

**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, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on **June 19, 2003**.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Ginny Fields - Chairperson  
Legislator Jon Cooper - Vice Chairman  
Legislator Angie Carpenter  
Legislator Brian Foley  
Legislator Lynne Nowick  
Legislator Angie Carpenter

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Paul Sabatino, II - Counsel to the Legislature  
Alexander B. Sullivan - Chief Deputy of the Legislature  
Steve Raptoulis - Deputy Commissioner Parks Department  
Denise Speizio - Suffolk County Parks Department  
Ann M. Maguire - Little Red School House  
Judy Gordon - Commissioner of Suffolk County Parks  
Mary Skiber - Aide to Legislator Fields  
Muriel Weyl, Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts  
Don PcPherson, Sports Leadership Institute, Adelphi University  
Warren Breining, Athletes Helping Athletes, Inc.  
Gaynell Stone, PhD, Suffolk County Archaeological Association  
Catherine Stark, County Executive's Office  
Nicole DeAngelo, County Executive's Office  
Ray Zaccaro, Aide to Legislator Bishop  
Meghan O'Reilly, Aide to Presiding Officer  
Jim Spero, Budget Review Office  
All other interested parties.

**Minutes taken by:**

**Eileen Schmidt, Legislative Secretary**

**(THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:30 P.M.)**

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

We'll start with the pledge of allegiance led by Legislator Alden.

## SALUTATION

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Thank you. We have Muriel Weyl here who is here to -- she has a reappointment as a member of the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts. So if you could come forward. Thank you for coming. This is IR 1415.

**MS. WEYL:**

I've been a member of the community for 36 or 37 years and have been on the Advisory Board for three years. And I seek a reappointment because I believe in contributing to my community. I've been very interested in the arts all of these years and I want to continue that interest.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I don't have any backup, a resume or anything.

**MS. WEYL:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Oh, I'm sorry. Okay, good. We'll make sure that it's in the packet for the full Legislature. Does anyone have any questions?

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

(inaudible)

**MS. WEYL:**

Sorry I can't hear you.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

I just wanted to say thank you for giving us three years of service and being willing to stay on the Citizens Advisory Board. It's a very important group and really helps promote the arts here in Suffolk County. So thank you.

**MS. WEYL:**

Thank you very much and I hope you continue the Arts forever.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. Thank you very much. The next speaker is --

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Motion to take the resolution out of order while she's still here.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Second by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed? It is now before us.

**I.R. 1415      To re-appoint Muriel Weyl as a member of the Suffolk County Citizens**

**Advisory Board for the Arts. (Viloria-Fisher)**

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Motion to approve 1415.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 6-0)** We now have Ann Maguire.

**MS. MAGUIRE:**

Thank you again for giving me the time on the Little Red School House. I wanted to ask that -- I see it's on the agenda and I'm not sure what's going to take place, but I wanted to ask that nothing be done, nothing drastic be done until we resolve the issue of the dedication.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Let me interrupt. The reason I have it on here is to keep it before us to find out where we are from the Commissioner or from the Law Department, you know, the County Attorney's Office. And that's why it continues to be on the agenda just so that we know what the status is.

**MS. MAGUIRE:**

Well, I know the library committee, the Library Board of Elwood had asked for a decision regarding the Little Red School House possibly by the end of June and I asked that we, that you do not rush to this decision until we resolve the things leading up to it.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Commissioner, do we have any update?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

You have to be on the microphone.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I spoke with the Law Department as a matter of fact this morning. They are actively gathering information, but have not come to a conclusion as yet. I would say if there's a possibility that I might have something from them next week, but again I don't know.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Could do me a favor and call them and ask them --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- I did --

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

-- when we can -- no ask them to give us a date, you a date, when we will have --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- I think it was a matter of them gathering some information which they had not gotten all that information yet, but I will continue to keep after them to get a decision.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay, good. Thank you.

**MS. MAGUIRE:**

May I call your office to see if there's an update?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay.

**MS. MAGUIRE:**

Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Thank you. Thanks for coming. Thanks for hanging in there. We have Gaynell Stone I think if I'm reading it correctly.

**DR. STONE:**

I assume you all got my memo that I wrote that has some points about Blydenburgh County Park. I mailed them to your offices on Monday afternoon to your legislative offices. None of you got this?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

No.

**DR. STONE:**

That's strange because actually, Cameron Alden's assistant called me and was very concerned because he thought former Legislator D'Andre was dead because of what I had said in the way I worded it in the newsletter in this memo. So your aides might have got them apparently you didn't. Well, what it was all about is that Lynne Nowick district includes Blydenburgh County Park, which is a wonderful park. And we have the worlds most unique and wonderful educational program there and we wanted her to see it. So she very kindly came over and we looked around and I think she would agree that this was really a very superb museum education program. But we also couldn't help but observe as we went through the building how there's plaster about to fall off the ceiling in one place and about to fall of the wall in another. And there's one room at the end of the building which we call the hell hole because it has no floor. It has no wall coverings; it's a mess an awful mess and because it's a mess and we cannot use it we're slowly being pushed out of the rooms, other rooms in the building because the County has been or actually the Greenbelt Trail people have been furnishing the parlor as a Victorian parlor. And then they took another room that we use to use and turned it into a interpretive center and they're about to turn the kitchen area into a visitors center. So if it meets on rainy days we really have a problem of carrying out our program and I think we all know it's been awfully rainy lately. So we've had quite a program there.

And what's behind not fixing that room? It's not because the Parks Department doesn't want to do it; it's because the Friends of Long Island Heritage have a apartment above it. And it leaks every time the tenant takes a shower it leaks so you really couldn't put a ceiling in there because it would be shortly ruined. So for years we've been saying why can't they install a new tub and

shower so it wouldn't leak then that room could be fairly cheaply fixed up to be a usable room and then we wouldn't have such a problem carrying out our program in rainy weather. So that was one point.

Another point was that Legislator D'Andre use to have meetings with all the people who were interested in the Blydenburgh site. And his big goal in life was to get the water mill functioning again. I know that the Parks Department has moved toward that. They have interviewed a special kind of architect to do that work, but we've heard nothing more about that so people are asking, you know, why haven't we heard more about that. I'm sure money is the answer to just about all of this.

One more thing which I didn't think to put into this memo, but now that I'm here I would like to apprise you of this and that is that Suffolk County has never done anything to preserve it's archaeological heritage. Nassau County always had at least one or two or three archaeologist on the staff or I guess under Historical Services. They have that wonderful museum call Garvies Point which thousands of school children and adults go to every year. And we haven't even made a stab at trying to save it here so what I'd like to ask all of you to think about is there is a future that with kids coming along that we want to understand our prehistory. And that would be to encourage the Parks Department to, I don't know whether you make a resolution or how you do it, but to say we will be the repository for archaeological artifacts. They're now being dissipated all over. All you need to say is, we will become a repository, and you do have storage space because the County kindly lets us store all these books that we publish in Coindre Hall catacombs. I call them catacombs because if you've not been to Coindre Hall you want to make a horror movie that's a good place to do it. Huge, huge, huge basements underneath that place. So it's just a question of the County saying yes, we will be responsible for pre-historic heritage. We will encourage all these archaeologist who have collections who don't know what to do with them; all the collectors who have, for example, Chandler County Park which you just took over recently is the richest archaeological site I think on Long Island. It's unbelievable the hundreds of thousands of artifacts that all these collectors and people have around there. So if you will simply say lets save them. Lets store them somewhere and some day when we're rich enough we might have a County Natural History Archeology Museum. So I hope you might consider that.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Thank you. Legislator Nowick.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Yes. Dr. Stone.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Dr. Stone come on back.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Come on back. Just a few comments about this. I did take a tour of Blydenburgh Park and as I said to you I don't think it's in my district any longer, but it's in my County so it was a pleasure to go to the park and to see what you were doing there. But I do have a concern and I'm going to ask the Commissioner there's a very simple problem there. A bath tub leaking into the ceiling which is going to fall down if we don't fix it. And I said to Dr. Stone, is this a new thing, is this a week or two and she said, no, it's been three years. It would seem to me that that might be something that the Friends of the Long Island Heritage could look into immediately before --

that's a very old structure and I can't imagine having something leak for three years without being fixed.

**DR. STONE:**

It's been longer than three years.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Longer than three year.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Actually, I thought it has been repaired, so I will have to go back and make sure. I don't know why the kitchen is still an issue.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Yes. I would like to see that finished.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I wasn't even aware that wasn't completed.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Now, does the Friends of Long Island Heritage fix any of that building or they just fix the top and rent it out?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Well, they're responsible for the one there. We have a small apartment on the second floor that they're responsible for, but that's the only part of the building that they're responsible for.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

So that building we purchase it and it just stays in its present condition, is that because we can't afford to do anymore?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Well, actually, we've done quite a bit of work up there over probably the last five or six years. We replaced the roof; we've done quite a bit of work on that -- that's the Weld House, the main house there is the Weld House.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Yes. Right.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

And as Dr. Stone said the mill is still an issue and complete -- and finishing the Miller's House is another issue that we're in the process of handling.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

I couldn't help, but this may not even be something that has to be done right away, but just to keep in the back of our minds. The walls are literally in the main house they're actually popping out. I'm afraid touching them they would just crumble. It might be something we soon have to look at before this --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- well, we've done plumbing work up there over the recent last several years. We've done electrical work and I think we did do some re-plastering of walls also --

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

-- but these are so blatant --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- but would have to go back I'm not prepared to answer all these specific questions.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Yes. I've never seen walls do this kind of a crumbling thing and still be standing up. It's amazing and I'm just asking who is responsible

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Well, I know we have a problem in the kitchen area and the room on the end. I know that definitely is an issue.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Right. And maybe we can get that leak fixed.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. If it hasn't been, yes, we will.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Madam Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Do you think there's a problem just with the lathe and plaster not with the walls falling in?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

It's probably, yes, it's the lathe and plaster probably, yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Because if a walls going to actually fall down then we should have been out there, you know, yesterday.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

We have plaster walls in several of our historic buildings and this is not uncommon in many of them.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Right. But just for the records, it's not a wall problem it's internal finish on the wall that's --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- probably you're right, Legislator Alden, yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Okay.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

I don't know very much about construction I just know I see the wall falling down.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Well, plaster falling down is, you know, dangerous enough, but --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- right --

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

-- if it's a wall that actually going to fall down that's, you know, --

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

-- the wall would be the boards, right? And I don't think --

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

-- yeah, 2x6, 2x4, 2x10 whatever --

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

-- yeah, right. I think they are.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Okay.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

But the Weld House is a work in progress. I mean, we have been working on it over the years and it has improved greatly. And I think Dr. Stone would second that, but we do have more work to do.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

And don't get me wrong I know we have limited funds and we have to take priorities first. I just think that that bathtub might be a priority.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

It's not only in terms of the mill that Dr. Stone had mentioned. It's not necessarily the money in that case, it's finding millwrights are very few and far between and it took us several years to locate one and he's been very slow working on the planning process for that particular project. So it's now always a money issue although money is often a issue it's staff time and, you know, finding the right people to do the job. Because as I'm sure you all will understand several of our historic properties it's, you know, it's a very limited group of people out there that do some of the work that we require.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Commissioner, would it be possible we need to get in August maybe you can let us know if the bathtub was fixed?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Sure. Absolutely.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Commissioner, the work plan that I had asked for you to forward to us I think you said it was not a completed work that it need revision or you needed to approve it or something.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. Well, I have approved it with the stipulation that it could change momentarily, but as I think we talked about it the last Park Committee meeting we are in the process of getting the inspection reports and we do not have all of them yet. We wanted to go through the inspection reports and compare those to the work plan.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

On one of the pages for that work plan it gives it looks like Unit 105, which I believe, is the unit we're referring to.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

It may be.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Blydenburgh, A. {Drosst}?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. That's it.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Complete renovation of bathroom including new fixtures, plumbing, and tile work. Lynne, Lynne? I'm talking about the work plan that we asked for the last time from the Commissioner. I think we all got -- did we all get copies of this?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I don't know if it was sent out to everybody.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. Well, if they didn't -- you didn't fax it to them too or just --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- I may not have sent them to everybody because as I think I said the last time it was a work in progress and it may change.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. Well, on the page it says, "Blydenburgh complete renovation of bathroom including new fixtures, plumbing and tile work, clean gutters, replace broken glass and glaze. Install storm windows, clean out gutters. " And it has it indicated for the work to be done in May for seven man days. It looks like what they've indicated and June, thirteen man days. I don't know why they don't write woman days, but you know.

**DR. STONE:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

It appears to be.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. I think it's the only Friends unit on the north side of the park.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

So by these indications this work should have been --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- yes. But I think as Mr. Kessler indicated the last meeting they're behind with this weather because they were doing out -- they haven't finished some of the work that they were doing outside. So I can't comment on that, but I will -- I'll we prepared the next time we meet.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Would you give him a call? Could you give him a call and just ask him especially because the weather is bad outside you would think that he'd be quicker on the inside stuff. So maybe we could get a update as to the May and June issue and the fact that hopefully he'll be finished. Okay. Anybody else have any questions? Okay. Thank you Doctor and we'll try to get an update by the next meeting in August.

**DR. STONE:**

Would you consider setting up a repository for Suffolk County Archaeological Artifacts --

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

-- I'm going to direct that question from you to the Commissioner --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- yes. We've talked about this and we really -- we don't really feel that we have the proper location to house all of this stuff because I think it is a considerable amount. Nor do I feel necessarily secure that we would be able insure that nothing would happen to anything that it would be in a sure location. But I know that that is something we've talked to Dr. Stone about that over the years.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I wanted too I guess share with the rest of the committee that this morning there was a New York State Park Commissioner's and a Suffolk County Park Trustees combination meeting to discuss New York State Parks on Long Island and Suffolk County Parks and some of the issues that we all share and I think hopefully. And Commissioner Gordon did a really good presentation about some of the issues and some of the resources that we have in the County. And maybe this is something that state parks could even assist us with because they are offering to help us with {People's Island} and maybe that would be something we could talk to them about is for a repository for all parks whether they be state or county.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Can I ask a quick question as far as archaeological items are you talking about it like pottery, arrowheads, bones.

**DR. STONE:**

Rocks most of its rocks. It doesn't require climate control; very few items would mean you'd have to put a lot of energy into taking care of them.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Does the Vanderbilt Museum have a rock collection? I know they got a lot of archaeological --

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

-- they may I'm not sure, but they may.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

You might want to bring them into the mix and just see what --

**SPEAKER:**

(inaudible)

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Some of those might have been mine though because the gold there and things like that I thought might have belonged to my family.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

The big issue, Legislator Alden, I think is finding a location to house them. Storage for us is always an issue. We never seem to have enough storage.

**DR. STONE:**

There's a lot of room in the Coindre Hall underneath the building that's where we keep our books.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

I'd like to speak. I represent the district where Coindre Hall is located so I'd like to speak with you about that later.

**DR. STONE:**

Okay.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. Thank you for coming.

**DR. STONE:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Warren Breining is here. We wanted to give him a little time to talk to us about Code of Conduct.

**MR. BREINING:**

Okay. Good afternoon everyone. I represent Athletes Helping Athletes we're a not for profit organization. Originally housed in Miller Place and we're now housed at Adelphi University in Garden City. And we work in affiliation with the Adelphi University physical education

department which you know now has a campus here in Hauppauge. And in relation to your fair play conduct legislation we've testified before this committee before on the importance of the educational component of trying to promote fair play and sportsmanship with our youth sports leagues. And have been and still are very anxious to contribute our considerable resources into helping improve the climate of our youth sports environment here on Long Island.

We were responsible for helping to promote legislation in Nassau County, which really promoted the concept of each league that uses county fields be required to establish a position of fair play coordinator. And that fair play coordinator was going to be responsible for promoting training of youth coaches on how to promote fair play and sportsmanship to youths sports parents which is one of our primary concerns these days. And we've offered our resources to yourselves, to the Parks Department and we're anxious to continue to do that here. And the materials that I passed out to you folks are the materials that we have piloted with North Shore Little League here in Suffolk County, Suffolk PAL hockey as well as a number of different youth leagues in Nassau County. And I'm sure you can see and many of people have testified to the fact that they are educationally sound and realistic in terms of the type of materials that we would promote to a volunteer population.

So we're anxious to proceed in trying to figure out delivery system which is always a challenge with such a vast voluntary population. But one of the things that we discussed last time we met with Legislator Fields was the fact that we'd like to be able to present our programming to the various towns and town rec. departments. I was hoping that the County and/or the committee could be helpful to us in doing that.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I think that the Division of Sports and Recreation could be a vehicle to assist in that effort. Obviously, you can't force the towns to participate in it, but certainly we could make the effort to try to put something together.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

(inaudible)

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Just a quick question. Paul, we did an analysis recently about all boards and commissions and things like that, isn't there a Youth Board.

**MR. SABATINO:**

I think it's called the youth coordinating council, but yes there is something a youth bureau or youth board or youth coordinating council. It's got an enormous number of members if I remember correctly.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

It would come under the County Executive right?

**MR. SABATINO:**

Those were County Executive appointments, correct. The whole slew.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

To me that's another vehicle that we could use to get the message out to the youths of Suffolk

County.

**MR. BREINING:**

One of the things I was going to ask -- Don McPherson who came out from Adelphi University with me today as well to just add to some of my comments because we have besides this delivery system that I'm addressing with you right now one of the resources that we bring to the table in terms of providing a delivery system is the New York State Insurance Reciprocal which has adopted our materials and in fact is printing our materials before you right now. The New York State Insurance Reciprocal is the reciprocal that insures school districts approximately 80% of the New York State school districts. And that's going to be one of the ways that we're going to hopefully get to our populations where school district are going to require/or request that if they're going to use their fields that we would require this training of your youth coaches. But we're anxious also to participate with town rec. people and whatever other ways that you folks can define for us as far as a delivery system. Obviously, these issues there's an additional resource that I just wanted to take a couple of minutes of your time to let you know about.

Also at Adelphi University there's an organization called the Sports Leadership Institute, which is an institute that is really responsible for the creation of these materials and it is an endowment of the university too. And more of its goals is to really help improve the youth's sports environment through research, through curriculum development. And through curriculum development at the physical education level for which our physical education department at Adelphi is actually nationally known for its promotion of Sport for Life theme. I just wanted to share -- have Don come up and share with you how the Sports Leadership Institute can contribute to this so you're fully aware of the resources that we're anxious to bring to the table here.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Come on up.

**MR. MCPHERSON:**

Thank you Warren and thank you all for the opportunity to present this morning. Oh, I'm Don McPherson with the Sports Leadership Institute at Adelphi University. The Sports Leadership Institute is essentially an outgrowth of Athletes Helping Athletes. And the efforts that Warren has taken up for so many years in Long Island communities promoting sportsmanship, promoting fair play and obviously with the popularity of youth's sports. I met with a gentleman from the New York Power telling me this morning that there are more than 700,000 young people playing soccer on Long Island. Understanding the tremendous impact that sports has on our communities, but also we're looking at some other issues that are also have a tremendous impact coming out of the sports or the lack thereof with cuts in education. Physical education is being cut back in so many schools across the country and obviously we see that impact here on Long Island here in Suffolk County.

We're also seeing a tremendous dropout rate in the youth's sports experience and more than 70% of students dropout by age 13 leaving them disconnected from programs like Athletes Helping Athletes. And one of the things that we want to do with the Sports Leadership Institute is to return the altruism to sport, which is exactly what Warren is proposing here this afternoon. In addition, our concerns at the Sports Leadership Institute are looking at the long-term effects of this. One of the issues that I've been very actively involved in taking a look at over the last several months in working with the Centers for Disease Control and the Department of Health

and Human Services on other issues relating to athletics in terms of domestic violence. And other types of violence in bullying and teasing that we're starting to address at an early age using sports and athletics. Starting to look also at the tremendous dropout rate the cuts in physical education. The CDC last week released a report that one in three young people born in the year 2000 will be diagnosed with Type II diabetes.

So we're looking at the dropout rate the cuts in physical education that come from a whole host of our lack of priorities in the physical education for all, of course that's what the sportsmanship is all about. It's physical education and participation for all and we're looking at those cuts and the relationship to long-term help implications for our young people and ultimately for our society.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Madam Chair, if I may?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Go ahead.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Mr. McPherson thank your for those very timely comments; if you could just stay at the podium for a moment. No only should and hopefully will the Parks Department be involved, but also, and I'm speaking as chair of the Health, Education and Youth Committee, that our County Health Department is to a limited extent, but to a certain extent working with some of the school districts in Suffolk County in developing programs where there's more of an emphasis on physical education. It's very limited in scope, but certainly the resources of the Sports Leadership Institute at Adelphi University we can do is have your shop sort to speak your office work with or speak with our Health Department as well because this is a huge issue. You said one in three --

**MR. MCPHERSON:**

-- yes --

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

-- who were born in 2000 more likely than not will be diagnosed with diabetes. It's a anticipated epidemic and I think there is a correlation between that and the lack of physical exercise. And the fact that too many children both boys and girls aren't getting the kind of activity that they should be they're just too passive. So I as one Legislator welcome your comments as well as the comments of Warren and how the university setting can also work with our departments to try to bring something to the kids that's been missing for too long. So I thank you for that.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I just was reading something I thought was interesting. It says here in the packet that you gave us, a few years ago the heart rates of 12-year-old players in the Little League World Series were taken while they were batting heart rates increased to 168 beats per minute. That's very interesting and I think that, you know, if we can coordinate this Commissioner, if you could perhaps talk with them and maybe coordinate some kind of a meeting where invitations go out and it could be a coordinated effort. I think it would be better for lots of kids and lots of parents. Okay. So maybe we can get the three of you together at some point and move

forward? Okay. Thanks. Thank you very much. Anyone else what to address the committee. Okay. Then we're going to go right to the agenda. I just want to thank Ray Corwin for showing up. He's one of our Parks Trustees watching how we do business at the committee level. He is the chairman.

### **TABLED RESOLUTIONS**

**I.R. 1161 Appointing Mary Anne Jedrlnic as member of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Commission (Trustee No. 2). (Bishop)** I have reached out to this -- to Legislator Bishop a couple of times. The lady has not responded. Do we have any --

**MR. ZACCARO:**  
(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**  
On the microphone.

**MR. ZACCARO:**  
David has asked that -- if you could table it again. We're trying to get in contact with her. She's a school teacher so she's been occupied during the day, but now that summer is around she should be able to come to the next committee meeting.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**  
In August.

**MR. ZACCARO:**  
Oh, I guess there's a meeting in July.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**  
Right. The last meeting of July, correct. Okay.

**MR. ZACCARO:**  
Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**  
Thank you. Motion to table.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**  
Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**  
All in favor? Opposed? Tabled. **(Vote: 6-0)**

**I.R. 1404 To amend the user fee schedule for Suffolk County Parks. (County Executive)** I'm going to make a motion to table.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**  
Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Table. **(Vote: 6-0)**

**I.R. 1406 To implement RFP Committee for Concessionaire Program at county parks. (Postal)** I'm going to make a motion to table. Did you want to say anything?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I had conversation with a member of the Presiding Officer's staff and I thought he had relayed that information. We're still meeting about it so he indicated to me that they would ask for it to be tabled again.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. All in favor? Opposed? Tabled. **(Vote: 6-0)** IR 1415 motion, oh, we did that already. That's approved.

**I.R. 1436 Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to water supply systems in county parks (CP 3221). (County Executive)** Can you just give us a little bit on this, Commissioner?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. I believe this is the one that Legislator Foley had questions on the last time we met and I said that we could postpone it a cycle. We have several wells in Southaven County Park and we're at a point right now where it's either replace the wells or hook up to the Suffolk County Water system. And it's probably a lot more expensive to replace the wells so that's why we are going in this direction.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Just as a follow up. I'll be supporting it today, but I had also asked whether or not there were any off site plumes that were of contamination that were coming on site, migrating on site and whether or not that was one of the reasons why you have to make this change?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

No. We are not aware of any -- a situation like that.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Because I know in the Yaphank area the general area there's a number of different kinds underground plumes that have caused some other County wells to be closed. So, thank you.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 6-0)** Actually, Ray, I realize that you are in the packet to be approved for reappointment so can you come on up? But I also don't see a resume in the backup. Do we have a resume from you?

**MR. CORWIN:**

Yes, you should. It was with the information that Peter Scully had requested.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I don't have one. Does anyone else have one I don't have one?

**MR. CORWIN:**

I don't have one with me, but you should have.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

This is a reappointment, right?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes. But still it should be part of this. Do you think maybe you could fax one over to my office and I'll make sure it gets into the packet.

**MR. CORWIN:**

I wouldn't be able to do that until tomorrow.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes, but as long as it gets in before Tuesday's meeting.

**MR. CORWIN:**

What is your fax number, Ginny?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

It's 854-4928.

**MR. CORWIN:**

I'm sorry. I did give one to Peter Scully when he -- before he left. Maybe somewhere in transit it may have gotten lost.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I guess I'm just going to say that I've attended the Parks Committee meetings for the past maybe three years.

**MR. CORWIN:**

And we appreciate that totally.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

And Ray has been a great facilitator and a person who has a lot of knowledge about the Park system and the Pine Barrens and many, many other things. And he is a tremendous asset to this group and I think you should probably be the chair forever, but --

**MR. CORWIN:**

-- well, we'll have to talk about that.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Term limits?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Term limits, no. They're reversing term limits. Ray, do you want to say anything to the committee?

**MR. CORWIN:**

Sure. First, I want to thank you for welcoming us here at all the meetings that we try to attend as many as we can. And in term I want to thank all the Legislators those that are here and those that are not here who have made an effort to attend meetings. Most of you as I look out here have been to one or more Park Trustee meetings. Some of you are regular attendees and participants, which we really appreciate. When I started as chair whenever that, my memory is falling me, but whenever that was one of the concerns that I had was there seem to be something of a scheduling disconnect or communications disconnect. So I've kind of politely nudged and pushed my fellow trustees to attend as many of the meetings they can; serve on as many committees as they can. And I don't know how many have come to which committees, but I know I've tried to make it a point to come to the Parks Committee.

One of the issues that we first addressed was the fact that they're actually thirteen trustees and we've traditionally only had eleven. On the trustee at large we have one for each of the ten towns. We notice immediately and I spoke to the Commissioner about this that the Suffolk County Executive and the Presiding Officer are members' ex-officio of the Board of Trustees. And practicality being what it is you can't expect them to necessarily be at the trustee meetings so we requested that they send a representative which they've been doing for the last year plus now, maybe a year and a half. I think that has tremendously increased the amount of cooperation and communications; it certainly has speeded it up between those two officers and the trustees. And I think that has helped to let the Legislature and the Executive Branch know what we're doing despite our other meetings with, you know, on customized issues with Legislators. So that's something that we've tried to do.

We've look at the issues that are most pressing. One was the Park Police study that was completed about a year ago and I think we were before you several of my colleagues and myself this past winter to talk about the results of that study. We don't have any magic bullets sort to speak of solving that problem, but we all know what the recommendations are and I think everyone's working on it both the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch and we appreciate that. We know we still have a long way to go. I've tried to encourage our fellow trustees both before being chair and as the current chair to get up and volunteer and many of them do. We have some change over the trustees, but I can tell you that the ones that have served the longest have actually been the most active which is something countered to what I have encountered in a lot of other groups that I've served on over the years. We have participated in almost everyone I think of the RFP Committees since I've been chair sometimes to the extent of having two representatives. We've tried to take a look at issue such as the alternative funding which this committee graciously included the trustees on and it's an issue that's near and dear as you can imagine to the trustees concerns about the future of the Parks. So I was really grateful that, you know, we could work with the Legislature on that.

One of the things that we've taken a look at recently is the whole question of increasing even further the amount of communication that goes on between the Legislature, the County Exec's Office and the sister government agencies. And Legislator Fields made a reference earlier today which I want to underscore because it was sort of proud of it cause it took a year and a half to do and that is today this morning at the Belmont Lake State Park for the first time that I know of. And I can't swear that I've been around since the day one of the trustees, but no one at State Parks and no one at the County Parks remembers when the two governing boards every got

together and had a meeting. So we thought why not do that. Simple ideas take awhile and it took between scheduling and everyone's availability looking at a couple of dozen people we finally got it off the ground and happening this morning. Legislator Field's was there: the Commissioner was there; members of this Parks staff and from adjacent county and state parks. The park managers for each branch of government who had adjacent holdings or nearby holdings were there.

And I for one, I mentioned at the meeting that I kept taking notes and I learned any day you learn something is a good day and I learned a lot today so it's been a really very good day. I think that one of the things that's come out of that is a better understanding on the part of the administrators and the governing boards as to the de- facto day to day communications that's already occurring between state parks and county parks. So when there's an issue in Montauk County Park, Theodore Roosevelt County Park and Montauk Point State Park we now understand better what the two park managers have probably known for a long time which is how they share resources. What circumstances do they team up and form an informal ad hoc group and go out and solve a problem. We'd like to see if we can expand on that and capitalize on that a little bit. So at the risk of going on at length, I mean, I'd be happy to answer any questions, but kind of the hallmark of what we've tried to make the last couple of years is the increased amount of cooperation and tangible results whether it's the Park Police study or the joint Parks meeting to come up with tangible results that reflect changes on the ground and the Parks. Whether it's better Park Police coverage or it's better communication between Park managers. So I'd be happy to answer any questions or take comments.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Legislator Alden.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Thanks a lot for coming down. Do you think it would be beneficial that maybe once a year or even more than that if the trustees and this committee met jointly?

**MR. CORWIN:**

Oh, I never thought of that. That certainly would work for me; it can only be beneficial. I think that would be great. I mean, one of the issues is people need to know each other before there's a issue to be resolved before you're sitting on opposite sides of the table and there's the issue of the day in front of you. It's really important that people know each other to the extent that they might communicate just in the regular course of events. Once you do it, it would probably be at a minimum.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Maybe through the Chair we could try to schedule something.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

You know and also we meet monthly so we could take one month, you know, one meeting out of the year and have it at our Legislative meeting and we'll meet where it would be mutually convenient. I think that's a great idea.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Good.

**MR. CORWIN:**

You know we can also change the scheduling around. I've told the trustees that as long as they'll have me as chair they have to be flexible in their scheduling. So if Real Estate has an issue and it can't wait, you know, they need to change our schedule.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Keep this in mind. Maybe in the wintertime some Hawaiian setting or something like that would be I think would be acceptable to myself anyway.

**MR. CORWIN:**

That would be Hawaiian on Long Island?

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

No, no, no. That would be Hawaii, Hawaiian.

**MR. CORWIN:**

I see, no comment.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Not right now amidst all this rain.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

No. I do think that's a good idea.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Cameron's offered to pay for that for all of us to go. Okay. Thank you. I'm going to make a --

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

-- Madam Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

-- I'm going to ask Legislator Foley to speak.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Thank you. It's more of a point that raised as the Chair of Parks Trustees over a series of years particularly Chair of this committee myself and others have endeavored to have grant writers for a variety of departments including the Parks Department. And I think it would be well worthwhile for the Parks Trustees to chime in on the issue. It's our contention that even in these difficult fiscal times for a number of governments that there must be and there are dollars available through grants whether through foundations. Whether it's state and/or federal grant monies that we in County government are not accessing and over a series of years departments have been reluctant to I would say capitalize on the talents of a grant writing position. There's been some difference of opinion as to the effectiveness of that position. I think particularly in the area of capital projects that there could be probably more worthwhile for capital projects than for operating monies, but certainly I think the Parks Trustees need to chime in on this as part of their agenda sooner than later.

**MR. CORWIN:**

Sure. To my knowledge they've never been asked, but I can certainly propose the challenge.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

That's why I brought it up. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I'm going to make a motion to take IR 1527 out of order.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? It is before us.

**I.R. 1527 Approving the reappointment of Raymond P. Corwin as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. (County Executive)** I'll make a motion to approve.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 6-0)** And if you just get me the resume I'll make sure that all of the full Legislature has it on Tuesday for us to pass.

**MR. CORWIN:**

I will do that and let me just thank the members of the committee for their endorsement. Look forward to working with you.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

And thank you. And thanks in continuing to help.

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

**I.R. 1482 Amending the 2003 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating planning funds for stabilization of TWA Flight 800 Memorial at Smith Point Park (7162.112). (Caracappa)** How much money is it?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I believe this resolution is 120,000 for planning.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I find it so difficult with this memorial that it's placed where it was placed and we have the onus of trying to stabilize it and pay for it and pay for the planning and it should have never been there. Counsel did you want to say something?

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Before we hear from Counsel I just want to speak on the resolution itself. We do have monies appropriated in the capital program for next year it's my understanding. Jim is that correct? Let me first hear from Budget Review before we get some legal --

**MR. SPERO:**

-- the omnibus resolution included 1.2 million for the actual construction.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

For '04 correct?

**MR. SPERO:**

So this would do the planning component of that.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

So we're doing it in the logical sequential fashion. This year we'll be doing 120 which is about 10% of the project and next year we would do the actual project although the title, Madam Chair reads, stabilized TWA Flight 800 Memorial. It would also essentially also stabilize that portion of the County Park as well.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes, it is.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

So it's not just simply for the memorial as important as that is in and of itself, but it would also extend certain number of linear feet in order to protect the park. And it would really be part and parcel of a larger longer term program of stabilizing that beach and I think it's important that we move forward with it.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

On the motion?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Last year or the year before and it might be like three years ago now, but it was a continuing program to look at what we were actually going to do with that because either three or four years ago after those nor'easter the ocean actually threatened the concession stand there.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

And we put in the steel beams and things like that and then replenished the sand. Rebuilt the -- there was a pier or something there?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

There was a steel bulkhead put in the ground in front of the pavilion. And actually what the planning in this resolution entitles extending that steel bulkhead. Extending it east beyond the memorial.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Because that protected the field of cesspools that was there also I believe.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

What did we come up with as far as has a study shown should we relocate that concession stand away from it or out of harms way or where are we on that?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Well, we -- as you probably are aware there was a master plan completed. I believe five years ago and then when my predecessor Peter Scully came in we were about to go ahead to start planning another building on the site as part of the master plan. And he questioned whether this was a good thing to do so what we did was we met with DPW. We had another consultant come in to just look at the beach issue, the erosion issue. And we have since gotten the final draft from them in terms of what they propose would assist the situation and this is just part of a program. I expect that we may even be coming back to you this year if there is money that we can find within the capital budget as offsets because there isn't anything existing right now.

As another phase to the Army Corp of Engineers is going to dredge the Moriches Inlet and they have agreed to bypass the sand down to the beach facility if the County would put up some of the money. So it's an ongoing beach nourishment issue; just doing this in front of the memorial will only solve the problem to an extent. It's going to be an ongoing beach nourishment issue and not in terms of really just only saving the building and the memorial it's, you know, using the beach for I mean, that beach we take in a considerable amount of revenue. And a lot of our residents use the facility, but I think you need to -- the powers that be need to look at the impact on the mainland too that it behooves us to take action to make sure that the beach -- that there is no breach.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Because the steel pilings that were put in there or whatever you want to call it a retaining wall or whatever that was only -- it's not a permanent fix to the situation if I recall correctly.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

No. It's really not a permanent fix. You really need to do beach nourishment also.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Right. Because they can actually be taken out by a nor'easter that whole piling and the field of cesspools and the building.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. I believe that is possible.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Okay. And there also I believe that the parking field is at a lower level than number one the roadway, but possibly the last part of the beach. So if you have a breach it's going right through.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes, it could easily it could.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Okay.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Motion on the floor, Madam Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Just in a clarification, this would just be for the TWA Flight Memorial or this actually includes planning steps for the cesspool field the field of cesspools there?

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

The way that this would work and Commissioner or Mr. Spero can chime in on this whether it's going to be another 200 linear feet, 300 feet. It's to extend the metal the steel bulk heading another – I think another two to three hundred feet to the east. So it'll even go past the memorial by a certain number of feet as well because the issue becomes not just the memorial that's why I wish this was worded a little bit differently, the title of the bill. Because it's not only the memorial that's at point here, but the pedestrian walkway that goes under the road and is behind the memorial and if there's a breach at the beach it could – the water could go underneath the pedestrian walkway the tunnel rather the east tunnel. So it's not just a question of this memorial it's also a question of some fixed infrastructure that the County had placed on at this beach about 40 years ago.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

It doesn't indicate that though in the bill.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

I know it doesn't. Well, the way it's written is the way it's written however the end result of expanding the bulk heading would protect not just the memorial, but also the east tunnel that's used by pedestrians to access the parking lot.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

We have a motion to approve.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Approved. **(Vote: 6-0)**

**I.R. 1519 Authorizing the installation of a presentation stone and plaque for a living memorial at Southaven County Park. (County Executive)**

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

This should be withdrawn. We acted upon this at the last meeting.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. So it hasn't been withdrawn yet so I'll make a motion to table. All in favor? Opposed?

Tabled subject to call.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? It's tabled subject to call. **(Vote: 6-0)**

**I.R. 1529 Naming the ball field at Citibank Park "Senator Owen H. Johnson Field. (County Executive)**

**SPEAKER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Well, you know, this is my district until December 31<sup>st</sup>, and it would have been nice I think if the County Executive's Office, I think Legislator Carpenter brought this up the last time that there was a bill about some project in her district and she had not been contacted regarding this, but I have some questions about this. Is the County Executive –

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

-- on that point I just wanted to say something while you're saying that because it's something that probably bears repeating. It certainly preceded this Commissioner's tenure, but this is not my district but it is an issue and something that I worked on from day one. I was the one that brought Owen Johnson to the County to the County Executive and his people to first broach the idea of the state funding a ballpark in Suffolk County. Originally, it was going to be in Brentwood and then the decision was made to move it to Central Islip and I have been supportive since day one. So I would have liked to have known about this before we saw the resolution in the packet.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

I have a question maybe Commissioner you can answer? I believe that Citibank gave the County money for the naming rights or the County receives money from Citibank, what is that procedure?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I do not know Legislator Fields.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

County Executive's Office do you know? No, you don't know. Okay. Then I'm going to make a motion to table.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled. **(Vote: 6-0)** And I'd like to hear from the County Executive's

Office on information regarding this.

**MR. SABATINO:**

Well, I just want to say for the record, Citibank's consent will be required to do this.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

And that states in the resolution?

**MR. SABATINO:**

The reason I know it because I was asked to look at this about two and a half months ago and when I did the research I mean, to do the renaming you need the consent of the party that we gave the generic name to which was originally European American which was then taken over by Citibank. In the middle of all that (inaudible) wound up some place else because somebody from Citibank contacted me and was asking me how to do the pieces in the puzzle, but those pieces in the puzzle never materialized. That's why the resolution I drafted never got to the next stage. So all I'm telling you is that before you can do this you need the consent because you can infringe on the (inaudible) --

**SPEAKERS:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

In answer to your question it is not as part of the resolution.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

So through the Chair to direct a question to the County Executive's Office. It's not merely a yes or no answer that we're looking for it's a legal analysis because there's a contractual relationship between the County of Suffolk and now Citibank which this really has just been indicated it's going to interfere with that contractual relationship.

**MR. SABATINO:**

Which also has financial implications just so you know.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

That's right.

**MR. SABATINO:**

We're receiving at least the agreement was to receive \$230,001. I think that was an annual fee that we were supposed to receive. So the point is there's a financial connection between the grant that we gave them.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

So there's legal questions, financial and factual questions that would exactly have to be addressed.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

The thing I would be curious to is, is the renaming or is it basically a ceremonial kind of thing where maybe the field itself is going to have a plaque that says Owen Johnson Field, but it has

nothing to do with the ballpark itself cause this does say field. So perhaps that might be, you know, what they're talking about because, you know, just the way we do for roads sometimes where you're not going to go and change every sign on every road that says CitiPark that this may just in fact be the field itself.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. So we need all the answers to all those questions.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Plus I don't think the committee should lose sight of the fact that Legislator Carpenter mentioned. Senator Johnson was the primary mover in Albany to, I think, appropriate close to \$15 million, \$14 million for this project.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Legislator Nowick.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Paul, Citibank right now did you say they pay the County money to have their name up there?

**MR. SABATINO:**

That was the original agreement.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

\$231 what is it?

**MR. SABATINO:**

My understanding is it's \$231,001 per year.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Per year.

**MR. SABATINO:**

That was the original understanding with European American, and Citibank became the successor.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

So if they relinquish that then is -- and then the state will take over with the \$230,000?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

No.

**MR. SABATINO:**

No, no. This is separate and apart. This was -- we offered naming rights. We actually had a competitive solicitation put out there. Whoever offered the highest amount of money to the County would get the right to get the publicity from actually having the ballpark name after you. It's a common thing across the country now. The point is that is was originally European American. Citibank took over European American. We should be receiving that money, but now we can't take something away from them without their consent.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I don't believe, excuse me, I don't believe it's renaming the park. I think it is specifically for the field. So I assume that Citibank would still be part of the picture.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Right. In partial answer to your question, what it looks like is an attempt here to honor a State Senator who got us the original grant without interfering and I hope it would be without our stream of revenue. Similar to the way that, you know, like some of our names are up on a plaque on the building.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

I don't have any on my building.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Did you vote for that?

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

To get my name --

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

So as Legislators our names are the Legislators that were there at the time our names are on a brass plaque on the building, but that's what it sounds like they're trying to do is just honor the guy.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

I'd hate to give up the 230,000.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Right. And that's one of the questions.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. So there are numerous questions and the biggest one --

**MR. SABATINO:**

-- they really are serious issues because I mean by way of example the old astrodome became a new ballpark and was Enron Field. Enron paid big money and then they got in trouble. They had a big problem getting the Enron's name off even though it was in a bankruptcy proceeding. So it's -- there are legal implications; it's more than just putting a name on a piece of granite.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. So we made a motion to table. We had a second. All in favor? Opposed? Tabled.  
**(Vote: 6-0)**

**I.R. 1535          Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to Van  
Bourgonien County Park (CP 7077). (Bishop)**

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Motion.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

On the motion. Let's get a second on the motion.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Can you explain what this is?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes. We had an Adopt a Park agreement with Town of Babylon for Van Bourgondien and they do most of the maintenance at that facility. And they would like to add additional ball fields at the site and that's what this money would accomplish.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

We have a motion -- Legislator Carpenter.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

I have some questions about this because just recently someone brought this park to my attention that it was really a shame that this County Park was in such a state of disrepair.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Van Bourgondien?

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Yes. And that -- and they were trying to say that Adopt a Park programs don't really work when you do things like that. And I, you know, tried to explain and then I guess it depends on the group that's doing it and so forth and so on. So this Adopt a Park program that's in place with the Town of Babylon?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Yes, Legislator Carpenter.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

It's just like two days ago.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

And I haven't been over there recently, but I have not -- I'm not aware of that; certainly I'll go over and look myself.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Okay. And then I would just like to make a motion to table because I think we need to know if whenever we've had the agreement with have they been living up to their, you know, their end of the bargain.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

As far as I know, yes, and I am sure that I would hear complaints about it if not.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Also on the motion. On the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

The agreement between the County and the Town of Babylon is strictly for maintenance?

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

No. Actually, the Town of Babylon has put some money into the site also in developing fields.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

We really should have an analysis of whether if they're going to advance or whether it's their responsibility to pay the money to if we're going to add fields maybe it's their responsibility of that existing agreement.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Well, as I said my understanding is they've put money into the cap so called capital type improvement that they have done that and it's an ongoing maintenance program.

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

Madam Chair.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

I believe they put a sprinkler system in for the fields so I think that this is just assisting them in that process.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Could somebody get Paul Sabatino the agreement and have him just analyze it?

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

For the next meeting could you make sure that anybody from the Town of Babylon could come and the Adopt a Park people could come and just to clarify some of these questions.

**COMMISSIONER GORDON:**

Sure.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. We have a motion --

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

-- Madam Chair, they may even want to show up on Tuesday because I think they want to move this as soon than later. And I'd also remind the committee that we have just approved for Legislator Crecca \$100,000 at our last meeting for the Hauppauge Youth Organization. Where that's a County park and we had appropriated monies six figures we had appropriated monies in order to approve that particular park so that the young kids can better utilize the ball fields. This is the same difference in another township it's a County owned park. There are some improvements that the town has made in this park, but the sponsor of the bill wants to move forward --

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

-- well, then lets discharge it --

**LEGISLATOR FOLEY:**

-- let me just finish my point, Madam Chair. Otherwise we're going to have to wait five full weeks if not six weeks. We'd have to wait six weeks before we could approve it again at the next general meeting, which isn't until August 5th. So actually it could be seven weeks. So I just wouldn't want to wait given the fact that we've extended this courtesy if you want to call that to another Legislator recently at the Hauppauge area we should be doing the same in the Babylon area as well.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Okay. I'm going to make a motion to discharge without recommendation.

**SPEAKER:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Oh, it's tabled. I make a motion to reconsider.

**MR. SABATINO:**

It was tabled. Somebody who voted in favor of tabling would have to make a motion to reconsider to get it back before you.

**SPEAKER:**

(inaudible)

**MR. SABATINO:**

The vote was over.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Excuse me.

**SPEAKERS:**

(inaudible)

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Was it, do you have it?

**MS. SCHMIDT:**

I have approved Legislator Brian Foley seconded by Legislator Jon Cooper. Then tabled Legislator Carpenter and seconded Chairperson Fields.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

But we didn't state it.

**MS. SCHMIDT:**

No.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Oh so then --

**MR. SABATINO:**

-- I stand corrected I thought there was a vote.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Then I will make a motion to discharge without recommendation.

**LEGISLATOR COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed?

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Opposed.

**LEGISLATOR NOWICK:**

Opposed.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Opposed.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Motion to --

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

-- motion to discharge fails.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes. I guess --

**MR. SABATINO:**

-- three - three.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Yes.

**MR. SABATINO:**

Then it fails.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Motion to table.

**LEGISLATOR CARPENTER:**

Second.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

All in favor? Opposed? Tabled. **(Vote: 6-0)**

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Just a -- I don't know if it's a parliamentary inquiry, but, Paul, after the discharge motion fails can you table it?

**MR. SABATINO:**

Absolutely.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Or is the bill already tabled?

**MR. SABATINO:**

No. What happened was there was a pending tabling motion, which I think the sponsor withdrew that motion to sponsor the discharge. So discharge without recommendation which is a subordinate vote fails so then tabling would be appropriate.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Okay.

**CHAIRPERSON FIELDS:**

Motion to adjourn unless anyone else has anything else to add. Thank you.

**(Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P. M.)**

**{ } denotes spelled phonetically)**