

**PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
**of the**  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

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**Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Parks and 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 Wednesday, **September 22, 2004**.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Jay Schneiderman • Chairperson  
Legislator Michael Caracciolo • Vice•Chair  
Legislator Cameron Alden  
Legislator Angie Carpenter  
Legislator Vivian Vilorio•Fisher  
Legislator Ricardo Montano  
Legislator Peter O'Leary  
Legislator Jon Cooper

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mea Knapp • Counsel to the Legislature  
Ronald Foley • Chief Deputy Commissioner of Parks  
Sean Clancy • Budget Review Office  
Charlie Bender • Aide to P.O. Caracappa  
Ben Zwirn • County Executive's Office.  
Jacqueline Caputi • County Attorney's Office  
Bill Johnson • Suffolk Committee for Camping  
All other interested parties

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**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Donna Catalano • Court Stenographer

**(\* THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:35 A.M. \*)**

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay. I'd like to call the meeting to order, the Parks and Cultural Affairs Committee. I'd like to ask you to rise and join us for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Cooper.

### **SALUTATION**

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay. We have a pretty light agenda today. The meeting should move fairly quickly. I'd like to start off with our public portion. I have one yellow card, the name is Bill Johnson, Suffolk Committee for Camping, would like to speak to the committee.

**MR. JOHNSON:**

Good morning. Thank you for letting me speak here today. I'm with the Suffolk Committee for Camping. I'm president of the organization, Bill Johnson. We at the Suffolk Committee for Camping would like to compliment, first of all, the Parks Department for the recent improvements out at Indian Island. The new electric sites are really a welcome additional to that beautiful park. I feel that the money and time that was invested in that was well worth it. I was there myself last weekend, and it was a beautiful, beautiful sight. It was very crowded, which is good, because there's not too many •• not too times you're out there that park was used that much.

Also, I'd like to compliment the Park personnel. They were very courteous and caring and did all they could to make sure our stay was a pleasant one. Could we are concerned, however, about the new path house that was to be included in the original bid and for which, we understand, there was money appropriated for. Additional showers and toilet facilities would be required now more than ever now that the new group sites are there. They are bounds to attract more campers than in the past years.

The increased use of the sites will equate to an increase in the use of the park's facilities including the existing shower and toilet facilities. I did a quick estimate of four group sites with approximate •• four group with approximately 55 sites total, it's going to gives us two adults per camper, 110 campers, three children per camper, 165 children, figure you're going to get at least two guests per site, that's 110 guests, plus any children of the quests, for a grand total for 220 adults, 165 kids or 385 people trying to use the existing facilities.

I realize this is kind of a worst case scenario, but I thought it would be good to look at it that way before it becomes a problem. A new bath house and toilet facility placed where it was originally planned would help to relieve the strain that all this additional usage would put on these existing facilities. My figures don't include the Boy Scouts, the picnickers or the campers in the regular sites also. Again, I would like to say that it was a pleasure staying there. The sites are very well •• they were very well done, and I think any money that was spent on that was very well worth it. Again, thank you for allowing me to speak.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Thank you. Okay. Is there anyone else in the public who wishes to be heard at this point?

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

That's a great place to camp, by the way. Thank you for coming down.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

All right. I'll bring forward our Commissioner for a report if you have one.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'll start by recognizing Legislator Caracciolo.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Thank you. With respect to the last speaker, maybe the Commissioner could make a comment or two regarding that bath house issues and what the future might be.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

The general way of addressing things like that is in our Capital category called campground improvements. We asked for •• or will be asking for an appropriation this year that would take care of about half of the cost of that building, and we'll come back for the other half next year. It's about 750, \$800,000 to do the building that is needed there. So we will be spreading it over two years as far funding goes. It is our intention to construct the building. Plans pretty much exist because we're going to use the same set of plans we've used for other similar applications, and I think it addresses their needs. And I think •• it's important to add to what Mr. Johnson said in •• our thanks to DPW who provides all the engineering services for Parks, and they take care of shepherding all these project along. The did a great job on that.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Thank you for that response. And let me just mention that this past Monday morning I had occasion on a very beautiful sunrise to be at the park with some folks from Cornell. As we drove through the park to get over to Peconic Bay, I noticed that the occupancy rate was rather high. I was surprised well after Labor Day that there are still that many folks camping there. So hopefully that bodes well and is a good sign of the fact that we have made improvements with electric and water and with the addition of the bath house that will not only help with the County's revenue situation in parks, but also provide opportunities well past the peak season for families, particularly, I guess, those who are retired •• it seems to me most of the folks there were retirees •• can enjoy the season, because we've enjoyed a great stretch now of beautiful late summer, early fall weather.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

It's a classic case of you build it, they'll come. We put in some paved all access sites there for less mobile people, and they're full all the time. And the attendance, I think the use of that campground, reflects positively on putting those improvements in if you do what the people are looking for; the sewer, the water, the electricity, and in a large sum of the sites for today's larger units, they're make good use of it. Now, 85% of our campers are Suffolk County residents, so we are serving the people who are paying the bill.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Thank you.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

This was interesting an interesting statistic on 85% of the campers being Suffolk County residents. That's really remarkable. I just wanted to pick up on your comment of build it and they will come. Thank you for giving me that update on Sagtikos. I spoke with you yesterday about that, and I just want to impress upon you, as I'm sure you are aware, and I appreciate you visiting with the preservation group and seeing the manor firsthand and all that is involved and all that needs to be done, but to try to prioritize and get the renovation of the carriage house on track as quickly as possibly, because that is slated to be the visitors' center with the handicapped bathrooms, and it will give the Preservation Society the much needed space to do some fundraising, because they really can't use any of the space in the interior of the manor for any kind of events. It's difficult to try to plan everything outside. They are planning an encampment October 16th, I believe is the date, it's a Sunday, and that too is a very popular event. I will also contact Public Works, because I know you said that they're supposed to be meeting in the next couple of weeks about the schedule for that, but to try to move that quickly as much as we can.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

You are right in the importance of the visitors' center. I think in the early days of the acquisition it was a toss up between stabilization and doing the things that you want to do for the future. I think it was important to protect the roof, get that replaced and button up the kinds of things that needed to be so that the deterioration would stop. And now I think it's important that we collectively to figure out what the priorities ought be, and clearly the visitors' center is one of them that will take some pressure off the main house. But I think it's an important tourism asset for the County and an important educational one, and we need to treat it properly.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Thank you. I appreciate you recognition of that fact. The other question I have for the Commissioner while I'm on microphone, if I could, Mr. Chairman, is to inquire yet again on the status of trap and skeet.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Trap and skeet. We're reviewing the latest consultant report on what has to be done to mitigate the noise for the prevailing town ordinance. That's proving difficult. I can't quantify that in any way. But we expect that to be wrapped up soon, as I said before. I apologize for saying that so many times. But it's our intention still to process forward with it.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Can you quantify what soon is?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

End of the month. I won't say that again.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

All right. Thank you.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Mr. Chair, if I may, I have a question. Good morning, Mr. Foley. I had reviewed the minutes of another committee's meeting regarding the Smoke Run Farm. And the Commissioner •• particularly, I know Mr. Caracciolo had a number of questions regarding the Smoke Run Farm property in Stony Brook. And I had spoken with the Commissioner regarding the Smoke Run Farm, and its addition to our inventory of parklands in Suffolk County. My primary interest came from the accessibility that it would provide to the Forsythe Meadow, which now doesn't have very clear accessibility for the residents of Suffolk County. And as we all know, when you have a County parkland, one of the primary motivations is to have access for the citizens of Suffolk County to that parkland. And people can walk on to the parkland, but the Smoke Run Farm provides more access. And Mr. Foley, if you could share with us your views of Smoke Run Farm and its value as an addition to our inventory.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

It's my opinion that regardless of what use the property see going into the future, it's an important acquisition, because it is essentially an in holding in already acquired parkland that is difficult to access, not impossible, but it's not •• it's not welcoming in the difficulty to get to it. So whether you use it for its current use or some other use, I think there is land there that is available for active recreation that will also provide access to the more preserved •• not nature preserve, but it's undisturbed land with trails and things like that that you have a tough time getting to now. I am not a big fan of the County taking on more equestrian, facilities because we have had a hard time finding viable operators. It's a tough business to be in from a liability sense and the ability to get insurance. People in the business are having a hard time making money. We currently have one vacant where the operator walked away, and we are trying to

find a replacement there. So I'm not a big fan of more County owned equestrian facilities, stables, so to speak, but regardless of that, that's an important acquisition, and I would recommend you to do.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

And of course, as an active parkland acquisition, we would partner with the municipality, with Brookhaven Town. And so the management, if it were to continue as an equestrian facility, the management piece of it would be the Town of Brookhaven probably with a vendor with whom they would contract. I think that's how we have done active parkland in other areas.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

That would be the ideal scenario.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

I certainly don't anticipate that the town •• that the County would be managing active parkland. We don't have the personnel, we don't have the wherewithal to spread ourselves that thin. That notwithstanding, looking at this parcel doesn't it necessitate making it necessarily an equestrian parkland. There is nothing in my legislation that says it has to be an equestrian park. It's for us to look at it and have the planning steps to move forward with the viability of the acquisition. It seems we have a willing seller, and that's important. That seller would like to see it preserved.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay. Other questions for the Commissioner? I've been a little distracted by ••

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Me.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

No. There is an audit that's been done by the County Comptroller's Office?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

There is.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Have you had a chance to take a look at that audit?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Intimately. In its ••

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Apprise us of what steps are being taken to address the many deficiencies that were exposed within this audit.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I think there are 85 recommendations in here that are 85 individual problems that need to be solved. It's •• there is a lot of work to be done to address all these things. There are some major themes that run through the document that we have got ideas on addressing and that you will see somewhat reflected in the County Executive's budget proposal. It's clear from this that the department has not been staffed adequately in terms of administrative audit functions to oversee •• well, first to develop a set of correct policies and procedures dealing with internal controls and cash handling. Secondly, then to be out in the field and do examinations to make sure those policies and procedures are being implemented in the correct way.

So the auditing that has been proposed in the budget will help deal with having the right rules on the books, educating the staff to give cash handling the priority it should have, and then to be out there checking on both the staff •• well, all three, the staff, our licensees and our concessionaires to see that they are doing the right thing with funds that are the property of the County. I would say that's the •• well, it's not the biggest •• it's the most important first step to take.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

This audit is relatively new, and you probably •• you know, I'm putting you on the spot here today, it's probably unfair. I would like to give you a little bit more time. I think what I would •  
• what I would like to see as Chair is some kind of corrective action plan with a timeline as to how •• you know, what you are going to fix these problems, remedy these problems, and when you believe that those things will be able to be implemented, those changes. Is that something that you could put together by the next meeting of this body?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

It's something, that if you have time, I'll talk to you a little bit about right now.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I would like to have the majority of these things addressed before we open the 2005 operating season. We will do that with that auditing. The budget also proposes five additional field positions. You will notice through here in our responses, there's just a shortage of staff in the field to implement the recommendations. The County Executive has agreed with us to staff up to do that.

We are inviting vendors in now with state of the art computerized central data base point of sales systems that will include all our cash handling areas, all our golf reservations, our campground reservations, to get all this stuff coalesced into one manageable system that's both user friendly for the public and simple to operate for essentially the seasonals we hire to check people into campgrounds, to take cash at the Smith Point Toll Booth and things like that. And we'll have to come back to you for a proposal to fund that, but I think we'll not only improve vastly our accountability and service to the public, but will cost less in the long haul than the system we have now. Timing on that, it's going to be difficult to get done by the beginning of the season, but we're •• that's our aim. And then there was a third thing, I lost it. Well, regardless of that, my goal is to get as much of this before we open for the 2005 season as we can. If you want a description of what that takes, I can put something together.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I would say something brief for the next meeting of what I would call a corrective action plan that says how you are going to fix these •• or remedy these problems and when, so we can kind of track it.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

If you'll look at the back section, you will get a sense of what we're talking about, our responses to each item are in there. But I will put something together.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Legislator Caracciolo.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Commissioner, since you have assumed your office, I know you have made some administrative changes already, have any of them been specific to these areas, you know, in terms of administrative oversight and implementation of internal controls, cash control? Just run through for us how the department •• what the differences are in your administrative structure versus what it was a year ago.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

They're not terribly significant. You can't figure out everything you have to do to correct these things in ••

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Overnight. I realize that.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

A lot of it is a cultural change. The department was built based on mostly public service, not on revenue generation. And that slowly grew over a number of years to be a significant revenue generator; it's \$8 million now. I don't know what it was when it started, but that was small piece of the mission. So we have to increase the priority that everybody in the organization puts on receiving and depositing money.

When we had the loss that we had at Smith Point, within 24 hours I changed the way they collect the money, deal with the money, and the money gets to the bank. That is insignificant in the grand scheme of what we have to do. It was one immediate change. We discovered some of the systems we thought were helping us weren't of much help. So that was a quick knee jerk reaction to just that one situation. We've got to do that in 20 other places. Not •• they aren't as important in terms of the amount of money they generate, but they're equally important in the kind of controls you have to have in place.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

What are the substantive difference with the internal controls in County parks versus your experience in state parks?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

They are really pointed out in here. The auditors did a good job. The County Comptroller knows what they are talking about when they talked about what we need to implement. And those things •• the big difference you'll see between us and the state is there's a clear set of documentation at the state that lays all the policies and procedures from how a revenue report will be audited in the headquarters to exactly what someone is to do with a dollar bill when they collect it out in the park.

The County Parks Department has policies and procedures for about half of that that deals with the administrative functions and it gets out to the level of what will be done on daily reports, where they'll be filed, how they will be checked and things like that. But it falls short of saying out here in the toll booth, this is how you will do things. So we've got to come up with a complete set of procedures for each cash handling site we have. And there's no cookie cutter approach to that, because the sites are all different. Some of them don't have electricity, some of them don't •• many of them don't have a computer connection. We've got to address all those kinds of infrastructure things, and that was the third item I wanted to talk about that I lost before, is the infrastructure improvements that are needed here.

We have to make a decision on a kind of a cost benefit basis whether it's valuable enough for us in terms of revenue collected to run electricity at the cost of \$15,000 to a toll booth that only takes in \$2000 a year. We may not •• we may decide not to do that. So at some point, we'll come back to you with a fee proposal, not to necessarily increase fees or anything, but maybe change the whole way the system is dealt with; changes to the Green Key Card, you will see a recommendation in this audit about that and recommendations about places we should stop collecting a parking fee. I'm not 100% on board with that recommendation yet, but it's a valid thing to be thought about. And we'll come to you with a proposal some time before the operating season to make those kinds of changes too.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

I haven't seen the report yet, does it address any deficiencies, if there are any, in the way revenues are collected by the four golf course pro shops?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

No. It only looked at places that we staff, that there are County employees collecting the

revenue. They predict in here or maybe in a cover letter they sent us, that they do plan to initiate a golf course audit. They've already started an audit of the Trilogy Reservation system. So they're getting to that, you know, next. I would expect over the next 12 months.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Okay. Because as certainly you are aware, and I think most of us are aware, the bulk of that \$8 million in revenue •• I mean, not the lion's share, but certainly the highest percentage of revenue that comes into the Parks Department in the County from user fees is generated through the golf course operations, which are under the supervision, as you said, not of County employees, but pro shop private sector employees hired by the golf profession.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

We have to have the same scrutiny over them we do our own people, because that's revenue we are responsible for, and it's a such a big piece of it that we have to watch what they're doing as well.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Just a final question on that subject, not really directly related. But whatever became of the proposal for the RFP for two additional golf courses at Yaphank on County owned property? Are you at all familiar with that?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

No, I'm not. I vaguely recall some talk about it, but I don't know what the outcome of it was.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

There were several RFPs. And quite frankly, I've lost track of it, it's been a couple of years since I've heard anybody talk about it so. Is it •• is it something you think that the County needs to look at expanding, you know, golfing opportunities?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I'm going to say that I don't know enough today to answer that question.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Perhaps you can look into that and at a later date get back to us and see if that's something we

should revisit.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

One of my frustrations in getting the revenue presentation together for you today is that the data we keep isn't kept in a way that lends itself to good analysis. We've got to adjust what information we are retaining and how it's present so that if you ask me a question like that, I ought to be able to tell that you that some percentage of the best available days for playing golf, people are playing golf. I can't do that today with what we have. I can tell you how much money we ended up putting in the bank, but I can't array that over a period of time, looking at the weather and other variables and say we're maximizing the golf course or we are not or that it's overwhelmed and we need more golf courses.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Have you instituted since our previous conversation about weather and revenues, a daily almanac maintenance?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Not yet.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

That's something that's really basic. Every facility that has •• certainly in the parks, it's almost all facilities that are outdoor, every one of them should be required to keep that information so that when we in the Legislature make inquiry about why a revenue is off, we don't get a generic response, well, last year we had bad weather, because what my staff is doing right now is we're actually going back through the weather almanac and various web sites that this information is available on a day by day basis during the peak season to see if in fact that's a valid reason why perhaps our revenues are off are there other reasons and staff is just saying it was weather related. You know, we certainly had a lot more rain last summer than we have had this summer. So this year should be a banner year.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Well, we can give you an excuse for that too.

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

Thanks, Commissioner.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Legislator Carpenter.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I just wanted to, first of all, ask you to commend anyone at all who was involved with Timber Point this season. The course is in incredible shape. I have a question though. On the red course between three and four, there is a tremendous amount of dirt, is that a staging area for the dirt that was put on some of the fairways to raise them or is there some plan there, what is happening there?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I'll have to get back to you on that.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I could appreciate that. Also, I would just request that there be better distance markers on the fairways. And it seems to me that that would not be an expensive proposition at all. I know that at the 150 you have the black and white stripe markers in the middle, but there isn't any for 200 or 100.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

It's less a cost factor than it is an opinion factor. The opinions are all over the place, which ones should we use, and where should we mark it and how should we do it.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Even on some courses you see the distance markers on the sprinkler heads. I mean, that's like the cheapest thing.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I'll talk to Will Maxwell who is the chief golf guy for the County, and he really does a superb job.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

He absolutely is doing a great job. All of them look great •• almost all of them.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Not only with the condition of the golf courses, but the challenge of minimizing the use of chemicals and things like that and testing a variety of things. He does a terrific job, and we have a great staff of people who work far beyond what your expectations would be to keep those places in shape.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I have to tell you that the comments that have come back from Timber Point have been really incredible, even the clubhouse too. The concessionaire obviously invested major sums of money over the winter, because the area is really beautiful. And the only thing that remains would be the locker rooms, I guess, at Timber Point. Do you know if that is that slated for some sort of renovation?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Under DPW's coordination we have a consultant on board, Ward Associates, and they're studying the adaptive reuse of that entire building. We're going through a number of iterations of what ought to be done there. One sticking point was the need for an elevator if we're going to use the upper floors. I think we have resolved that to minimize the impact of the elevator on the catering. So we'll be finalizing some plans and getting out with an idea on how we can fix up that building.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Commissioner, Cedar Point Park, which also is maintained beautifully I have to say, first a comment, how did that park do this season, was it fully utilized?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Fully utilized, that's kind of a relative term. It was well utilized. The campground there is very popular for people who like that. It doesn't have the improvements that we just did at Indian Island. It's a little more rustic than some of the places, but it was well used.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Is there a master plan for that park?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

There is not. DPW has just completed the RFPs and awarded a contract to do •• to start an RFP •• or start a master planning process for that park. So that should be going on over the next few months.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay. That's really what I wanted to know, because I knew there was some talk in the past about doing a master plan. I didn't think it had been done. I think it's important that that park does have a master plan in place.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

We're in the beginning stages of it.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Thank you. Any other questions for the Commissioner. Thank you[.|.|.] All right. Let's go to the agenda.

**LEG. COOPER:**

I'm sorry. I actually do have one question. The eight month figure for revenue generated from renter property, there was a substantial drop off from 2002 to '03 and then '04 is level with that, from well over a million dollars to \$367,000.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

That's a one time quirk. In that early high revenue year, there was a one time payment for a communications line to be installed through Smith Point. It was like a \$750,000 payment just that one year and that won't happen again.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Let me ask you one quick question too. I know the Town of East Hampton had made a request to place a communications facility out at •• on a section of County park out in Montauk at a site that formally used for communications, I guess, during the World War II period. What is the status of that right now?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

We're still working with the County Attorney's Office. The County Attorney has a program that I think she is near finalizing for communication installation •• communication antenna installations generally. I'm hopeful that that will be applicable to this situation. It just takes time to get there. I'm sorry we are delaying response to those people who want this. I don't disagree with the importance of it. We still have to deal with the issues of use parkland for that. But I think we have to fit into this overall scheme for locating cell towers and antennas being developed by the County Attorney.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Thank you. Let's move on to the agenda.

**INTRODUCTORY PRIME**

**1840•04. Authorizing use of Blydenburgh County park property by Long Island Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America for their Pace Setter Walk•A•Thon Fundraiser. (COUNTY EXEC)**

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion by Legislator Vilorina•Fisher, seconded by Legislator Carpenter. All in favor? Any Opposed? Okay. That passes. **APPROVED (VOTE:8•0•0•0).**

**1845•04. Authorizing use of Blydenburgh County Park by the Long Island Paint Horse Club for their Trail Ride Fundraiser. (COUNTY EXEC)**

**LEG. COOPER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion by Legislator Bishop, seconded by Legislator Montano •• did I say Bishop? I'm sorry. Legislator Cooper, seconded by Legislator Montano. All in favor? Any Opposed? **APPROVED.**  
**(VOTE:8•0•0•0)**

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Do you know what it is?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I don't if it's a kind of horse or the name of the club.

**MR. ZWIRN:**

It's a type of horse.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

Type of horse.

**MS. KNAPP:**

A paint horse •• I have experience in this. A paint horse is a kind of horse. My notes indicate •  
• the backup just said that it was for a trail ride fundraiser to be held Sunday, October 10th  
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. They included this certificate of insurance in the backup.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

They came to us first, and we helped them prepare all this.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

That resolution did pass a moment ago. Moving on to tabled prime.

**TABLED PRIME**

**1388•04. To establish Community and Youth Services Program at Sheep Pasture Road in Port Jefferson/Setauket, New York. (VILORIA•FISHER)**

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Is there a motion?

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Mr. Chair, I'm afraid I will have to make another motion to table, because they still •• there is still a problem with CEQ. I did speak again with the Commissioner about this. The expanded environmental report that is required at CEQ, that hasn't been completed.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

We've asked the organization of a more definitive plan of what they want to do, and they have yet to come forward with that. But I understand the organization has had some changes.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Yes. They did have a change in directors, and so they're a little slow on this. And I'm hoping they can get it done shortly, but I do need to table this.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Motion to table, a second by Legislator Montano. All in favor of tabling? Any opposed? Okay. So **TABLED. (VOTE:8•0•0•0).**

**1804•04. Appointing members of the ATV Park Task Force, (Slots 12 and 13)  
(CARACCIOLO)**

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I don't believe slots 12 and 13 yet exist; is that correct? All right. So again, we have the cart before the horse or I guess the ATV before the horse.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

If there's a motion made ••

**LEG. CARACCIOLO:**

I make a motion to approve.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

•• I would probably support a motion to discharge since you can't approve two slots that don't

exist, but it was pointed out to me by the sponsor ••

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Discharge without recommendation?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Yeah, because it was pointed out to me that there's live legislation that would create these two spots.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Discharge without recommendation. So there's a motion to discharge without recommendation.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Seconded by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Any opposed? Okay. Discharged.

**DISCHARGED WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION. (VOTE:8•0•0•0)**

Okay. That concludes our agenda.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I have one little question. We purchased Shadmore, and I kind of objected to our purchase of that, but it seems like we have got a name plate that's about an inch long by about a half of an inch wide.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Which property?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Shadmore in Montauk. So for \$5 million, we got naming rights of about •• that exist like that. Is there anything to be done to correct that?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

We can ask. I'll be happy ••

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Or otherwise can we get our \$5 million back.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Or at least a portion of it.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

We didn't pay for the sign, the state paid for the sign.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Next time, you know what? We'll pay for the sign, they pay for the property.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

We can put our own sign out. The state provided the sign. I think at the time when I was supervisor of East Hampton and Bob Gaffney was the County Executive, I think neither one of us were pushing for our name in big lights.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

We didn't really want the light of day to shine on this.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

We are all very proud of this, and I still am very proud of this acquisition. I think it was a great acquisition for the County, the state and the town and the Nature Conservancy. But I think that if the Park's Commissioner wants •• if you want a bigger sign showing, you know, County parkland ••

**LEG. ALDEN:**

I don't know if the Park's Commissioner wants it, we should just have a sign up somewhere.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

We were trying to be humble at the time.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Five million, you know.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

We put in a little more then five million.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Did we put in five?

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

5.6.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

How much?

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

5.6, I believe it was.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

So maybe we can get the point six back if they are not going to give us a sign.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Put a sign up. The sign does says County, town and state. But you want it bigger? You want your name up there?

**LEG. ALDEN:**

No. You can put that I opposed it. I would have left it on the tax rolls, and 85% of the property would have been preserved anyway.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Public access, my friend. It's got value.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

We would have had public access.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

No.

**LEG. ALDEN:**

Absolutely.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Can we get a sign?

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I would be happy to talk to the State Park's people and approach the issue with them. And if the solution is a sign for us ••

**LEG. ALDEN:**

If they give you a bad time, just ask for the money back. That's all.

**COMMISSIONER FOLEY:**

I understand the instruction.

**CHAIRMAN SCHNEIDERMAN:**

All right. We are adjourned.

**(\* THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:15 P.M. \*)**

\\_ \\_ **DENOTES BEING SPELLED PHONETICALLY**