

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

Tom Gulbransen
Chairperson
CEQ

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: April 13, 2022
TIME: 9:35 AM – 10:57 AM
LOCATION: ZOOM Video Conference

PRESENT:

Thomas Gulbransen, Chair
Michael Kaufman, Vice Chair
Rob Carpenter Jr
Frank De Rubeis
Mark Haubner
Kaetlyn Jackson
Hon. Anthony Piccirillo
Mary Ann Spencer
Herbert Strobel

ABSENT:

Anthony Graves
Constance Kepert

CAC REPRESENTATIVES:

None

STAFF:

Sarah Lansdale, Director of Planning
Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner
John Corral, Environmental Projects Coordinator
Christine DeSalvo, Principal Office Assistant

GUESTS:

Hon. Leslie Kennedy, Suffolk County Legislator, District 12
Hon. Al Krupski, Suffolk County Legislator, District 1
Frank Castelli, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality
Camilo Salazar, Senior Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality
Michael Iorio, Environmental Technician, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Water Quality
August Ruckdeschel, Farmlands Administrator, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Andrew Amakawa, Senior Planner, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Melissa Kangas, Planner, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Jade Killean, Environmental Planner, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Michael Brown, Land Management Specialist VI, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning, Division of Planning and Environment
Jennifer Kohn, Assistant County Attorney, Suffolk County Department of Law
Catherine Stark, Legislative Aide, Suffolk County Legislator Hon. Krupski, District 1
Gwynn Schroeder, Legislative Aide, Suffolk County Legislator Hon. Krupski, District 1
Carolyn Sukowski, Water Quality Program Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension Suffolk County
Emerson Hasbrouck, Marine Program Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension Suffolk County
Lorne Brousseau, Water Quality Program Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension Suffolk County
Jason Smagin, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services, Suffolk County Departments of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Nick Gibbons, Chief Environmental Analyst, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Erik Bergey, Senior Civil Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works
Elizabeth Torres, Senior Civil Engineer, Suffolk County Department of Public Works

CEQ Chair Tom Gulbransen read the following opening Meeting statement:

“This is the regularly scheduled CEQ meeting for April 13, 2022 meeting of the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality and for the record we do have a quorum present.

Instead of a public meeting open for the public to attend in person, members of the public may listen to or log into the video conference. This meeting and its notice follow the Open Meetings Law as amended by Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021, signed into law by Governor Hochul on 9/2/2021, which law, in part, authorizes County committees and bodies to hold meetings remotely via videoconferencing or teleconferencing, provided the public has the ability to view or listen

to the meeting and the meetings are recorded and later transcribed. In this instance, we will be using ZOOM and will be recording the entirety of the meeting.

Additionally, we will be following the voting protocol used by the Suffolk County Legislature at its March 17, 2020 meeting. All voting on Board Actions and Resolutions will be done via a roll call and we ask that all Board Members clearly state their name when making a motion and clearly state their vote when their name is called.”

Minutes:

March 9, 2022 Meeting Summary

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. De Rubeis to approve the March 9, 2022 CEQ minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

John Corral, staff to the CEQ, noted that correspondence was received by the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) after the March CEQ meeting. This correspondence was in regards to the project the CEQ reviewed in March, titled the Proposed Acquisition of Parcels of Land for the Construction of a Community Hub in the Hamlet of Brentwood. Mr. Corral informed the CEQ, that this March 14, 2022 correspondence letter stated that SHPO had reviewed the proposed action and found that it will have no impact on any historic resources.

Mr. Corral also noted that correspondence was also received from Desiree Benn from the Coindre Hall Park Community. Mr. Corral noted that this correspondence was provided as a follow up to the public comments Ms. Benn provided at the March CEQ meeting. This correspondence included information related to why Ms. Benn’s believes that Historic Agricultural Lands should be added as one of the Suffolk County Historic Trust Preservation Categories for the Coindre Hall property.

Tom Gulbransen, Chair of the CEQ, also noted that he had received correspondence from Ms. Benn and also had a follow-up conversation with Ms. Benn regarding the Coindre Hall property. Mr. Gulbransen noted that during the conversation, Ms. Benn described to him some of the actions that have taken place at Coindre Hall. Mr. Gulbransen said that he had informed Ms. Benn that she is always welcome to provide her SEQR comments to CEQ on projects the CEQ has previously reviewed or projects that are under consideration by the CEQ.

Public Portion:

None

Historic Trust Docket:

Director’s Report:

Richard Martin, Director of Historic Services with Suffolk County Parks, noted

that there are currently four Park's housing vacancies. The two historic properties vacancies include the cottage at Meadow Croft, in Sayville and a cottage at Blydenburgh Historic District located on the north side of the Park. The two Parks non-historic properties vacancies include a house on the north side of Blydenburgh Park and a house located on the Indian Island Golf Course. Mr. Martin, noted that with these four vacancies the Parks Commissioner is planning to schedule a Housing Committee meeting. Mary Ann Spencer, as the Chair of the Historic Trust Committee, sits on this Housing Committee. This meeting is being scheduled so that the Housing Committee members can consider and comment on the appraisals for these vacancies and also provide opinions on other issues related to these housing properties. Mr. Martin noted that the Housing Committee meeting will be scheduled in the next two months and will take place via ZOOM.

Updates on Historic Trust Custodial Agreements

Mr. Martin, informed the CEQ that there are no new updates with regards to custodial agreements.

Mr. Martin then provided information for the CEQ members on the seven Suffolk County Legislative Introductory Resolutions that are on the March 8, 2022 and March 29, 2022 LADS Reports. These resolutions included: IR 1159-2022 – relating to appropriating funds for renovations at the Long Island Maritime Museum; IR 1167-2022 – related to appropriating funds in connection with the Historic Restoration and Preservation Funds; IR 1167-2022 – related to appropriating funds in connection with improvements to the Vanderbilt Museum; IR 1272-2022 – related to appropriating funds in connection with waterproofing, roof and drainage at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum; IR 1273-2022 appropriating funds in connection in connection with upgrades to the HVAC system at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and IR 1293-2022 related to appropriating funds in connection with Improvements to Normandy Manor.

Project Review:

Recommendations for LADS Report:

Recommendations for Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 8, 2022 and March 29, 2022

After a brief discussion on the March 8, 2022 LADS Report, Mr. Kaufman made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 8, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeRubeis. Mr. Haubner recused from IR 1151-2022. Motion carried.

After a brief discussion on the March 29, 2022 LADS Report, Mr. De Rubeis made a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Legislative Resolutions Laid on the Table March 29, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program Annual Report 2022

A presentation was given by Emerson Hasbrouck, Marine Program Director, with Cornell Cooperative Extension on the Suffolk County Stormwater Management Program. Mr. Hasbrouck's presentation consisted of a power point presentation on the efforts and results of the Stormwater Management Program. The annual report can be found online at www.SuffolkStormwater.com

2022 CEQ Agricultural District Review Preparation

It was noted at the start of this Other Business Item that the CEQ is planning to go into Executive Session to discuss this Business Item – The 2022 CEQ Agricultural District Review Preparation. It was stated that the CEQ will then come out of Executive Session and finish the meeting but that there is no anticipated discussion or CEQ actions to be taken related to the final item on the CEQ Agenda (CAC Concerns). Pursuant to Executive Session protocol and on advice from CEQ Counsel, the Executive Session will not be recorded. In addition, only Suffolk County Staff, CEQ Members and Members of the Legislature may attend this Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Kaufman to go into Executive Session to discuss 2022 CEQ Agricultural District Review Preparation. The Executive Session motion was made so that the CEQ can discuss Attorney matters that are subject to Attorney- Client privilege and that could possibly be related to litigation. The motion was seconded by Mr. De Rubeis. Motion carried.

After the Executive Session, the CEQ came back out of the meeting and concluded the meeting. It was discussed that after the Suffolk County Legislature finishes its review of this year's Agricultural District inclusion applications, the CEQ will consider recommending to the Suffolk County Legislature the use of the Agriculture and Markets recently developed EAF. New York State Ag and Markets recently developed an EAF which can be adopted by Counties and then to conduct their SEQRA reviews of Ag District inclusion applications.

CAC Concerns:

None

The CEQ adjourned the Meeting