

Marine Industry Revitalization Advisory Council

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Present: *Presiding Officer Robert Calarco, Legislator Susan A. Berland, August Ruckdeschel, Chris Pickerell, Kimberly Lamiroult, Diane LaChapelle, Tom Kehoe, Michael Jensen, Eric Kreuter, Eric Johansson, William Hillman, Vincent Biondo, Imran Ansari.*

Staff members present: *John Stype, Bob Fonti, Derek Stein, Lora Gellerstein, Christina DeLisi*

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Presiding Officer Robert Calarco.

Welcome & Introductions:

Presiding Officer Calarco asked for the members of the Task Force to introduce themselves and state whichever industries they are representing.

Reviewing outstanding issues & topics:

Offshore Wind & Cabling Subcommittee

Presiding Officer Calarco explained that there was an Offshore Wind & Cabling Subcommittee put together at the last meeting. Chris Pickerell began by explaining the Subcommittee consisted of Eric Johansson, Tom Kehoe and himself, and had put together an extensive 3 to 4-page letter on the topic. He noted Derek Stein suggested shrinking the letter down, and there is a new version of the letter that is about 2 ½ pages long. Tom Kehoe explained that he felt it was very detailed but was well written. Presiding Officer Calarco replied that the letter had been circulated to the whole Advisory Council and asked for members to provide comments before tomorrow in order for the letter to be completed next week. Chris Pickerell stated he would hold up on his revision until he hears back from the Advisory Council and get the letter out next week before his vacation. Presiding Officer Calarco agreed, Chris Pickerell asked if they could meet briefly after the Advisory Council meeting today.

Eric Johansson asked if the members of the Task Force were familiar with the recent deal made between the Town of East Hampton and Orsted and if it would cost County residents or residents of Wainscot directly. Presiding Officer Calarco replied that he was not sure and asked if he meant a host benefits package to the Town. Eric Johansson replied that he thought it was, and wondered what the cost was and if it would be pushed to homeowners, how would it work out. Derek Stein replied that \$29 million will be going to the Town of East Hampton, and will be used for environmental protective measures, roadways and any rehabilitation from installation of cables. Presiding Officer Calarco replied that he thinks it is something that would ultimately be passed down and built into their rate plan, similar to what happened with the Caithness Power Plant host benefit packages were paid to the local municipalities around where the plant was built. Chris Pickerell replied that his staff is working to put together a proposal for a

research project regarding the cabling project. Derek Stein added that the deal is for 25 years and will consist of Orsted paying the Town two payments of \$1.5 million and \$850,000 (+2%) annually for 25 years and Orsted will also cover the costs of connecting to the LIPA substation that is located right next to the LIRR tracks in Wainscott. Tom Kehoe replied that he notes they will have to come ashore somewhere, and the Wainscott site is supposed to be the first connection. Presiding Officer Calarco agreed, and noted another shore site has been proposed in Patchogue.

Suffolk County Aquaculture Lease Program 10 Year Review:

Presiding Officer Calarco noted the SCALP program has been meeting for the past year to review the program after 10 years. August Ruckdeschel said it had it's last meeting yesterday, and had a number of proposals to improve the permit process and to expand the board in order to make it more representative including representatives of the shellfish aquaculture industry and recreational boating. Changes are made to the rate structures as well. In addition, there was a significant reduction in the acreage available compared to the current map. He noted the new SCALP GIS map program has layers for navigation routes, floating gear and sailing routes amongst other layers made to eliminate as many user conflicts as possible while retaining a usable platform for shellfish aquaculture use, he noted that the last CEQ meeting for the SCALP 10 year review will be held on October 21st, and that after that the SCALP 10 Year Review's final recommendations will come forward to be approved by the Legislature later in the year. Presiding Officer Calarco asked for the Council to write a letter of support for the Aquaculture Program and suggested putting together a small subcommittee to put that together. Tom Kehoe, Chris Pickerell, August Ruckdeschel and Vincent Pesce agreed to participate in the Subcommittee. Tom Kehoe stated he was on the committee to develop SCALP and suggested if members of the Advisory Council come forward to speak on it before the Legislature.

Educational Programs:

Presiding Officer Calarco asked Eric Johansson and Craig Horowitz to discuss educational programs. Craig Horowitz replied they have partnerships with Western and Eastern Suffolk BOCES as they have adjusted their schedules based on the pandemic, but they are looking to have classes for individuals looking to train in marine engine repair, he asked if Eric Krueter would be open to having some trainings either virtually or in person. Eric Kreuter replied he would, and while they are not currently doing trainings at BOCES, the program at Kingsborough Community College is ongoing this fall, they have 9 apprentices in the program, 5 of whom are from Suffolk County. He noted the more relationships are built in Suffolk County the better the industry will be in the future. Irene Rios noted she is on her first meeting as the representative of SCCC and she suggested that we should look to have other staff from the College at future meetings. Eric Krueter noted they have articulation agreements with BOCES but not yet with SCCC. Irene Rios noted that she feels SCCC could help fill those opportunities. Presiding Officer Calarco noted the College is looking to build out an auto repair center, so one option would be to have capabilities to train students on outboard engines. Irene Rios replied that is correct, and they had just opened up their auto tech program and they hope to build out their program, as

they are one of the few Community Colleges doing extraordinarily well during the pandemic with enrollment. She also noted they are working on developing an offshore wind program as well. Eric Johansson added that his school has many of these programs in place, but also receives a number of students from Suffolk County. SUNY Maritime offers bachelorette programs in Marine Tech, including full certification and assisted engineer certification which is a key certification that takes many years to get. He said he thinks Kingsborough College has a small program but does not have SCTW approval. Irene Rios said she would invite Paul Beaudin and Lou Petrizzo into future meetings of the Advisory Council. Irene asked if we should form a subcommittee, Derek Stein added that there is already an Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee that could hold future meetings.

August Ruckdeschel presented the schedule from last night's SCALP 10 Year Review Program meeting, which outlines that CEQ SEQRA review would be on October 21, 2020, SCALP legislation would be introduced on November 12, 2020 and would meet at the Environment, Parks & Agriculture Committee meeting on November 20, 2020. December 1, 2020 would have the Public Hearing, and the 7th would be the EPA Committee with a possible adoption date by December 15, 2020. Presiding Officer Calarco noted to get it to Public Hearing on December 1, 2020 it would have to be introduced on November 4th.

Vinny Pesce noted that they had previously met to discuss dredging in the Advisory Council, and thanked the Presiding Officer for his support of a dredging capital project. Presiding Officer Calarco thanked him and noted the project would allow for dredging to take place in Mt. Sinai Harbor and said that he would have Derek set up a meeting of the environmental subcommittee to discuss dredging.

Presiding Officer Calarco stated that the next meeting of the Advisory Council will be in December, and with no other business, Presiding Officer Calarco adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.