

Suffolk County Legislature

Marine Industry & Revitalization Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2019

Committee Members Present: *Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory, Vincent Biondo, Eric Kreuter, Lisa Calla, Craig Horowitz, Diane LaChapelle, Vinny Pesce, August Ruckdeschel, William Hillman, Kristen Jarnagin, Eric Kreuter.*

Committee Members Absent: *Legislator Al Krupski, Tom Kehoe, Michael Jensen, Kim Lamiroult, Danielle Stango-Torre, Legislator Susan A. Berland, Dr. Shaun McKay, Debra Montaruli, Legislator Bridget Fleming, Chris Pickerell, David Wicks.*

Staff Members Present: *Lora Gellerstein, Christina DeLisi, Bob Fonti, Nancy Jacobsen, Derek Stein, Marissa Lehner, Clay Wade.*

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by *Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory.*

Review and Approve Minutes from April 17th and May 15th Meetings

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory asked for a motion to approve the April 17th and May 15th Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by August Ruckdeschel, seconded by Kristen Jarnagin. Eric Kreuter stated that the Minutes needed to be changed since did not attend the May 15th meeting. With that change, the Minutes were approved unanimously.

CPF Funding Update

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory asked August Ruckdeschel to provide an update on CPF funding. August Ruckdeschel replied that he had not heard anything on it, and that the issue went to Legislator Fleming and Assemblyman Fred Thiele's offices. Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory noted that no one from Legislator Fleming's Office could attend the meeting. August Ruckdeschel stated that he assumed the funding had not gotten anywhere, as it was the last day of the State legislative session. Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory elaborated that the goal is to expand CPF funding usage. August Ruckdeschel stated that this would be for the east end towns to use to preserve the working waterfront through commercial fishing and aquaculture. He noted that it has been used in the past for shellfish aquaculture, due to its similarities to agriculture. August Ruckdeschel also stated that Assemblyman Thiele is looking to make it clearer regarding commercial fishing.

Environmental Subcommittee Discussion

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory then asked about the Environmental Subcommittee. Vinny Pesce replied that the committee met on June 11th, 2019 for 1.5 hours. Vinny Pesce stated that Mark Woolley, a representative from Congressman Lee Zeldin's office, has been very engaged in dredging issues and expanding the window for dredging to be done. Vinny Pesce noted that Legislator Al Krupski has already had meetings regarding the dredging window and mentioned the possibility of the other subcommittee Chairs sitting in on a meeting as well. Vinny Pesce also stated that AMI had been contacted by

Congressman Lee Zeldin's office and that a meeting regarding dredging was to be set up going forward. Bill Hillman then brought up the 1985 Dredging Report, titled "The Analysis of Dredging and Soil Disposal," as a source that could be revisited and modernized. Bill Hillman also noted that the report includes both past dredging projects and how they were handled as well as maps and areas of public interest. Finally, Vinny Pesce concluded that the subcommittee is looking to reach out to Incorporated Villages to work with them going forward.

Education & Workforce Development Subcommittee Discussion

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory asked for an update on the Education & Workforce Development Subcommittee. Greg Horowitz stated that their last meeting was June 3rd, 2019 and that a big focus of the meeting was setting up a subcommittee of the subcommittee with the goal of getting students interested in marine industry. He then went on to note that there will be a Marine Industry Career Exploration Event at the One Stop Employment Center in August, with the hopes of running it every few months. Greg Horowitz also noted that marine repair classes at Eastern and Western Suffolk BOCES are receiving federal funding, and that on the job training funds are also being made available. Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory asked how the job training funds work. Diane LaChapelle replied that the funds go towards different training that is undertaken and is awarded based on whether the employer has more or less than 10 employees. Greg Horowitz then concluded by stating that Jay Fund, President of Hunter Business School, is being added to the subcommittee.

Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing Subcommittee Discussion

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory then asked for an update on the Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing Subcommittee. Derek Stein reported that the subcommittee had met a month ago and had discussed the CPF funding. August Ruckdeschel added that the subcommittee had discussed the February public hearings to make sure there was nothing that had to be done immediately. He noted that the Long Island Oyster Growers Association had been at the public hearings and had sent a letter. He stated that some of their concerns were minimized by the new shellfish permit that was passed by the legislature this spring. August Ruckdeschel also noted that some breweries had reached out about oyster shuckings. He also mentioned Tom Kehoe's new project, which may assist in eliminating shellfish advertising concerns. August Ruckdeschel stated that Tom Kehoe is currently in the process of establishing a non-profit called, "I Love NY Seafood," which is meant to promote seafood grown in New York. August Ruckdeschel noted that promotion and education will likely take place through regional calendars of events in newspapers, written publications, speakers and classroom promotions. He also mentioned it will serve as an advocacy organization as well.

Derek Stein added that he reached out to Bonnie Brady about attending a Marine Industry & Revitalization Advisory Council meeting or an Aquaculture & Commercial Fishing Subcommittee meeting to discuss windfarms and CPF funding. He also mentioned that the State is in its last day of the legislative session and noted that the CPF funding may be pushed back to next year.

Old Business

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory asked if there was any old business. None was stated.

New Business

Kristen Jarnigan stated that the Economic Development Subcommittee would be meeting on June 24th, 2019. Derek Stein mentioned an article that Legislator Al Krupski had sent regarding an ongoing program with marine technology in the Greenport School District. Bill Hillman stated that the original dredging report had been done by the Planning Department and requested that Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory reach out to them about working on the modernization. He also mentioned that the Department of Public Works might be involved. Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory stated that he would look into attending the next Environmental Subcommittee Meeting to look into possible legislation.

There being no other business, Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marissa Lehner