshwater wetlands permits as well as complete any required NYSDEC and/or Suffolk County Park Department wetland mitigation/restoration plans and wildlife management plans. The motion also included that all excavated materials will be sampled and disposed of in accordance with NYSDEC requirements. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

Project Review:

Recommended Type II Actions:

A. Vector Control 2017 Annual Plan of Work

A presentation regarding the proposal was given at the meeting by Ilia Rochlin, Laboratory Director with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Division of Vector Control. The proposed action involves the implementation of the 2017 Vector Control Annual Plan of Work for the County's ongoing mosquito management program. It was discussed that the 2017 Annual Plan of Work is consistent with the Suffolk County Vector Control and Wetlands Management Long Term Plan and State Environmental Quality Review Act Findings Statement for the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Swanson asked about the Zika Virus and whether it could affect Long Island and how the County's program could handle the virus. It was noted that it is

unlikely to affect Long Island due to the fact that the mosquitos that typically transmit Zika are not found on Long Island. It was noted that if Zika was detected in mosquitos in Suffolk County the County would use the existing mosquito control techniques to combat any Zika infected mosquitos.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Kaufman that the 2017 Annual Plan of work was in conformance with the GEIS for the Suffolk County Vector Control and Wetlands Management Long Term Plan and therefore the proposed project is a Type II action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table October 5, 2016.

Mr. Corral noted that the staff's SEQRA recommendations are listed on the October 5, 2016 LADS reports.

Mr. Kaufman made a motion to accept staff recommendations for the October 5, 2016 Legislative Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Growney. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Jennifer Garvey, Associate Director for New York State Center for Water Quality addressed the Council regarding a project regarding wastewater upgrade projects at Suffolk County Parks. Ms. Russo informed Ms. Garvey that she could contact CEQ staff and they would assist her in following protocol for submitting projects to the CEQ.

CAC Concerns:

None

Meeting Adjourned