

**PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
of the
Suffolk County Legislature**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Parks, Sports & Cultural Affairs Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, 11787, on **May 16, 2002.**

Members Present:

Legislator Ginny Fields - Chairperson
Legislator Cameron Alden - Vice-Chair
Legislator Angie Carpenter
Legislator Brian Foley
Legislator William Lindsay

Also in Attendance:

Paul Sabatino - Counsel to the Legislature
Mary Skiber - Aide to Legislator Fields
BJ McCartan - Aide to Presiding Officer Tonna
Sean Clancy - Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office
Nicole DeAngelo - County Executive Office/Intergovernmental Relations
Peter Scully - Commissioner/Suffolk County Department of Parks
Greg Lauri - Director/Division of Sports & Recreation - Parks Dept
Denise Speizio - Suffolk County Parks Department
Bill Shannon - Department of Public Works/Transportation
Lou Medina - Three Village CYS/Boys & Girls Clubs
Gene Mundy - Board President/Three Village CYS
Virginia Connelly - Program Chair/Three Village CYS
Michael Rothfeld - Newsday
Ronan Mulvey - Nominee/SC Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

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(*The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P.M.*)

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I am going to begin the meeting of the Parks Committee and we will start with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Lindsay.

Salutation

Okay. We have Ronan Mulvey here and I'm going to make a motion to take IR 1417 out of order, invite Mr. Mulvey to come up front. And if the committee has any questions, I would like to begin with his appointment to the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts. Brian, any questions?

LEG. FOLEY:

I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Mr. Ronan Mulvey, how long have you been a member of the committee?

MR. MULVEY:

Since 1999, three years I've been on the Arts Advisory Board.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

How often do you meet?

MR. MULVEY:

They meet once a year, it's really just one day a year that they meet. There's about 12 members and what they basically do is look over all the applications to become -- all the applications for art made by the all the art councils, by music groups; there's about 120 groups on Long Island, all these cultural involved in various forms of cultural endeavors. And they submit their applications, they fill it out, put in a budget of what kind of funding they're looking for, and then based upon their previous funding and their history on funding and all that and the amount, of course, of money available, we try to make a fair determination as to how to split the money so that all of them get an equal chance at funding. Plus, what we do outside of that is try to encourage other art organizations, maybe those that have -- is not astute at applying for it as possible and try to encourage them, we invent some classes for them, show them how to fill out the forms, offer them help in filling out the forms.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Do you ever turn anybody down?

MR. MULVEY:

Excuse me?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Do you ever turn anyone down that tries to put in an application?

MR. MULVEY:

The only time that I've known us to turn them down with no funding at all is when the application did not meet the criteria or it wasn't filled out properly or they didn't show a need for it or the figures

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or the money didn't make sense. Then usually it's given back to Chris Cook who in turn contacts the people and sits down with them and he tries to make a determination whether or not we should or should not do the funding.

LEG. FIELDS:

I think there was a question last month about some groups that have very large funding and they receive -- I think it was Stallar, wasn't it, University of Stony Brook?

MR. MULVEY:

There is funding, yes, to Stony Brook.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Yeah. And there was a question about all the other little groups and why they might not get more and Stallar get less since they did get a lot of funding from other outside agencies.

MR. MULVEY:

Yes, that's true with Stallar. But one of -- Stallar, the amount of money that they get proportionate to the total budget is extremely

small; I'd have to sit down with the figures in front of me. But Stony Brook does other things, they do the Lee Krasner and Jackson Pollack House, that's out in the Hamptons, too, they apply for that as well under it, you know, which is certainly worthwhile funding but it's a limited amount of funding. It's spread over a number of different things but it's certainly worth looking into. And I think what I would advise to do in that case is have Chris Cook take a closer look at those organizations that do get the higher funding. But there's always the desire, at least as expressed when we're meeting, to try and spread it as thin as possible, that's why when they're up to 120 applications now, probably when I came on -- I originally came on board it was more like 90 or 95 applications, and that's bringing the smaller organizations on board. And I know Chris Cook makes an endeavor to outreach, especially to communities that he felt are underserved, and get them to submit their applications and asking us if we could help. We certainly do help the people fill out the forms.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I notice that in my backup there's no resume from you; did you bring one?

MR. MULVEY:

I brought one with me. I have three of them here.

LEG. FOLEY:

Mr. Mulvey, how many terms have you served so far?

MR. MULVEY:

This is the first term.

LEG. FOLEY:

Okay.

LEG. LINDSAY:

I have a question, Madam Chairwoman.

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CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

This is a reappointment, isn't it?

LEG. FOLEY:

He served one term.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Oh, I see, okay. This would be your second term then.

MR. MULVEY:

Yes, I'm applying for my second term.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Yeah, Mr. Mulvey, and you might not be able to answer this question, but it may be something when you are considering moving a grant proposal forward to us, you might mention in passing. I notice from the list of organizations that we funded there was a number of musical groups of different forums. We had a meeting yesterday with Commissioner Scully from the Parks Department about a plan we have to renovate Raynor Park in Ronkonkoma and one of the thoughts we were kicking around was about putting a ban shell in the park and, you know, maybe the County sponsoring community concerts during the summer months or something like that. Maybe some of these groups that we're

funding would be willing to play at some of these events.

MR. MULVEY:

Oh, I'm sure they would. They're always looking for venues to play in.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Very good. Maybe that's something you's could keep in mind in your review.

MR. MULVEY:

Yeah, I would certainly suggest that information to Chris Cook. But whatever that organization -- they would apply -- if they get the request, they certainly would be. I mean, Brookhaven arts -- I mean, the Brookhaven Town up at the Brookhaven Cultural Center at Bald Hill used to run events on Wednesday night, it used to be open for no charge type of events and those are very nice, they had dances up there, they have choral festivals up there, they had very musical performances, that was often on Wednesday night. The Brookhaven Cultural Center, though, is somewhat overwhelming, it's so large. So in Raynor Park which is much smaller, for the smaller groups that would probably be an excellent venue that I'm sure in time many of them would be glad to perform. They're always looking for an opportunity to perform, both dance groups and musical groups.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Great.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay. We made a motion to take this out of order. Do we have a second?

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LEG. FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? We have taken it out of order. 1417-02 (P) - To reappoint Ronan Mulvey as a member of the Suffolk County Senior Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts (Caracappa). Now I'll make a motion to approve.

LEG. FOLEY:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

We have a second. All in favor? Opposed? Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Carpenter). Thank you.

MR. MULVEY:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Good luck on your second term.

Do we have any other people who would like to approach the committee?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Lou, are you coming up?

LEG. FOLEY:

Are you giving us the results of your paper?

MR. MEDINA:

Not yet. I did turn it in, though.

LEG. FOLEY:

Okay.

MR. MEDINA:

Good afternoon.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Good afternoon, welcome back.

MR. MEDINA:

Good to be back, actually. I did turn in my paper, I didn't get my results yet, but as soon as I do get a grade I will definitely share that with you.

This is regarding the property, IR 1397 is it? I don't have my glasses, I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

To establish Community and Youth Services Program at Sheep Pasture Road in Port Jefferson/Setauket, New York.

MR. MEDINA:

Yes.

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CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

So I guess we will take a motion to take this one also out of order.

LEG. LINDSAY:

I will make a motion.

LEG. FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. Okay, it is before us.

1397-02 (P) - To establish Community and Youth Services program at Sheep Pasture Road in Port Jefferson/Setauket, New York (Fisher).

MR. MEDINA:

I did bring a packet for each committee member.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay.

MR. MEDINA:

I received a memo from Legislator Vivian Fisher requesting that I have this information for you today, and it does include a report on the programs that we currently provide through CYS Boys and Girls Clubs. The packet also includes our current resources, so you'll see budget information in here. The information, the program plan for the center and also a development plan to finance the center is contained in this report.

(*Legislator Carpenter entered the meeting at 1:22 P.M.*)

LEG. LINDSAY:

Madam Chairwoman, if I can make one comment. Just, Lou, that I'm just scanning this quickly but it's refreshing to see that you've raised as much money as you're seeking which is --

MR. MEDINA:

Yeah, I've been with the agency eleven years and when I started with the agency our budget was \$86,000 and it is now over \$400,000. And that's attributed, number one, to the County support and I want to thank you on behalf of the kids and the families that we do serve because a lot of the funding that we do receive is government funding as well as our board. Our board President is here, Mr. Gene Mundy, sitting in here. And also one of our other board members, Ms. Virginia Connelly, who -- I'd would like to say that she is the author of the programs, she's our Program Chair, and two years ago when she joined the board we had five programs and since she's joined the board we have over 20 some odd programs and that's because of the work that her committee has done in terms of developing and implementing these programs. If we had to pay her for the work that she does, we couldn't afford her, so she is like a full-time staff person for us as a volunteer.

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LEG. LINDSAY:

There's just one question, too, and it's probably in the packet and I haven't found it yet; how many children do you serve?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

On the first paragraph.

MR. MEDINA:

We annually serve in one particular program which would be the Melville Program, the After-School Program, about a thousand young people. Overall, annually the last several years we have served over 3,000 per year, and those statistics are reported to the Suffolk County Youth Bureau as well as the Brookhaven Town Youth Bureau which are managing agencies.

LEG. ALDEN:

My question first is to Paul Sabatino. Paul, is this in conjunction with some of those land use where we have an active parkland?

MR. SABATINO:

No, this is not the active parkland program. This land was acquired prior to that so, it predates it. But they're proposing something analogous to it, I would say, which is they're asking to license -- I think it's six acres on this to do similar type activities, but it's not formally within that active parkland program.

LEG. ALDEN:

Okay. And this resolution -- and I apologize for not having the resolution in front of me -- this is asking for how much money?

MR. SABATINO:

This is not asking for any money. It's asking for the right to engage in the activities that they're describing here on six acres out of a 36.8 acre acquisition that the County had made sometime back -- I

think they did something similar about a year ago for another piece of property in that community which was like 20 acres, but this is not asking the County for money.

LEG. ALDEN:

Then to the Parks Commissioner, did you do a study as far as evaluate this piece of property; were we going to put it into a park preserve or do anything like that with it?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

I think Counsel touched on the history of it pretty well. The County acquired title to two, actually three separate parcels of property from the same owner in the early 1980's, and in 1986 I believe dedicated portions of it to -- as parkland and portions of it for general public purposes; litigation ensued and the former property owner contested the County's having taking title arguing they didn't have valid notice. And Legislator Fisher has been waiting patiently, as have the people from Three Village CYS, for the opportunity to say litigation had concluded with an eye towards providing a site for their headquarters; that process apparently has come to an end.

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The intent here I think is to make available a six acre parcel which is not dedicated for parkland purposes, it was placed in a less restrictive category by the author of the dedicating resolution so the county would have some flexibility as to its use. And the adjoining 36.8 acre parcel which is parkland, the department has always envisioned that the two parcels would be used together. In other words, the 36.8 acre parcel which is just south of the parcel which I think Legislator Fisher intends make available for their use is a former sand mind, it's been impacted, it's not a virgin piece of property, it would be conducive for active recreational purposes. And we have been speaking with Three Village CYS over the last few weeks about how to make these things happen.

I don't have a corrected copy of the resolution 1397, but my impression, based on what I see before me, is that it needs to be amended because it references the 36.8 acre parcel and not the six acre parcel. And I communicated with Legislator Fisher's Office yesterday, I haven't heard back from her in that regard. The 36.8 acre parcel is dedicated as parkland, so making it available is potentially more complicated. The six acre parcel which we all agree is dedicated for public purposes and the County has more flexibility I think is the intended site for this facility, but the legislation as it exists references the 36.8 acre piece and I think her intention is to amend it but I can't speak for her.

LEG. ALDEN:

Commissioner, you have in your files then a sign-off by the County Attorney's Office, that everybody has exhausted their appeals and things like that in this case?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

I may not have it on paper but I have received verbally from Mr. Sklar who argued the case in the Appellate Division that the case has -- they have exhausted their remedies.

LEG. ALDEN:

How long ago was that?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

Within the past six months. The Court of Appeals wouldn't hear -- wouldn't take the case after he was successful at the Appellate Division.

LEG. ALDEN:

Mr. Sabatino, is there -- do you think there's anything where they can go up to an appeal to Supreme Court on that, deprivation of property or property rights?

MR. SABATINO:

Not to my knowledge. I do recall that it's been an extended period of time. I think the decision happened last year because I think we passed a resolution last year to do another component of the property, it was either 10 or 20 acres and this is like the follow-up. So the precedent is already there in terms of litigation being concluded.

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LEG. ALDEN:

Do you concur with the Commissioner's statement that this resolution references the larger piece rather than the smaller one?

MR. SABATINO:

There may be some confusion. The corrected copy makes reference to six acres but I think what the Commissioner may be saying is that maybe the Legislator has the wrong tax lot number, that's possible.

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

And I have not seen that corrected copy. In any event --

MR. SABATINO:

I know about the issue with the six acres but what was conveyed to me was that it was six acres because the other parcel, whatever it was, 36.8 acres, was not -- well, it was an issue about the eligibility. So the only possibility here that might reconcile the two versions is that maybe this has the wrong tax lot number, but it does specifically refer to six acres.

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

I haven't seen that corrected copy so I'm at a disadvantage.

MR. SABATINO:

Okay.

LEG. ALDEN:

Paul, can we pass it and possibly treat that as a scrivener's error, or no?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

No.

LEG. ALDEN:

It would have to be corrected?

LEG. LINDSAY:

She doesn't know anything is wrong with it.

MR. SABATINO:

Well --

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I have a couple of questions.

MR. SABATINO:

I would treat it as substantive unless the digits got -- I mean, if it turns -- this is lot 16, if it turns out that it's really lot 18 or if it turns out that it's a different section or block. But on the other hand, if it just turns out that the numbers got transposed, I mean, that would be a scrivener's error, that's -- I really wouldn't -- I don't know the answer to that until I know what the facts are.

LEG. ALDEN:

Through the Chair, I would ask that that be cleared up before we even vote on this resolution.

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CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I have a couple of questions. We just had a Parks Trustees meeting and some gentlemen from Riverhead and Peconic out east on the north and south fork wanted to put a YMCA building on park property and we talked about alienation of parkland and so forth. I'm not sure that the way my copy reads, the first RESOLVED says that, "The 36.8 acre parcel of land known as Suffolk County Tax Map 200-158.4-016 is hereby by dedicated to the Suffolk County Park System for public purposes which shall specifically enhance the public enjoyment benefit and utilization of the adjacent parklands, subject to the use by Three Village Community and Youth Services Boys and Girls Club for use as a community center and sports fields." I think that needs to be -- you know, I would feel comfortable if it is a degraded piece of property and it's designated for a building, which is what we talked about this morning, and not that this bill reads that the whole parcel is for public benefit and can be used for the community center and sports fields.

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

If I could. I would just let you know, for the people from Three Village CYC who aren't as familiar with the operations of government, they're sometimes frustrated at the wait. I just need to reiterate that generally I think the support is there to try and find a home for these folks and that the six acre parcel that is not parkland is generally considered to be the suitable location, but I do think we could probably enhance communication between the Executive and Legislative branches on the issue. Because I don't have a copy of the corrected copy of the resolution and I know that a conversation between Mr. Sklar and Mr. Sabatino would probably be beneficial in terms of some of the concerns that you have about what's parkland and what's not and that sort of thing, because Mr. Sklar has been working closely with us and is being very helpful.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Could this be --

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

And in any event, I'm sorry, I do believe that the matter has to go to CEQ and it hasn't been there yet.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Oh, okay. I was going to say, should it be discharged without recommendation for those changes or analysis of it. But if it hasn't gone to CEQ, then I would make a motion to table until it does go to

CEQ and also that the wording possibly be changed in the first RESOLVED to reflect that it is not parkland that's going to be used for this but other land of the park.

LEG. CARPENTER:

Just along that same line, if I could. In that same RESOLVED clause, I'm not sure if I'm misunderstanding it but the way I read it, "The utilization of the adjacent parklands is subject to the use by Three Village communities." So does that mean that --

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

No one else can use it.

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LEG. CARPENTER:

-- if someone else wants to use the adjacent parklands they have to get permission from this group? And that certainly would not be something I could be supportive of because this should be open to the public at large, not just --

MR. SABATINO:

No, the last phrase in the fourth RESOLVED clause says, "Accessible to the public at large."

LEG. CARPENTER:

I know it says that, but in the first RESOLVED clause it says, "Subject to the use" -- "The utilization of the adjacent parkland is subject to the use by Three Village Community and Youth Services"; to me it could be misinterpreted to be that they would have to give permission to anybody else who wants to use that adjacent parkland.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Madam Chairwoman? Just -- you know, I would certainly go along with a motion to table this to be redone somewhat with the various objections, but I think the point of this resolution is something that I think this Legislature -- it deserves our support. I mean, every year we spend millions of dollars incarcerating our youth and putting them on probation and this is an initiative to keep our kids on the straight and narrow and I'm fully supportive of that initiative, but I would backup the motion to table to correct the resolution.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I think everyone feels the same way that you do about it. But I think that after we're gone and someone else comes along and looks back at the intent of the resolution, there may be some major problems and it probably should be corrected so that it reflects exactly what the intent and the use by whom.

LEG. CARPENTER:

Yes. If I might, in the fourth RESOLVED clause, the use of the six acres requires that you build the building; correct?

MR. MEDINA:

Yes.

LEG. CARPENTER:

At no cost to the County. But has it been clearly defined elsewhere in this resolution that I maybe just haven't seen yet as to who maintains the building, that this does not obligate the County in any way to maintain any of the inside, outside, you know, do any kind of

capital improvements, whatever, that we have no obligation whatsoever? And what safeguards are in place, what happens if for some reason this organization fails to exist? Leadership changes, people leave, people come, people go and now there's a building, and who gets the building; you know, have those things been addressed in this resolution?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Let me add to that. In the fifth RESOLVED it says that there's a term of a license; shouldn't that be attached to this so that we could see what that license also says?

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COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

I think what we envision in this instance is that an agreement for the use of this property would probably take the form of a lease as opposed to a license because it's not parkland property and the use that we're proposing is not incidental to the overall use of the park in question consistent with the State Alienation Handbook. So I think we'd probably be looking at a lease as opposed to a license, but we're not that far along in the process yet.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Go ahead.

LEG. ALDEN:

I just have a couple of questions on the current resources page that you submitted in this.

MR. MEDINA:

Yes

LEG. ALDEN:

Right now it shows your grant revenue for 2002, Suffolk County Youth Bureau, \$162,887?

MR. MEDINA:

Yes.

LEG. ALDEN:

If you were to lose that funding, do you have contingency plans? Because last year we actually had to cut some funding for different organizations. Also, could you tell me the history of that, how many years you've had that grant?

MR. MEDINA:

The grant has consistently increased every year with regards to accessing available funding either through member items or through Legislative grants.

LEG. ALDEN:

There's two separate ones, though, because you get a \$2,000 Legislative grant from Legislators Fisher, but on the top it says the Suffolk County Youth Bureau, that's the one that I'm just addressing right now because that seems to be the largest source of your revenue.

MR. MEDINA:

Correct. And we have a Resource Development Committee who is currently putting together a strategic plan to develop a three to five year resource development plan. We also have a Director of Development who part of his responsibilities, and my responsibility as the

Executive Director, is to access corporate corporations. We have a capital campaign that we're looking to start up in October at our 25th Anniversary, so there is a plan, a development plan to develop those resources.

LEG. ALDEN:

Is anybody here from the Youth Bureau? Because I have a couple of other questions.

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MR. MEDINA:

No, I don't think so.

LEG. LINDSAY:

It's going to come back anyway.

LEG. ALDEN:

I'll just throw a couple of them out there. I'd like to know as far as from the Suffolk County Youth Bureau what other type of grants approach this amount, how many cuts were made last year in different, you know, percentages and to the different grants that we had out there, and also for the probability of this going forward.

LEG. LINDSAY:

My suggestion to the Chair was that maybe we can request the Youth Bureau to have someone at our next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

That's duly noted. Motion to table pending some investigation, some slight changes and to go before CEQ, and then we'll back again the next meeting. So motion to table.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0). Okay. I guess -- does anyone -- thank you.

MR. MEDINA:

I just wanted to thank you once again for your time.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Thank you.

Does anyone else have anything? Okay, so we'll go to the resolutions.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

1028-02 (P) - Requiring anti-theft surveillance cameras for County park concessionaires (Caracciolo).

LEG. FOLEY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion to table, I will second the motion. All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

LEG. FOLEY:

Just on the motion.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

On the motion.

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LEG. FOLEY:

Yeah, thank you. Just to the Commissioner; Commissioner, we spoke the last time about speaking with Budget Review Office about cash control devices that they've required of ferry operators who have parking lots where there's a similar situation as to some of your parks. Have you had a chance to speak with the Budget Review Office about that?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

No, I recall that you specifically suggested we speak with Mr. Duffy. I did speak with him briefly and acknowledged that we need to contact him. As a first step, however, what we're going to do is inventory each and every collection, cash collection point in the department and characterize them, and by that I mean we're going to set forth what type of technology is employed, what type of infrastructure is available there, who's collecting the money, how much was collected in 2001, and those types of things so we have a good working set of data to utilize. And I haven't overlooked the fact to contact Mr. Duffy, we'll do that.

Where we're going with the issue overall, I think, is that once we have a good set of data to use as a discussion point and to make available to interested Legislators, we may be asking for an overall evaluation outside the scope of the department with an eye towards a capital project that would modernize our collection systems. We would be looking at what other municipalities use as well. I think it's a good long-term approach. The fact of the matter is --

LEG. FOLEY:

You're looking this year or next year to put that together, the capital project?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

Well, we -- the department has already submitted and the County Executive has recommended to you a Capital Program.

LEG. FOLEY:

Okay.

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

Ours does not include that type of proposal, so it would not be until the 2004 Capital Program that we'd be -- have an opportunity to submit something.

LEG. FOLEY:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Okay. IR 1276-02 (P) - To implement retention of technical consultant in connection with Forsythe Meadows property damage (Fisher). Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER SCULLY:

Once again, I'd request that the resolution be tabled. We're actively trying to resolve the outstanding issues associated with that fence

installation. And I think the consensus of opinion is, and I can't speak for Legislator Fisher, that once we resolve the issue of the

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fence installation we'll be in a better position to deal with the issue of any impacts that were associated with the activities that took place there in August of 2000 when they did begin to install the fence and we kind of stopped them from completing it.

LEG. CARPENTER:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Motion to table, second. All in favor? Opposed?

Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

IR 1337-02 (P) - Amending the 2002 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the restoration of Smith Point County Park (County Executive).

LEG. FOLEY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I will second it. All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

1394-02 (P) - Authorizing, empowering and directing the County Parks Department to secure acoustics evaluation for trap & skeet shooting range near Southaven Park in Yaphank, Town of Brookhaven (Fields). I'll make a motion to table.

LEG. FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

1397 was tabled.

1402-02 (P) - Authorizing, empowering and directing the County Parks Department to secure environmental evaluation for trap & skeet shooting range near Southaven Park in Yaphank, Town of Brookhaven (Fields). Motion to table.

LEG. FOLEY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

1417 was approved.

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

1501-02 (P) - Establishing a committee to study common sense alternative funding mechanisms for the Suffolk County Parks Department (Fields).

LEG. ALDEN:

That's not a sense

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

1501 is going to be tabled anyway because at the Parks Trustees meeting this morning we looked at this and we wanted to make a couple of changes, so there will be a corrected copy for next time. Yes?

LEG. ALDEN:

On this motion, as far as to establish a committee to study that, why wouldn't we -- it seems that we have jurisdiction in this committee; why wouldn't we just do a study from this committee?

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Well, because it has users, park users on the committee, and it has -- we have tried to open it up to every type of use that a parkland would have and it -- I thought that it would be a good idea to have the input of those people in helping us make these decisions.

LEG. ALDEN:

I'm just going to make a suggestion that, you know, I would feel that it would be appropriate just to have them down here. And one of the reasons why I say that is that this is all transcribed and it's verbatim minutes, therefore everything that's said, every concern that would be said by the citizens would be on the record and also would actually be for a body that could actually draft some kind of a resolution that might implement whatever came out of those. Whereas if we're going to have a separate committee, they're going to have to do their research, they're going to have to come up with a report, they're going to have to come back to us anyway. I would just say to streamline it and to get everything right on the record originally, it might make sense just to hold the hearings in this committee.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Well, I don't agree because I think that there's a lot work that has to happen before you can have just an open meeting that could go on for days, you know, having it all discussed here. I think it -- you know, we're going to do that anyway, we're going to have it discussed after we come up with some recommendations. So I would argue as the author that I think that this is the proper way to go, that it could get the kind of base and homework done and then appear before the committee.

LEG. ALDEN:

I guess we'll have that discussion when it's live.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

Right, yeah. Motion to table?

LEG. CARPENTER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

1543-02, for the record, should say Legislator Towle as the author.
(P) - Amending the 2002 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating funds for resurfacing of Smith Point County Park Parking Facility (CP 7162.313) (County Executive).

LEG. FOLEY:
Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:
Second?

LEG. FOLEY:
Just on the motion. If we could have Mr. Shannon from Public Works to step forward on this and if we could hear from the Commissioner. Through the Chair -- and I'll be very quick, I'll be very brief, rather. This is not part of the Capital Program for this year. And one of the concerns that I have, and I want to speak with the sponsor of the bill, is that the Commissioner, myself and Legislator Towle, we've had discussions about the overall project of Smith Point and one of the concerns I would have is to move forward with repaving the whole parking lot and then a decision is made within the next year or two to move back the pavilion and they would have to rip up the parking lot. So the parking lot has served us well for all these years and I just wouldn't want to spend this kind of money when, in fact, over the next several years we may be ripping up part of that parking lot if, in fact -- if a decision is made by us to move the pavilion further -- or move the pavilion further north away from the ocean. So if we could hear from Mr. Shannon as well whether these monies that are being contemplated to be used for this purpose, whether the department has designs for these monies to be used for other Capital Projects for this year.

MR. SHANNON:
As the Chairman indicated, this was a resolution sponsored by Legislator Towle. We had put together some numbers to resurface the parking lot to do some minor repairs in the area for the central part of the parking lot where there's a puddling and pavement breaking down due to drainage problems. And in addition to that, there would be some cracked ceilings, some drilling and leveling and then a three-quarter inch skim coat of asphalt over the entire parking lot. And that --

LEG. FOLEY:
Is there a way of modifying that so we can take care of the most difficult problem facing the parking lot and if, in fact, we need to -- as I said, at a later date, we may be ripping up a good part of that parking lot with a modified master plan for Smith Point.

MR. SHANNON:
There is a menu of options should the committee decide otherwise, the Legislators decide otherwise --

LEG. FOLEY:
Uh-huh.

MR. SHANNON:
-- that would allow us to work in that fashion, yes.

LEG. FOLEY:
Now, were you intending to do this before the upcoming summer season or were you planning on doing it in the middle of the summer season? Knowing how contracts work in this County, even if this was approved

next week, normally speaking it's months before a project like this can get under way, particularly the amount of money that we're talking

about. So when were you contemplating to do the project?

MR. SHANNON:

What we had anticipated is that the project would go out to bid, we would not use our requirements contract for this work, we would put it out to bid, and as soon as we were able to get started we could progress with it. Given the type of work, we believe that we could do it over the summer season by staging the construction, restricting areas of access to the bathing public.

LEG. FOLEY:

Madam Chair, I would like to have the committee approve the tabling motion. As the Legislator who represents the park, I would like to sit down with Public Works to go over this proposal and also with the sponsor of the bill as to how we can modify it in order to focus on the most urgent area let's say in need of repair. But certainly doing the whole parking lot prior to settling on the relocation of the pavilion, I think it's foolish to do so. Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

I would agree and I'll second the motion. All in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-0).

LEG. FOLEY:

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Shannon.

CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:

That's the end of the meeting. I'll make a motion to table -- I mean to adjourn.

(*The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 P.M.*)

Legislator Ginny Fields, Chairperson
Parks, Sports & Cultural Affairs Committee

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