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LAKE RONKONKOMA

ADVISORY TASK FORCE

William Rogers Legislative Building  
Conference Room

725 Veterans Memorial Highway  
Smithtown, New York

March 24, 2010  
7:00 p.m.

REPORTED BY:

THERESA PAPE, Court Reporter/Notary Public

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2 P R E S E N T :

3 LEGISLATOR JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.  
12th Legislative District

4 LEGISLATOR TOM CILMI  
5 10th Legislative District

6 VERONICA KING, Town of Brookhaven

7 GREG DAWSON, Town of Islip

8 KEVIN J. MALLOY, Town Councilman  
Town of Smithtown

9 KATHY ALBRECHT, the office of  
10 Assemblyman Michael Fitzpatrick

11 PATTY RYAN, the office of  
12 Assemblywoman Ginny Fields

13 KEVIN McEVADDY, the office of  
14 Assemblywoman Ginny Fields

15 GEORGE SCHRAMM  
16 Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization

17 DAWN HOPKINS  
18 Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization

19 KEVIN KANAKOS  
20 Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization

21 KEVIN L. HYMS, Secretary  
22 Chamber of Commerce of the Greater  
23 Ronkonkomas

24 ALI NAZIR, C.O.S. Legislative Office of  
25 John M. Kennedy, Jr.

LESLIE KENNEDY, Legislative Aide to  
John M. Kennedy, Jr.

CHART GUTHRIE, New York State DEC

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P R E S E N T (Continued):

ROB SCHURZ, the office of  
Bryan X. Foley

JESSICA PROIOS, Chief Aide  
Legislator Tom Muratore, 4th District

SHANA BRAFF, Sachem Patch

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 4

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay. So why  
3 don't we kick -- why don't we convene  
4 and start.

5 My name is John Kennedy. I'm the  
6 Legislator from the 12th Legislative  
7 District, one of the chairs on the  
8 resolution to reactivate the  
9 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force.

10 MS. ALBRECHT: I'm Kathy Albrecht.  
11 I'm with the office of Assemblyman  
12 Michael Fitzpatrick.

13 MS. KENNEDY: Leslie Kennedy, with  
14 Legislator Kennedy.

15 COUNCILMAN MALLOY: Kevin Malloy.  
16 Town Councilman, Smithtown.

17 MR. SCHRAMM: George Schramm. I'm  
18 the President of the Lake Ronkonkoma  
19 Civic.

20 MS. HOPKINS: Dawn Hopkins.  
21 Vice President of the Lake Ronkonkoma  
22 Civic.

23 MR. KANAKOS: Kevin Kanakos. I'm  
24 a member of the Lake Ronkonkoma Civic,  
25 and a member of the Ronkonkoma Chamber

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 5

2 of Commerce.

3 MS. KENNEDY: And one of the  
4 authors of the plan.

5 MR. HYMS: I'm Kevin Hyms.  
6 Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of  
7 the Greater Ronkonkomas.

8 MS. PROIOS: Jessica Proios from  
9 Legislator Tom Muratore.

10 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Tom Cilmi.  
11 Legislator from the 10th Legislative  
12 District.

13 MR. McEVADDY: Kevin McEvaddy from  
14 Assemblywoman Ginny Fields' office.

15 MS. RYAN: Patty Ryan from  
16 Assemblywoman Fields' office.

17 MR. SCHURZ: Robert Schurz from  
18 Senator Bryan Foley's office.

19 MS. BRAFF: Shana Braff, here from  
20 Sachem Patch.

21 MR. GUTHRIE: I'm Chart Guthrie,  
22 Regional Fisheries Manager with the  
23 Department of Environmental  
24 Conservation.

25 MR. DAWSON: Greg Dawson

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 6  
2 representing the Town of Islip.  
3 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.  
4 Well, we are here gathered for our  
5 first meeting of the Lake Ronkonkoma  
6 Advisory Task Force.  
7 I want to thank Legislator Cilmi  
8 and Legislator Muratore for joining with  
9 me in filing and passing the resolution  
10 that reconvened this group. We did so  
11 with the intention of really trying to  
12 reactivate many of the stakeholders  
13 around the lake, in their various  
14 capacities, and -- with the hope of  
15 trying to put together an agenda of  
16 items that we could move forward to  
17 implement.  
18 The Advisory Task Force has been  
19 the impetus for a variety of different  
20 things that have occurred over the last  
21 15 or 20 years. And, again, I -- I know  
22 many people around this table know it  
23 already. We have capital project plans  
24 that go back to the 1980 -- Capital  
25 Project 5018, which was a fairly

2 ambitious capital project. It addressed  
3 groundwater issues in the area. We've  
4 had tremendous efforts with storm water  
5 run off diversion, improvement. A real  
6 concerted effort to bring back or to  
7 encourage the fish and foal population  
8 with the lake. An effort to try to  
9 promote, you know, the recreational use  
10 and the entertainment value with the  
11 lake. And we've made progress.

12 We still have many things left to  
13 do, I think. You know, we still have a  
14 hulk and eye sore sitting there in the  
15 form of the Bavarian Inn. And we did  
16 get some status of it today. I'm hoping  
17 that through the work with this task  
18 force, we're going to be able to get  
19 some momentum towards acquisition and  
20 inclusion in our park -- our county  
21 park.

22 We have the vexing issue with the  
23 water quality. You know, it -- it  
24 improves to the point where it's okay  
25 for swimming in some areas, but it seems

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 8

2 that it's very persistent, you know,  
3 with some other areas. And I don't know  
4 whether it's an issue with hydrology or  
5 what it is, but obviously we'd like to  
6 be able to see that improve as well.

7 But, again, this is not so much  
8 about something where we at the  
9 legislature talk as much as we listen  
10 and try to help to, you know, cobble  
11 together a coherent agenda and then do  
12 the things that we can do, either  
13 directly at the county level or work  
14 with our state counterparts to either  
15 get the legislation passed that we need,  
16 you know, look for the funding, try  
17 to -- try to take the concerted effort.

18 So why don't we hear first, if we  
19 can, from our state representatives  
20 about what the significance of this  
21 legislation is that just got passed, and  
22 maybe that'll set the tone. Dawn can  
23 tell us a little bit about the  
24 Department of State's programs, and  
25 maybe we can go from there.

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1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 9

2 MS. RYAN: Well, the -- the  
3 significance is being put on the inland  
4 waterways is --

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Hold on a  
6 second, she needs to --

7 THE REPORTER: I need to know who  
8 you are.

9 MS. RYAN: Oh, okay. Sorry. Patty  
10 Ryan.

11 The significance of being put on  
12 the inland waterways list is that you  
13 have water revitalization funding  
14 available to you. And, basically,  
15 that's the starting point to getting it.  
16 You have to be on this list to be  
17 eligible for water revitalization.  
18 Which, you know, Lake Ronkonkoma, I  
19 think, is such a great asset. And I --  
20 I grew up there. We don't -- we don't  
21 really use that. So --

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Thank you,  
23 Patty, I appreciate that.

24 So the bill is significant in that  
25 the lake is now included in that

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 10

2 inventory of water bodies that are  
3 recognized under the New York State  
4 Department of State Program.

5 And again, thanks to Senator  
6 Foley's office and Assemblywoman Fields,  
7 Assemblyman Fitzpatrick's office for  
8 their support, the governor signed the  
9 bill, and I think we had our bill  
10 signing ceremony last Friday.

11 So now we're included as a water  
12 body in that program.

13 Dawn, maybe you can tell us.  
14 You've done a tremendous amount of  
15 research on this.

16 What does that mean for us?

17 MS. HOPKINS: Well, as she says, it  
18 makes us eligible for the local  
19 revitalization waterfront program, or  
20 the LRWP, and that's a program that  
21 provides for a locally developed plan  
22 and programmed to implement  
23 revitalization.

24 Participation in this program  
25 allows us access to the New York State

2 Environmental Protection fund monies,  
3 via a grant.

4 It also provides us with technical  
5 support from the Department of State,  
6 particularly the Division of Coastal  
7 Resources. And I've been working with  
8 Dennis Mildner who is the supervisor of  
9 the Long Island Unit for the Coastal  
10 Department -- Division, I should say.

11 It also gives us access to some  
12 federal monies out of the New York --  
13 I'm sorry, the United States  
14 Environmental Protection Act.

15 The state grants from the  
16 environmental protection fund, they are  
17 50-50 matching funds, which is  
18 important. The funds historically have  
19 gone to cities, villages, towns,  
20 hamlets, and very recently, counties.  
21 That's -- that's a new part for them.

22 The 2009-2010 awards were for  
23 \$23.8 million to fund approximately  
24 90 projects in the State of New York.  
25 There were 110 applicants for these

2 projects, so the bulk people do get  
3 approved.

4 And I do know that they're looking  
5 for -- what do I want to say --  
6 substantial projects. Apparently, in  
7 the past, some of them have not been all  
8 that good.

9 Just for your information, the  
10 2009-2010 awards for Suffolk -- within  
11 Suffolk, not to Suffolk County but from  
12 within Suffolk, amounted to \$650,152.  
13 And that's a variety of programs from  
14 planning to design feasibility and  
15 construction projects.

16 I think an important thing, also,  
17 is that the grants can be in phases, so  
18 you don't shoot for the whole thing at  
19 once necessarily. It's a very community  
20 involved process. So if you had a  
21 visioning, you could get money for just  
22 that part and come back for another bite  
23 on it. So on a number of these grants,  
24 if you look them up, they'll say, "This  
25 is Phase II."

2 What else?

3 The state does like these grants to  
4 be intermunicipal. And, in fact, on  
5 Long Island, there are a couple of  
6 grants that are kind of intermunicipal.  
7 There is one between Port Jefferson and  
8 the Town of Brookhaven; the Town of  
9 Shelter Island and the Village of  
10 Dering Harbor. The other ones are  
11 predominantly towns only, except for the  
12 Village of Northport.

13 Dennis also referred me to some  
14 lake associations. One is the Lake  
15 George Association, and the other one is  
16 the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal  
17 Organization.

18 I mean, Lake George is certainly a  
19 lot different than us, it's a true  
20 economic engine, so they have a number  
21 of counties as well as towns around  
22 there that had economic reasons to come  
23 together and -- and join forces.

24 Let's see.

25 And just for your information, the

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 14

2 2009-2010 awards were announced  
3 December 31st. So, that's traditionally  
4 when, in fact, the state announces who  
5 gets them.

6 The application for the 2010-2011  
7 cycle: The requests will go to all  
8 eligible parties in late spring or early  
9 summer. And, in fact, the applications  
10 follow a couple of months later.

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: That's great.  
12 As a matter of fact, it is reflective of  
13 a tremendous amount of research, and I  
14 think that's to all our benefit.

15 MR. SCHRAMM: If I may --

16 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes, jump in,  
17 because I -- there's a couple of things  
18 going here. But, I mean, the more  
19 information we put out on the table  
20 first, then maybe we'll be able to talk  
21 a little bit about synthesizing.

22 Sure.

23 George Schramm.

24 MR. SCHRAMM: George Schramm.

25 Dawn and I had reviewed this

2 information previously, and I think one  
3 of the key starting points is -- is the  
4 visioning. I mean, we've -- I'm sure  
5 there are -- we could have a  
6 brainstorming session and come up with a  
7 lot of great ideas about, you know,  
8 where we could go with the lake and what  
9 kind of projects who could have, but  
10 community tie-in is important,  
11 especially since we're dealing with, you  
12 know, at least three municipalities,  
13 four if you include the county.

14 We've had experience doing  
15 visionings and converting them, like we  
16 did in Lake Ronkonkoma from the  
17 Brookhaven side, into actual land use  
18 plans. And moving ahead with that,  
19 we've been quite successful.

20 So I would suggest that one of the  
21 first things that we would apply for is  
22 grant money to actually come -- come up  
23 with a visioning process that would  
24 involve all the communities around the  
25 lake. So that everyone has the ability

2 to participate, put in their two cents,  
3 and hopefully reach a consensus that  
4 would then become a real long-term plan  
5 to develop the lake in various  
6 components as we see fit. Conservation  
7 programs, all those things are possible.  
8 But, you know, it -- I think it works  
9 best if it's a -- it's a bottom-up  
10 effort as opposed to a top-down.

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yeah, I think  
12 that's a good point, George.

13 I mean, I've seen a couple of the  
14 visionings that have gone on in  
15 Brookhaven. Certainly, the Portion Road  
16 visioning was a -- a good process, I  
17 think, a very robust process. Something  
18 where you had tremendous community  
19 outpouring.

20 We have seen some of the visioning  
21 that's gone on with the Ronkonkoma hub.  
22 That also seems to have been, you know,  
23 a good opportunity to get good input.

24 What are your thoughts, Chart?

25 What do you --

2 MR. GUTHRIE: I'm Chart Guthrie  
3 with the DEC.

4 One, I guess, question I have is, I  
5 have only limited experience with this  
6 through some of the other local  
7 waterfront revitalization plans, and  
8 there's -- the Nissequogue River has  
9 one, I know Port Jefferson has them.  
10 And -- and my understanding of this  
11 process is that it's -- it starts as a  
12 planning process where -- and that's  
13 where your visioning comes in. And then  
14 once the plan is developed, that  
15 basically greases the skids for getting  
16 the funding. You -- you've got a  
17 project in your plan, and then that  
18 continues.

19 I don't know what the funding  
20 opportunities are for -- for actually  
21 planning. But --

22 MS. HOPKINS: They are there.

23 MR. GUTHRIE: They are there?

24 MS. HOPKINS: They are there, yes.

25 MR. GUTHRIE: That's -- that's

2 great.

3 MS. HOPKINS: Yep.

4 MR. GUTHRIE: That's great.

5 And I agree that the way to do it  
6 is to bring the community together. I  
7 think that the -- the community should  
8 include, obviously, the residents in the  
9 area, but also the -- the other users of  
10 the lake that might not be local  
11 residents. So fishermen, iceboaters,  
12 potentially, people like that --

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.

14 MR. GUTHRIE: -- need to -- need to  
15 have a voice in the process. Users of  
16 the county parks in the area.

17 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

18 MR. GUTHRIE: But I -- that's --  
19 that's phenomenal news that Ronkonkoma  
20 was included in this to -- to put it in  
21 that process.

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.

23 No, it's -- it's a huge milestone.

24 Tom, how about yourself? I mean,  
25 you know, the section -- your

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 19

2 legislative district as it heads up to  
3 the north there --

4 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- you know,  
6 balance the lake through a fairly  
7 significant portion.

8 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Uh-huh.

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: What do you  
10 think?

11 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Well, you know,  
12 being new to the legislature and being  
13 new to Ronkonkoma really, I'm very  
14 interested in hearing from the members  
15 of the community to see what sorts of  
16 ideas that you have and what sorts of  
17 ideas are applicable with this, you  
18 know, potential funding source that we  
19 have that we can do to revitalize.

20 You know, I -- I really believe  
21 that the lake could be an economic  
22 engine for the area, maybe not to the  
23 extent that Lake George is, but  
24 certainly, you know, in -- in -- you  
25 know, in a smaller community-type

2 capacity.

3 So, you know, we're here, as John  
4 said, really to listen more than -- more  
5 than to speak. And we can facilitate  
6 some of these ideas and sort of put them  
7 together, put all the governmental  
8 people together to get them done.

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yeah.

10 LEGISLATOR CILMI: But the ideas  
11 themselves, I think, really need to come  
12 from those of you who live and work  
13 around the lake, you know?

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: One of the  
15 things -- one of the challenges when you  
16 do a visioning is, is you want to get a  
17 space large enough, but nevertheless,  
18 you know, conveniently situated right  
19 within the community. And I started,  
20 you know, trying to think as we're  
21 sitting here, we've got the -- the  
22 Sachem Library, we have the community  
23 room there at the fire department, but  
24 the Islip Town Beach has really a very  
25 nice community center there.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 21

2 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Yes.

3 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: And I'm  
4 thinking that might be a good physical  
5 location, you know, on your side --

6 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Uh-huh.

7 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- right up  
8 Rosedale there --

9 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Yep.

10 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- that you're  
11 looking at the lake as you look out the  
12 windows. What better place to invite  
13 people from the community to come to  
14 talk about, you know, the whole range of  
15 desires, as far as what they'd like to  
16 see --

17 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- you know,  
19 integrated into the -- the LWRP, then to  
20 kick it off, you know, in a -- in a  
21 location like that. And I'm sure, you  
22 know, we'd have an opportunity -- we'd  
23 reach out to, you know, Supervisor  
24 Nolan, I'm sure he'd be --

25 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Absolutely. I'm

2 sure he'd be more than happy to --

3 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.

4 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- avail the  
5 place to us.

6 MR. DAWSON: Well, I could --  
7 I think I could speak for  
8 Supervisor Nolan. I know we'd have his  
9 total support.

10 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: He's been a  
11 great support. Absolutely, as a matter  
12 of fact, and it's much appreciated.

13 MR. DAWSON: Oh, it's Greg Dawson,  
14 I'm sorry.

15 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Could I ask,  
16 what sorts of activities is the lake  
17 currently or historically, you know,  
18 been used for? I mean, I know there's  
19 fishing, some boating; right?

20 MS. KENNEDY: Kayaking.

21 MR. DAWSON: Canoeing.

22 MR. SCHRAMM: Public beach.

23 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Canoeing.

24 No motor boating; right?

25 MR. SCHRAMM: No motor boating.

2 MR. GUTHRIE: Only electric powered  
3 or --

4 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Okay.

5 MR. GUTHRIE: -- human driven.

6 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right. Okay.

7 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Chart, what  
8 are authorized uses? I mean, from the  
9 DEC's perspective, if there's a  
10 regulatory body, I guess it's  
11 basically -- it's DEC, isn't it?

12 MR. GUTHRIE: Well, yes and no.

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

14 MR. GUTHRIE: DEC's authority  
15 extends to the fish and wildlife  
16 resources, the freshwater wetlands, and  
17 development excavation of -- of cutting  
18 of vegetation in the freshwater  
19 wetlands.

20 The ordinance regarding motors is  
21 actually an Islip Town ordinance. And  
22 Islip Town does own the bottom of the  
23 lake, all the way around. And it's  
24 actually interesting, if you look up  
25 that ordinance, it says, No propellor

2 driven craft. And it was crafted long  
3 before electric trolling motors were  
4 ever thought of.

5 MS. KENNEDY: That's right.

6 MR. GUTHRIE: And then a long time  
7 ago I contacted Islip Town about this  
8 and said, "Is there any chance you could  
9 change that?"

10 My experience has been, just from  
11 anecdotally talking with people, that  
12 the only time anybody's ever had a  
13 problem with an electric trolling motor  
14 on Lake Ronkonkoma is when they have a  
15 boat that also has a gas engine. And  
16 they'll have a gas engine up or covered  
17 in a plastic bag, no gas tanks in the  
18 boat, et cetera. But --

19 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Sure.

20 MR. GUTHRIE: -- some law  
21 enforcement officer will choose to give  
22 the guy a hard time, the guy gives the  
23 officer some lip, and gets a ticket.

24 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: There you go.

25 MR. GUTHRIE: Anyway, the answer I

2 got from Islip was that they could not  
3 change it because it was part of the  
4 deed. That when Islip took ownership of  
5 the bottom of the lake from private  
6 entities sometime, I think, early in the  
7 20th century, that was included in the  
8 deed. And I don't -- anyway, that's the  
9 answer I got; this was 10, 15 years ago  
10 I asked that question.

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

12 MR. DAWSON: I can certainly  
13 check --

14 MR. GUTHRIE: Something --

15 MR. DAWSON: -- on --

16 MR. GUTHRIE: It would be something  
17 worth looking into again.

18 So, anyway, the -- motors is -- is  
19 Islip Town.

20 Suffolk County Parks owns most of  
21 the shoreline. They regulate use.  
22 Parks close at dusk.

23 At my request, Suffolk County Parks  
24 instituted a night fishing permit that  
25 not many people know about. But if you

2 want to fish for walleye at night, you  
3 need to go to Suffolk -- from the shore,  
4 you need to go to Suffolk County Parks  
5 and get their night fishing permit. If  
6 you need a boat, our facility's open  
7 24/7. You can launch your boat from the  
8 DEC facility. You can be out on the  
9 lake all day and night.

10 We have specific rules that apply  
11 to our facility as to what you can and  
12 cannot do. Basically --

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Can I  
14 interrupt you for just one second?

15 That's something that we ought to  
16 find out from Pavacic, I guess, as  
17 far as what the parameters are  
18 associated with the county park fishing  
19 permit. Because I know we drive past  
20 Lake Ronkonkoma County Park from time to  
21 time, and it looks like sometimes it  
22 closed for access. If somebody's got a  
23 permit and they can legally be there to  
24 fish -- I don't know what species of  
25 fish you can fish at night there on the

2 lake, but if they were legally -- it  
3 would be fishing at night, that's  
4 something that we need to be able to  
5 clarify.

6 I mean, I get constituents all the  
7 time that call and complain, talk about  
8 cars hanging out in the Ronkonkoma, you  
9 know, parking lot. So I'm on the phone  
10 with the Fourth Precinct.

11 MR. GUTHRIE: If it's the DEC  
12 facility, you can call our officers,  
13 too, and we'll --

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

15 MR. GUTHRIE: -- come out.

16 But our -- our facility is open  
17 24/7.

18 And with regard to species of fish  
19 that you fish at night, spring and fall,  
20 the walleye are accessible from the  
21 shore at night, dusk and after. Fish  
22 with the jointed Rapala, and you got a  
23 good shot at catching them.

24 So our rules on our fishing access  
25 site basically allow boat launching and

2 fishing. And then we actually just this  
3 year adjusted our regulations. Before  
4 that, our regulations for -- for fishing  
5 access sites said you could launch a  
6 boat but you couldn't fish from the  
7 shore, because there had been problems  
8 with people fishing from the shore  
9 interfering with boat launching. So now  
10 we've -- we've adjusted the regulations  
11 so you can fish from the shore as long  
12 as you don't interfere with somebody  
13 launching a boat.

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Your facility  
15 has, perhaps, what, 150, 200 foot --

16 MR. GUTHRIE: I would say 150,  
17 maybe --

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- shore  
19 frontage?

20 MR. GUTHRIE: -- shore frontage,  
21 yeah.

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

23 MR. GUTHRIE: We have county  
24 parkland on both sides of this.

25 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 29

2 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Do you have any  
3 of this information available on the  
4 Web?

5 MR. GUTHRIE: I am sure that the  
6 information on the fishing access sites  
7 is available on the Web. If you go to  
8 the -- www.state.ny.gov is the --  
9 there's a DEC in there, too, somewhere.  
10 Anyway --

11 (Laughter)

12 LEGISLATOR CILMI: After one of the  
13 dots somewhere.

14 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah. Right.

15 LEGISLATOR CILMI: But it might be  
16 interesting, if there is, to be able to  
17 link that -- I'm sure you guys have --

18 MR. SCHRAMM: Oh, all the  
19 information that Chart just gave --

20 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Is all --

21 MR. SCHRAMM: -- is on the DEC  
22 site. Including which species of fish,  
23 and the -- the time period in which  
24 you're allowed to take them, the size --

25 LEGISLATOR CILMI: The regulations.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 30

2 MR. SCHRAMM: -- requirements.

3 We actually have a link to the  
4 site, from the civic site, and we  
5 actually --

6 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

7 MR. SCHRAMM: -- copied some of  
8 the --

9 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Oh, good.

10 MR. SCHRAMM: -- fish species  
11 information onto the Web site.

12 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Okay. Good.

13 MR. SCHRAMM: Because part of the  
14 goal is to encourage people to -- to  
15 fish in the lake.

16 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Sure.

17 MR. SCHRAMM: It's under fished --

18 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

19 MR. SCHRAMM: -- and it's well  
20 stocked, but there aren't as many  
21 fishermen as there -- there could be.  
22 Fisher persons.

23 (Laughter)

24 MR. GUTHRIE: So there are a lot of  
25 overlapping jurisdictions. Islip is

2 probably one of the primary  
3 jurisdictions for the rules; and DEC is  
4 pretty much just fish and wildlife,  
5 freshwater wetlands, and then rules for  
6 our specific parcel of property.

7 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: How about  
8 yourself, Greg? What do you find with  
9 the -- the supervision and things like  
10 that? How does Islip Town -- do they do  
11 any patrolling there, or is it just  
12 patrolling of the facilities?

13 MR. DAWSON: Our public safety  
14 officers, I mean, they -- they patrol  
15 just the park itself. Okay. I don't  
16 think they have any particular  
17 jurisdiction on the waterfront itself.

18 Isn't that right?

19 MR. GUTHRIE: Every now and again  
20 we'll get a town code enforcement  
21 officer on our property --

22 MR. DAWSON: Okay.

23 MR. GUTHRIE: -- but --

24 MR. DAWSON: Not a harbor guy or --

25 MR. GUTHRIE: -- but very rarely.

2 Our property is primarily patrolled  
3 by the Environmental Conservation  
4 officers and occasionally by Suffolk  
5 County cops.

6 We've -- I know in -- in years past  
7 that -- problems at our facility kind of  
8 come and go. It -- it develops into a  
9 hangout, and we'll -- our law  
10 enforcement officers will -- will pay  
11 more attention. And we'll talk with the  
12 Suffolk County cops. Sometimes we can  
13 get them to take their breaks there, and  
14 that helps a lot. But --

15 MR. DAWSON: Our facility closes at  
16 9 o'clock. The gates get closed, unless  
17 there's a rental, usually on a Friday,  
18 Saturday night. And public safety will  
19 just, you know, make passes through the  
20 parking lot.

21 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

22 MR. DAWSON: Our biggest issue  
23 is -- you know, Tom was mentioning  
24 before there were recreational uses.  
25 Obviously, we have the swimming beach

2 there, and over, I can say the last two  
3 years, the beach was closed more than it  
4 was open due -- due -- due --

5 MS. KENNEDY: We continually get  
6 phone calls on that.

7 MR. DAWSON: Right.

8 MS. KENNEDY: Continually.

9 MR. DAWSON: And, you know, it's  
10 really up to Suffolk County Board of  
11 Health. They come in and they --  
12 they -- they do daily water samples  
13 and --

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: That's --  
15 you're right.

16 And I recall -- I think it was  
17 either two years ago or three years ago,  
18 former Legislator Alden did an  
19 appropriation -- supplemental  
20 appropriation with the Suffolk County  
21 Health Department to get increased  
22 sampling. The -- the routine sampling  
23 protocol was maybe like once a week with  
24 the health department, or once every two  
25 weeks. And Cara got some money so that

2 the -- the sampling could be done a  
3 little bit more frequently. And that  
4 helped, I guess, to match when the beach  
5 could be used.

6 MR. SCHRAMM: I believe they were  
7 only sampling on the Islip side.

8 MR. DAWSON: Yes, because of the  
9 count- -- the county -- there's no  
10 swimming with the county, and the  
11 Brookhaven side has been closed for  
12 years.

13 MR. SCHRAMM: The Brookhaven side  
14 will open, but there has to be a  
15 lifeguard. And Brookhaven won't open  
16 unless the water quality comes back  
17 okay, and they only get that by finding  
18 out what it tested on the Islip side.  
19 So there's no program on the Brookhaven  
20 side.

21 So we -- we could make arrangements  
22 for a lifeguard and the beach could be  
23 opened if they tested on a regular  
24 basis, just like they do on the Islip  
25 side.

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: We'll do a  
3 joint letter to the health department,  
4 to the new health commissioner,  
5 Tomarken, and we'll get some kind of --  
6 or we'll ask for some kind of  
7 protocol -- testing protocol at both --  
8 at both beaches so that we can do  
9 something looking at this season.

10 And then maybe, you know, with  
11 Legislator Muratore, we can do the  
12 request over to Brookhaven, too, to see  
13 if we can get a guard -- some type of a  
14 lifeguard over there.

15 I know -- I know, O'Connor --  
16 Danielle and Kevin O'Connor said that  
17 the kids were down there and they were  
18 getting thrown off the beach.

19 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Now, given the  
20 water quality issues, is there anything  
21 that we can do to improve those issues  
22 with some of the funding that we can get  
23 from the --

24 MS. KENNEDY: You could.

25 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- state?

2 MR. GUTHRIE: Potentially. One --  
3 one thing is that -- that there was a  
4 major water quality -- storm water  
5 project on the Brookhaven side that's  
6 been completed since the beach was  
7 closed. And if the county hasn't tested  
8 the water since then, it's really time  
9 for the county to test it again.

10 And I think all that would be  
11 required would be either Legislator  
12 Kennedy or the Town of Brookhaven going  
13 to Suffolk County Health Department and  
14 saying, "Things have changed now, it's  
15 time to retest and figure out whether  
16 they've improved enough to warrant  
17 reopening the beach."

18 There have been a number of studies  
19 that have identified storm water inputs  
20 into the lake. Not all of them -- not  
21 all of the storm water inputs have been  
22 addressed.

23 There are the two, quote, unquote,  
24 bio filtration basins that were put in  
25 on the lake back in the '60s or '70s

2 that never functioned properly; one  
3 immediately south of the DEC access  
4 site, and the other one over by Portion  
5 Road. And both of those, I believe, get  
6 a significant amount of storm water.  
7 And when -- at least when the lake's  
8 high, they put it straight into the  
9 lake.

10 Those would be something that --  
11 that there may be an engineering  
12 solution to that that would allow  
13 those -- make those so that they treated  
14 that storm water better. I'm not a  
15 engineer so I don't know what it is, but  
16 that is something that I think  
17 definitely should be addressed.

18 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Okay.

19 MR. GUTHRIE: The storm water  
20 regulations have tightened a lot on the  
21 development in and around the lake if it  
22 has to handle its own storm waters. So  
23 that shouldn't be any new storm water  
24 going in there, but there is still  
25 existing storm water inputs.

2 The one in Brookhaven identified  
3 the largest, or -- or addressed the  
4 largest storm water input. But,  
5 unfortunately, there wasn't enough space  
6 there to totally handle it. It -- it  
7 should make a difference.

8 MR. SCHRAMM: Yeah. With the  
9 outfall, that water used to come  
10 down-pond and go directly into the lake.  
11 That now goes into a recharge basin on  
12 the other side of the road. So --

13 MR. GUTHRIE: Right. Which only  
14 overflows during major storm events  
15 or -- or high groundwater periods.

16 MR. SCHRAMM: Well, so far we  
17 haven't seen it -- well, it's only been  
18 in existence for probably -- what, about  
19 a year now.

20 MR. GUTHRIE: Uh-huh.

21 MR. SCHRAMM: So -- but so far we  
22 haven't seen it filled to the top.

23 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Good.

24 MR. SCHRAMM: So it's --

25 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Good.

2 MR. SCHRAMM: -- doing what it's  
3 supposed to do.

4 MR. DAWSON: I also understand the  
5 geese population is a bit of a problem,  
6 too. On -- on the -- at least on the  
7 Islip side, we -- we have a -- we have  
8 a -- environmental geese control which  
9 remediates the geese, at least during  
10 the springtime months. And I reached  
11 out to Commissioner Pavacic, because all  
12 we're really doing is chasing them off  
13 our shoreline and they're probably going  
14 over to the county side towards the  
15 Brookhaven side. So --

16 MR. SCHRAMM: Right.

17 MR. DAWSON: -- we're trying to  
18 work with -- with Brookhaven and with --  
19 and with Suffolk County Parks to see if  
20 we can --

21 MR. SCHRAMM: Yeah, that's a  
22 vicious cycle because the -- the geese  
23 wouldn't remain in the lake if there was  
24 a lot of activity, because it's poor  
25 nesting if there's a lot of activity.

2 You can't -- can't raise goslings if  
3 there's a lot of activity, but we can't  
4 swim in the lake and produce that  
5 activity because the bacteria count is  
6 high. So --

7 I mean, there is -- there are  
8 solutions -- interim solutions using  
9 dogs to scare the geese away and so  
10 forth, but I think that problem may be  
11 addressed just by increasing the amount  
12 of activity at the lake.

13 MR. DAWSON: I mean, also we have a  
14 problem in our golf courses, too. And  
15 there's plenty of activity at golf  
16 courses, but in the morning hours,  
17 it's -- it's still an issue.

18 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

19 MR. DAWSON: And the border collies  
20 are pretty -- pretty successful in -- in  
21 kind of eradicating the problem. But,  
22 again, they're just moving it to another  
23 location.

24 LEGISLATOR CILMI: I would imagine  
25 to some extent they get used to the

2 human population, much in the way that  
3 deer get used to the --

4 MR. DAWSON: Right.

5 MR. SCHRAMM: Yeah, but they  
6 won't -- they won't nest.

7 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

8 MR. SCHRAMM: They will find  
9 another location they find safer --

10 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right.

11 MR. SCHRAMM: -- to nest. And  
12 then, over a period of time, they'll --  
13 they'll just stop returning.

14 MR. KANAKOS: (Indicating)

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Kevin -- Kevin  
16 Kanakos has a question.

17 MR. KANAKOS: Has anyone reached  
18 out to the neighborhood surrounding the  
19 lake in terms of educating them as to  
20 what to put on their lawns and where to  
21 walk their pets and -- all of that  
22 eventually ends up in the lake, along  
23 with the geese issue.

24 Has anything been done over the  
25 years?

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, it  
3 sounds like that's something that we  
4 could probably put as a component. As  
5 we're talking about the various issues  
6 that we have identified here, it occurs  
7 to me that we're really going to be  
8 talking about the framework of the LWRP.

9 We're fortunate with that in that  
10 the architect for the Nissequogue LWRP,  
11 Mike Kaufman, has been a friend for  
12 many, many years. And I will call him  
13 tomorrow and pick his brains about the  
14 structural side of how we need to begin  
15 to go ahead and adopt the LWRP. And  
16 then at the same time, I think we ought  
17 to --

18 You know, if -- if the  
19 supervisor's willing to make the space  
20 available for us, and we can get some,  
21 you know, publicity and advertising and  
22 things like that, Legislator Cilmi knows  
23 a few people, I know a few people. I  
24 would almost say that we should try to  
25 host an initial assemblage or a

2 visioning before seeking money to do it,  
3 because, inevitably, it's going to take  
4 us three to six months to host a  
5 post-first community meeting. If we can  
6 get a jump on that time-wise, maybe we  
7 should shoot for that.

8 I mean, you guys have more  
9 experience in doing, you know, the  
10 complete visioning. I'm not going to,  
11 you know, purport to say that I can, you  
12 know, conduct or undertake one of them.  
13 But we can probably reach out to Eric  
14 Alexander or some of the other folks to  
15 give us some guidance. Hit him up a  
16 little bit, you know, twist his arm a  
17 little. Maybe we can get him to, you  
18 know, jump in on a notion that we would  
19 be looking to bring him on in some  
20 funding capacity, you know, going  
21 forward.

22 Why not try to get, you know, the  
23 benefit of this -- this season that  
24 we're moving into?

25 MR. SCHRAMM: Well, I think one of

2 the decisions we'll need to make  
3 quickly, in order to take advantage of  
4 the next funding season, is decide which  
5 entity is going to apply for the  
6 funding. I'm hazarding a guess that  
7 it's the task force that may have this  
8 capability to do that. That the task  
9 force would make a decision and actually  
10 apply as the entity receiving the grant  
11 money. And then -- then we'd have to,  
12 you know, go ahead and hire the  
13 consultant or however we want to proceed  
14 with the -- the actual visiting --  
15 visioning process.

16 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I think that  
17 it would be something that would be fine  
18 for us to do.

19 Let me ask you, Dawn, from a  
20 technical side.

21 If Department of State likes to see  
22 collaborations, by virtue of the fact  
23 that we have membership on the task  
24 force from each of the three towns;  
25 Councilman Malloy from Smithtown, and we

2 have, you know, Brookhaven represented,  
3 and we have Islip represented as well,  
4 that's implicit, I guess, collaboration.  
5 We could probably talk about a simple  
6 memorandum or something like that that  
7 would give us that. And -- and I -- I  
8 think --

9 Now, you mentioned the match piece,  
10 too. Could we cobble together --

11 Say as a task force we apply for  
12 whatever it's going to be -- I don't  
13 know, 150-, 200-grand, starting out as  
14 seed money. We can cobble together the  
15 match from our participating  
16 municipalities, I would imagine;  
17 couldn't we?

18 MS. HOPKINS: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

19 MR. SCHRAMM: I would think so. I  
20 think --

21 MS. HOPKINS: I would think yes.

22 MR. SCHRAMM: -- they would make  
23 their donations to the task force --

24 MS. HOPKINS: Yeah, because --

25 MR. SCHRAMM: -- and then the task

2 force would match the -- the -- the  
3 other 50 percent that came from the  
4 state.

5 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Legally --

6 MS. HOPKINS: George, what --

7 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- are we --

8 MS. HOPKINS: -- what --

9 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- are we --

10 MR. SCHRAMM: Yeah.

11 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Is this body  
12 constituted to do that? Can we receive  
13 money?

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, what I  
15 think we would really be, to be candid  
16 with you, is -- is we are a task force  
17 acting by and through the County of  
18 Suffolk.

19 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Right. So it  
20 would be Suffolk County that really --

21 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Ultimately,  
22 yeah. We would be the task force  
23 applying on behalf of the county,  
24 representative of a collaborative  
25 initiative that involves the underlying

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 47

2 municipalities. That's how I think we  
3 would frame it.

4 MS. HOPKINS: I think one of the  
5 other things that -- that was pointed  
6 out, when I mentioned the Lake George  
7 Association and the Cayuga Lake  
8 Watershed, they are non-profits.

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Uh-huh.

10 MS. HOPKINS: And they, in fact,  
11 do, I believe, apply for money. But  
12 that's a little bit of a separate  
13 structure. I mean, in theory, this  
14 could evolve --

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Sure.

16 MS. HOPKINS: -- to the  
17 Lake Ronkonkoma --

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Sure.

19 MS. HOPKINS: -- Association --

20 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Sure.

21 MS. HOPKINS: -- whoever, you know,  
22 the -- you want to call it.

23 MS. KENNEDY: It's not difficult to  
24 apply --

25 MS. HOPKINS: Right. Yeah.

2 MS. KENNEDY: I'm just wondering,  
3 my question is, we have three state  
4 representatives.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Right.

6 MS. KENNEDY: Can they apply for  
7 money to the state? Wouldn't that be a  
8 conflict of interest?

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: No. No, no,  
10 no, no. As a matter of fact, they're --

11 MS. KENNEDY: If they're on the  
12 task force?

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: No. They're  
14 here as agents in support, and, you  
15 know, if --

16 MS. HOPKINS: Right.

17 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- if the  
18 state hits the Lotto, they're going to  
19 give us a bunch of member money, I  
20 guess.

21 (Laughter)

22 MS. HOPKINS: What I think --

23 MR. SCHRAMM: That's a good  
24 question for the State Department.

25 MS. HOPKINS: Yeah, I do, I agree

2 with you, George.

3 I think -- I think this is -- I  
4 think this should be something that  
5 Dennis Mildner would probably be best to  
6 answer, to be honest.

7 What he told me was that these  
8 grants go to either the city, village,  
9 town, hamlet, or recently, the county.  
10 Some of these things -- like I said, you  
11 see the Town of Shelter Island in  
12 collaboration with the Village of...

13 It could be Suffolk County in  
14 collaboration with the Town of Islip,  
15 Brookhaven, Smithtown.

16 I mean, there are ways you can  
17 break it up and just -- but, he would  
18 really answer more of the very specific  
19 technicalities.

20 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, that  
21 kind of goes to a good point that I  
22 think that you make, Dawn.

23 And I -- I will say, in fairness to  
24 everybody, this is an evening meeting.

25 What I think we ought to try to do is --

2 is hold to about an hour or so. And  
3 what we had thought coming into today  
4 was that we wanted to talk about maybe a  
5 schedule of meetings going forward, and  
6 very quickly try to get our Department  
7 of State representative here to speak  
8 with us next.

9 So if everybody is, you know, able  
10 to be available, and for the time being,  
11 if we could do kind of like a monthly  
12 schedule, I'm going to propose or  
13 suggest that at least for the next  
14 couple of months we look at --

15 Ali, what did you tell us? What  
16 are we going to look at?

17 What are we going to do for a  
18 meeting schedule?

19 MR. NAZIR: Second Wednesday of  
20 every month.

21 And according to the chart, I'm  
22 just reading this whole thing, we need  
23 to have a meeting for board members.

24 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Meaning what?

25 MR. NAZIR: Oh, I mean, we need to

2 have a vote for the board members who  
3 are appointed board members who shall  
4 get sworn in.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

6 MR. NAZIR: We need to appoint  
7 board members.

8 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, when you  
9 say, "board members," do we basically  
10 have -- all the people that are sitting  
11 around the table here are -- are  
12 representatives or board members  
13 themselves?

14 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Do we have the  
15 county executive or his designee here?

16 MR. NAZIR: No.

17 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I guess not.

18 MR. NAZIR: They didn't show.

19 (Overlapping conversations)

20 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: You know what  
21 we'll do, Ali?

22 Why don't we do this for the next  
23 meeting agenda-wise. We'll try to  
24 identify names for each one of the board  
25 member spots, and then I guess we'll

2 kind of hold a vote.

3 Whoever wants to be a board member  
4 is -- is, you know, fine, I think, based  
5 on the way the resolution is --

6 LEGISLATOR CILMI: I don't think we  
7 need to vote on anybody. I think it's  
8 simply the -- like in the instance of --  
9 the only one that wouldn't be designated  
10 would be a representative of the  
11 Lake Ronkonkoma Civic and a  
12 representative of the Lake Ronkonkoma  
13 Chamber. I think everybody is just, you  
14 know, representatives from --

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Names.

16 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- different  
17 governmental agencies.

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Right.

19 LEGISLATOR CILMI: So I think just  
20 individually, those groups would have to  
21 decide who their selected representative  
22 is going to be, and then it doesn't  
23 preclude anybody else from the  
24 organization from sitting in on --

25 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Right.

2 LEGISLATOR CILMI: -- on the  
3 meetings and, you know, participating.

4 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Kevin, you are  
5 here on behalf of the chamber or are you  
6 with civic?

7 MR. HYMS: I'm with the chamber.

8 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay. So  
9 Kevin Hyms then is the chamber rep.

10 And then amongst you two, I guess,  
11 however you want to work it.

12 MR. NAZIR: Because we have to file  
13 that with the clerk.

14 LEGISLATOR CILMI: And then there's  
15 a -- a chairperson of the board has to  
16 be selected. And that's basically all  
17 the organizational stuff we have to --

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Anybody but  
19 me, brother.

20 (Laughter)

21 MR. NAZIR: You need a chairperson,  
22 you need a vice chair, and a secretary.

23 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Are we doing it  
24 by protocols?

25 MR. SCHRAMM: Do we have a

2 Brookhaven representative?

3 MS. KING: I'm here.

4 (Overlapping conversations)

5 LEGISLATOR CILMI: Yes, and then we  
6 have to pick a vice chairman and a  
7 secretary.

8 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

9 Kevin, what do you want to  
10 volunteer for?

11 (Laughter)

12 COUNCILMAN MALLOY: I'll be second,  
13 right behind you.

14 (Laughter)

15 MR. SCHRAMM: Ali, according to  
16 that schedule, when would the next  
17 meeting be? The 7th?

18 MR. NAZIR: Yes.

19 MR. SCHRAMM: Wait a minute, you  
20 said the second --

21 MR. NAZIR: The second Wednesday.

22 MR. SCHRAMM: That would be the  
23 14th.

24 MR. NAZIR: The 14th, I'm sorry.

25 And it's going to be the same time.

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, you know  
3 what? Look, let's ask.

4 Is this convenient for everybody as  
5 far as a time to meet?

6 Does it work within everybody's  
7 schedule?

8 And then we can move it a little  
9 bit, one way or the other, would be  
10 better; you know, a little earlier,  
11 6 o'clock, whatever. We wanted to try  
12 to make it something that didn't  
13 conflict with people's work hours, but,  
14 you know, not wanting to keep everybody  
15 out all night long.

16 Any preferences, one way or the  
17 other?

18 MR. DAWSON: I will say, it was the  
19 intent to have these -- these board  
20 meetings at the Lake Ronkonkoma  
21 pavilion or here, and then just have  
22 those side meetings there. I just want  
23 to check the schedule, the girl scouts  
24 might be meeting there on the sec- --  
25 I -- I don't know.

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: No.

3 MR. DAWSON: I just want to check  
4 that schedule.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: My sense with  
6 the pavilion will be that we'll look to  
7 use that for the community --

8 MR. DAWSON: Community meetings.  
9 Okay.

10 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: It will be one  
11 of the sites that we would look to use  
12 for a -- a visioning process. I know  
13 this is a little bit away from the area  
14 that we're talking about, but I also --  
15 we'll have the auditorium across the  
16 hall available. And then I -- you know,  
17 again, it's up to everybody. I mean,  
18 what is everybody comfortable with  
19 and -- and what do we have available?  
20 I'm not necessarily, you know, invested  
21 in being in the building here, we just  
22 figured we would do this for starts --  
23 for starters.

24 MR. SCHRAMM: It's fine with the  
25 civic.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 57

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: It's fine with  
3 the civic to be here?

4 MR. SCHRAMM: (Head gesture)

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.  
6 Anybody else?

7 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

8 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay. Let's  
9 leave it here for now.

10 What about times? You want to go  
11 earlier? Want to go later?

12 COUNCILMAN MALLOY: 6:30.

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: 6:30.  
14 You like 6:30?

15 COUNCILMAN MALLOY: Yeah.

16 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: All right.  
17 Why don't we try 6:30 for the next one.

18 MR. NAZIR: We -- we got bumped  
19 this time to this room, but next time  
20 when you guys come here, we're going to  
21 use the big auditorium. And that way  
22 we're going to also have a public  
23 portion in there as well, just in case  
24 there's people who want to speak in  
25 front of the board.

2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: All right.

3 So, we're talking about Wednesday,  
4 April 14th at 6:30 for our next meeting.

5 We will reach out and invite  
6 Mr. Mildner for the next meeting.

7 Ali, I guess -- I'll ask him to get  
8 the contact information from you, Dawn,  
9 if --

10 MS. HOPKINS: Yep.

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- you'd like.  
12 And we'll send a letter out to him --

13 MR. NAZIR: Yeah, he's going to be  
14 here for the next one.

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- good --  
16 extending an invitation.

17 Is there anybody else that we  
18 should have for next meeting that folks  
19 can think of at this point?

20 Maybe we should invite Eric just  
21 for --

22 MR. SCHRAMM: I can talk to him  
23 about it and try to get -- feel him out  
24 for what type of process might work.

25 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Tell him that

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 59

2 weasel Kennedy is looking for something  
3 from him.

4 (Laughter)

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: He loves me,  
6 he's crazy about me.

7 MR. SCHRAMM: The Nesconset Civic?

8 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes. We will  
9 invite -- I think Fred had a conflict  
10 tonight schedule-wise, but --

11 MR. SCHRAMM: The Commerdinger --

12 THE REPORTER: Excuse me?

13 MR. SCHRAMM: John will spell it  
14 for you.

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY:  
16 C-O-M-M-E-R-D-I-N-G-E-R Preservation  
17 Society.

18 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

19 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: You're  
20 welcome.

21 MR. DAWSON: And I hate to  
22 volunteer people who aren't here, but  
23 I -- I -- Suffolk County Parks isn't  
24 represented.

25 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 60

2 You're right.

3 We need Suffolk County Parks, we  
4 also need the Lake Hills Civic  
5 Association.

6 Lake Hills is on the southern part  
7 of the lake, that's --

8 MR. GUTHRIE: What is that,  
9 Motor Parkway, Kevin?

10 MR. DAWSON: It's Motor Parkway and  
11 the Service Road.

12 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes.

13 (Overlapping conversations)

14 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes. The Lake  
15 Hills Civic Association. We'll ask  
16 Fred. I think he had a contact name, a  
17 gentleman -- Mr. Lee was his name?

18 MS. KENNEDY: (Head gesture)

19 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes. Him  
20 we'll see.

21 MR. KANAKOS: (Indicating)

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Go ahead,  
23 Kevin.

24 MR. KANAKOS: I live in Lake Hills.  
25 I never knew they had a civic

2 association, but I could reach out to  
3 them if you would just point me in the  
4 right direction.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

6 MR. SCHRAMM: The previous cycle of  
7 meetings, the past reincarnation of the  
8 advisory board, we actually had a  
9 representative from the health  
10 department.

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: You're right,  
12 we did. And that -- and that goes along  
13 with our need to have a contact about  
14 the sampling.

15 At one point, you're right, there  
16 were probably about 30 people that were  
17 on that -- that board. And in an effort  
18 to try to move forward, I figured we  
19 would start with what we see at this  
20 point.

21 We have the luxury, basically, to  
22 be able to invite -- and certainly on  
23 the county side, we can pretty much  
24 extend or invite or pull in anybody we  
25 choose to. I may even look for FRES.

2 People around the table who don't  
3 know and should know that we actually  
4 came very close to receiving a  
5 \$750,000 grant through the State  
6 Emergency Management Office, through our  
7 Suffolk County Fire Rescue and Emergency  
8 Services, for the purposes of acquiring  
9 the Bavarian Inn. And at the 11th hour,  
10 after we had basically worked for about  
11 three and a half weeks on compiling the  
12 application, the county executive's  
13 office waived us off. But, in this  
14 case, rightly so, because one of the  
15 elements was a willing seller for doing  
16 the acquisition, and the owner who still  
17 is entitled, shortly to be cut off, was  
18 completely noncooperative on the part of  
19 the Bavarian Inn.

20 I will have an update on the  
21 foreclosure action regarding the  
22 Bavarian Inn for the next meeting that  
23 gives us some very specifics as to how  
24 close we were to having a new owner and  
25 somebody who would be willing to

2 entertain either an offer from the  
3 county or an acquisition in some other  
4 fashion. But -- so, we'll get them  
5 down.

6 We'll get health and we'll get  
7 FRES, too.

8 Anybody else that we should be  
9 reaching out to?

10 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

11 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

12 MR. NAZIR: John, I just want to  
13 clarify something I said before about  
14 the appointments and whatnot. They're  
15 just for the sake of organization. Just  
16 somebody do it. I'm going to do all  
17 the -- all the work for it, so it's not  
18 like you're going to -- I'm not going to  
19 ask you to do any work.

20 We just need a vice chair and  
21 secretary. Everybody else is on the  
22 board.

23 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Well, why  
24 don't we do this? We'll let folks think  
25 it over, and when we reconvene at the

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 64  
2 next meeting, at that point, if anybody  
3 cares to put their name forward, that's  
4 fine, or we'll do it by military style.  
5 We'll select volunteers.  
6 MR. SCHRAMM: Well, I think getting  
7 to Mr. Cilmi's point before, we're going  
8 to reach a point where the board's going  
9 to have to render decisions.  
10 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yes.  
11 MR. SCHRAMM: So I think it's  
12 important that we have specific names  
13 representing each of the members, so  
14 that when it comes to a vote, we  
15 understand --  
16 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.  
17 MR. SCHRAMM: -- how we're going to  
18 proceed.  
19 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.  
20 Yeah, no, especially from our --  
21 our towns, it's going to be important  
22 that we have representatives. So,  
23 certainly, we'll have Jeanine.  
24 And, I guess, Ms. King, you are the  
25 Brookhaven Town representative?

2 MS. KING: It will either be myself  
3 or John Turner.

4 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay, good.  
5 Okay. Anything from our state  
6 reps?

7 How about -- Assemblyman  
8 Fitzpatrick is very interested in the  
9 initiative going forward?

10 MS. ALBRECHT: Absolutely.  
11 Absolutely.

12 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay. Very  
13 good.

14 Don't we have some spring events  
15 that are coming up, Chart?

16 MR. GUTHRIE: Well, our big spring  
17 event is at Belmont Lake State Park.

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Oh, okay.

19 MR. GUTHRIE: April 10th is our  
20 spring fishing festival. Last year, we  
21 had about 5,500 people.

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Wow.

23 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah.

24 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: That's  
25 outstanding.

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 66

2 MR. GUTHRIE: Yes. So if the  
3 weather's good, it should be another big  
4 turnout.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Good.

6 MR. GUTHRIE: We do have --

7 MR. SCHRAMM: And for such a small  
8 lake, too.

9 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah.

10 MR. SCHRAMM: You should bring it  
11 where the big lake is.

12 MR. GUTHRIE: Well, the -- we have  
13 tried to do events at Lake Ronkonkoma,  
14 and we do events at Lake Ronkonkoma, but  
15 there is -- Belmont has more accessible  
16 shorelines, easily accessible  
17 shorelines, and better infrastructure  
18 for a large group of people.

19 We do have an event planned at  
20 Lake Ronkonkoma. The evening of  
21 Wednesday, July 14th, a lakeside fishing  
22 clinic at the Brookhaven Town Beach.  
23 That is a preregistration clinic. You  
24 can register by calling my office,  
25 444-0283. And that is a designated free

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 67

2 fishing event. If you're participating  
3 in that event, you do not need a fishing  
4 license to go fishing.

5 MR. DAWSON: Chart, what was it  
6 again, the date?

7 MR. GUTHRIE: The date, July 14th;  
8 it's a Wednesday.

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Is there a  
10 minimum age? I mean, this sounds like  
11 something that's ideal for boy scouts,  
12 cub scouts --

13 MR. GUTHRIE: No, anybody can  
14 participate. It's -- it's --

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.

16 MR. GUTHRIE: -- designed as a  
17 family event, all ages.

18 In the last several years we have  
19 also held a fishing festival at the  
20 county park on free fishing weekend,  
21 which is the last weekend in June.  
22 We're not doing that this year. It's a  
23 combination of, we -- that location at  
24 that time of year really didn't work  
25 well, people didn't catch a lot of fish.

2 As a matter of fact, they didn't catch  
3 any fish. Or, maybe, one or two. I  
4 mean -- and it's hot, and lots of people  
5 come and want to swim, which they're not  
6 supposed to do but they do anyway, which  
7 interferes with the fishing, and it just  
8 didn't work. And -- and my staff is at  
9 about half of what it was this time last  
10 year. So we're cutting back on -- on a  
11 lot of our outreach events,  
12 unfortunately.

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I know  
14 everybody's getting hammered.

15 Again, think about, you know, the  
16 folks around this table. If there's  
17 something that presents itself as an  
18 opportunity for you for recreational use  
19 there, and if you want some of us from a  
20 volunteer perspective. I mean, if May  
21 is a better month to, you know, host an  
22 event --

23 I know, I recall the past couple of  
24 years, that's why I asked. Because you  
25 always had the advertisements that were

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 69

2 up, that fishing tackle place that was  
3 right across the street there --

4 MR. GUTHRIE: Uh-huh.

5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- was a  
6 center. And, as a matter of fact,  
7 there's a fishing radio station.

8 MS. KENNEDY: Uh-huh.

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: I remember  
10 doing an interview at one point with  
11 somebody from a fishing radio station  
12 when I was involved with one -- the  
13 Bavarian Inn acquisition resolutions, or  
14 who knows what.

15 MR. GUTHRIE: Was that Rich  
16 Johnson?

17 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Could be.

18 MS. KENNEDY: I think so, yes.

19 MR. GUTHRIE: He does a Saturday  
20 radio show on -- I think it's on BAB?

21 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Could be, I --  
22 one of the local radio stations. Yeah,  
23 I remember doing an interview with them.

24 MR. GUTHRIE: He -- he runs the --  
25 the fishing line --

1 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force 3/24/10 70  
2 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Yeah.  
3 MS. KENNEDY: That's it.  
4 MR. GUTHRIE: -- fishingline.com.  
5 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: That's it.  
6 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah.  
7 MR. SCHRAMM: Well, DEC's  
8 participated in the fall festival --  
9 MR. GUTHRIE: Right.  
10 MR. SCHRAMM: -- that we have --  
11 MR. GUTHRIE: Yes.  
12 MR. SCHRAMM: -- on the Brookhaven  
13 side every year.  
14 MR. GUTHRIE: That's the last  
15 weekend in September, I believe.  
16 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Absolutely.  
17 Good place for a blood drive. Just  
18 to divert for a second, a great place  
19 for a blood drive. I'm always hustling.  
20 All right. I guess --  
21 What do you think, Tom, anything  
22 else? What else --  
23 LEGISLATOR CILMI: No.  
24 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: -- do we need  
25 to cover it?

2 LEGISLATOR CILMI: I think that's  
3 it. I think you covered everything.

4 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Okay.  
5 Anything else? Anybody else?

6 LEGISLATOR CILMI: You covered it,  
7 Mr. Chairman.

8 (Laughter)

9 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Don't say  
10 those words, Tom. Don't say those  
11 words.

12 All right. Well, listen, thank you  
13 everybody for coming. I guess that kind  
14 of concludes our first meeting. I  
15 appreciate everybody being here, and I  
16 think we'll be able to do some great  
17 things with this group.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (WHEREUPON, this meeting of the  
20 Lake Ronkonkoma Advisory Task Force  
21 adjourned at 8:00 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

5

6 I, THERESA PAPE, a Shorthand Reporter and  
7 Notary Public of the State of New York, do hereby  
8 certify:

9 That the foregoing is a true and accurate  
10 transcription of the stenographic notes taken  
11 herein.

12 I further certify that I am not related to  
13 any of the parties to this action by blood or  
14 marriage; and that I am in no way interested in the  
15 outcome of this matter.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my  
17 hand this 24th day of March 2010.

18

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THERESA PAPE

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