

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation 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 December 14, 2011.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Lynne C. Nowick, Chairperson (excused absence)
Leg. Wayne R. Horsley, Vice Chair
Leg. Thomas Barraga
Leg. Ricardo Montano
Leg. Steven H. Stern

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Barbara LoMoriello, Deputy Clerk
Rosalind Gazes, Budget Review Office
Jill Moss, Budget Review Office
Joe Montuori, Commissioner of Parks Department
Terry Maccarrone, Parks Department
Paul Perillie, Aide to Majority Leader
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Nowick
Ali Nazir, Aide to Leg. Kennedy
Deborah Harris, Aide to Leg. Stern
Bob Martinez, Aide to Leg. Montano
Eric A. Kopp, County Executive's Office
Brendan Chamberlain, County Executive's Office
Tom Vaughn, County Executive's Office
Michael Pitcher, Aide to Presiding Officer
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Nowick
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:02 PM

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Good afternoon everybody. Welcome to the Parks hearing of December 8, 2011. And may we all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance as we are.

SALUTATION

May we stand for a moment of silence for those men and women who are fighting and protecting our freedom overbroad and our pleasure at the fact that so many are now coming home from Iraq.

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED

Again, good afternoon, everybody. Ready? And it doesn't look like it's too bad of a --

LEG. MONTANO:

Do we have enough people?

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

I think we do. One, two -- we're good. And Ms. Nowick is unfortunately not here today. She has an excused absence. And I want to put that on the record. And we will move -- since we do not have a presentation -- do we have any cards? No cards. Happy holidays. We have no cards. All right.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

We have -- starting with tabled resolutions, **1814, Directing the Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium Board of Trustees to prepare a ten-year master plan for the Museum. (Muratore)** Joe, do you have anything you'd like to tell us about this? Or is there something that -- you have nothing to do with it. I haven't heard anything. Lance isn't here. Motion to table by Legislator Stern. I'll second the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Introductory Resolution 2058, Appropriating funds in connection with the removal of toxic and hazardous materials in County Parks (CP 7185). (Co. Exec.) Sure.

LEG. MONTANO:

Motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Montano, second by Legislator Stern.

LEG. MONTANO:

Question.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

On the motion.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, these appropriating resolutions, these are all in the Capital Budget and for the amount stated?

Otherwise they wouldn't be amending them; am I correct on that? Is that my understanding?

MS. MOSS:

That would be correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay, thanks.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

All right, 2080, Amending the 2011 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with construction for beach replenishment - Meschutt Beach County Park (CP 7163). (Co. Exec.) Do I have a motion? Anybody? I'll make the motion to approve, second by Legislator Stern.

LEG. MONTANO:

Question.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Question on the motion.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, where is Meschutt Beach? And number two, what is the amendment and why are we doing this? It's a compound question.

MR. MACCARRONE:

Meschutt Beach is on the East side of Shinnecock Canal on the Bay side, the north side of the south fork. And this is actually FEMA money that we're getting from one of the disaster declarations.

LEG. MONTANO:

Oh, okay.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

You're good? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2131, Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of heavy duty equipment for County Parks (CP 7011). (Pres. Off.)

LEG. MONTANO:

I'll make a motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Montano, second by Legislator Stern. We're good on this?

LEG. MONTANO:

Can we do same motion, same second on all of these and get out of here quick?

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Well, I will do this as diligently as I can, Legislator. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2133, Appropriating funds in connection with construction of maintenance and operations

facilities - Charles R. Dominy County Park (West Sayville Country Club), West Sayville, Town of Islip (CP 7173). (Pres. Off.) Do we have a motion on the --

LEG. MONTANO:

Same motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Montano, second by Legislator Stern. All in favor? Opposed?

LEG. BARRAGA:

Opposed.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

So moved. I have opposed Legislator Barraga. **(VOTE: 3-1-0-1. LEG. BARRAGA OPPOSED. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2137, I have that bill that amends title. Greg is here. Hang on a second.

MR. NOLAN:

It's an amended title, yeah.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Yeah. I see that, but you have a different number here that's what I'm --

MR. NOLAN:

That's a typo.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Ah, okay. All right. Apparently there's been amended title to it. It says **appropriating funds in connection with fencing and surveying for County Parks and amending and appropriating funds in connection with improvement and lighting at County Parks. (CP 7007). (Pres. Off.)** Well, there you go. That is the amended title. Do we have a motion on that? Legislator Montano, you're okay with that?

LEG. MONTANO:

No, because I would like to know what the amendment is. It's one thing to appropriate money in the --

MS. MOSS:

The amendment is to the lighting at the County Parks. What it does is it includes it in site improvements instead of construction within the same project.

LEG. MONTANO:

So we're moving money within the same project.

MS. MOSS:

Correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

Are we moving money within the same year?

MS. MOSS:

Correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. I have no problems.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay. No motion on the --

LEG. MONTANO:

Motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Legislator Montano makes a motion to approve. Legislator Stern seconds the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2141, Appropriating funds in connection with reconstruction of spillways in County Parks (CP 7099). (Pres. Off.) That one doesn't have a change on it. Anyone would like to make a motion?

LEG. STERN:

Motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Stern. I'll second the motion. Any questions on the motion? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2142, Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to County campgrounds (CP 7009). (Pres. Off.) Motion on this, anyone?

LEG. MONTANO:

I'll make a motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Legislator Montano makes the motion.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Legislator Barraga seconds the motion.

LEG. MONTANO:

Did I hear that right?

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Yes, he did. All those -- all those -- one could never forget you, Legislator Barraga. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2144, Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to newly acquired parkland (CP 7145). (Pres. Off.) Motion on this? Anybody? I'll make the motion, second by Legislator Stern. On the motion, anyone have any questions? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2145, Appropriating funds in connection with restoration of Smith Point County Park (CP 7162). (Pres. Off.) Is there a motion on this?

LEG. STERN:

Motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Stern. I'll second the motion.

LEG. STERN:

On the motion, what kind of restoration at Smith Point are we doing?

MR. MACCARRONE:

There's actually a Master Plan for Smith Point County Park, excuse me. And then within that Master Plan there are a number of things and so this would go towards doing improvements as per the plan. So there's a number of items on there that it could be including. There's a storage building that needs to be built there. The parking lot's in disrepair. The parking lot there is quite large for any of you that have been in the area. We also like to have a certain amount of money on hand in case of beach replenishment needs.

LEG. STERN:

So it could be used for structures including the parking lot but it could also be used for restoration if that was necessary as well?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Yes, sir.

LEG. STERN:

Thank you.

MR. MACCARRONE:

Yes, sir.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Any further questions? All those in favor for the motion? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2147, Appropriating funds in connection with improvements to water supply systems in County Parks (CP 7184). (Pres. Off.) Anyone? Any motion?

LEG. MONTANO:

I'll make a motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Montano, seconded by Legislator Stern. Any questions? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2148 -- right? Appropriating funds in connection with construction for beach replenishment - Meschutt Beach County Park (CP 7163). (Pres. Off.) And now we know where it is and secondly -- any motion on this?

LEG. MONTANO:

Motion.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Stern. I'll second the motion. Any questions on the motion?

LEG. MONTANO:

How does this differ from the -- from 2080? Or is there a difference?

MS. MOSS:

2080 appropriated FEMA and SEMA, the federal and state funding where as this will appropriate the County funding.

LEG. MONTANO:

That was included in the Capital Budget?

MS. MOSS:

Correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. Thanks.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Anything else? All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. BARRAGA:

Opposed.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

So moved. One opposed. **(VOTE: 3-1-0-1. LEG. BARRAGA OPPOSED. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

2149, Appropriating funds in connection with Computerized Reservation System (POS) in County Parks. (Pres. Off.) Joey, you're supposed to save me when I make mistakes. Come on, chime in.

COMMISSIONER MONTUORI:

You're doing a great job.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Well, thanks a lot, buddy.

LEG. MONTANO:

It shows we're listening.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

There you go. That's it. I have your attention. I'm glad to hear that. Okay, we have a -- we have 2149 on the floor. Is there a motion on the bill? I'll make the motion, second by Legislator Stern. Anyone have any questions? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Opposed.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

One opposed. **(VOTE: 3-1-0-1. LEG. BARRAGA OPPOSED. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

Apparently **2152** has been **withdrawn**.

COMMISSIONER MONTUORI:

Yes.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay. **2153**, we have another title change here in which I will read. **2153, Appropriating funds in connection with equipment for revenue collection at County facilities and meter installation and utility accountability (CP 7186). (Pres. Off.)** All right. Since we have a new title on this, Joe, you want to talk about it and tell me -- tell us about what utility accountability is? Is that new meters?

MR. MACCARRONE:

(Nodding head yes)

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Essentially. And I know what toll equipment is. I've been there before. Good stuff.

COMMISSIONER MONTUORI:

Yeah, what we're doing, we're putting meters on the residents and also in the concession areas too so -- this will bring more revenue back to us then.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay. Now, as you know, I've had a long history with revenue collection at County Parks. What are you guys doing? What kind of -- you're doing roofs? What are you putting in?

COMMISSIONER MONTUORI:

We're constantly updating our systems and, you know, we're building new toll collection areas and we're going to be putting in new equipment.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Any further -- what kind of equipment? I'm just curious. I'm sure it's fine but I just want to --

MR. MACCARRONE:

Generally what we do with 7081 is the utility accountability in areas, for example --

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

I was looking more at revenue collection.

MR. MACCARRONE:

Oh, the revenue collection system. That's -- I'm sorry, I misunderstood. That's when we're doing -- allowing the outside outlying parks to take in fees for Green Keys and outer beach permits and things of that nature, allowing them to have the equipment necessary so they can do that. Some of our parks right now you can't go to and get a Green Key because we don't have the systems in place so revenue collection and the --

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

So this what, a slash? How does it work? What -- when you bring your Green Key up to this new -- this new system, how does it work? What does it do?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Well, actually it will allow you to actually purchase.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Oh, it's the purchase of --

MR. MACCARRONE:

Yes. Because right now you can only go to certain parks --

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Are you putting in a booth; is that what you're doing?

MR. MACCARRONE:

No, no, not a booth, no.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

What are you doing here?

MR. MACCARRONE:

No, it's equipment. So let's say a park -- I don't know one off the top of my head -- that doesn't have the ability for you to buy a Green Key card, we would get the equipment for that so when you get a Green Key card, it's specific to you. There's a picture of you on it so it might include a camera, the printer and the register equipment necessary to take the money in and track it.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay. And the toll collector would take a picture and facilitate this?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Well, it's not really a toll -- a toll collector per say. It would be an attendant at a counter.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

An attendant. Okay.

LEG. BARRAGA:

\$50,000?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Not individually, no. But cumulatively over the parks. We have -- we have -- the computer reservation line and the equipment collection lines work in concert with each other.

LEG. BARRAGA:

How many parks are you talking about?

MR. MACCARRONE:

I don't have that information off the top of my head. We constantly update the system as necessary. These printers and items do break down overtime. We have to replace them at existing parks as well as trying to expand the system to parks that don't the capability at the moment.

COMMISSIONER MONTOURI:

We're trying to increase the point of sales because we, you know, people might have to travel to Timber Point, West Sayville. So what we're doing is we're trying to increase more places where people come buy their Green cards.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Yeah, but you can't tell me how many parks you have that don't have this facility right now? Is it two parks, three parks?

COMMISSIONER MONTOURI:

That -- I don't have that information. I can get that for you.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

All right. Certainly we're looking for greater accountability so that end of it makes a lot of sense. I'll make the motion to approve. Is there a second on the motion?

LEG. MONTANO:

I'll second.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Second by Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

I did have one question. I'm sorry, maybe I didn't hear the answer.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay, on the motion.

LEG. MONTANO:

Even though the title changed, the monetary amount was still included in the Capital Budget; am I correct? Or did that change along with the title?

MS. MOSS:

Correct. Otherwise it would have amended it. It's a straight appropriation.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. That's what I thought but I just want it on the record. Thank you.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Yeah, thank you. You know, I'll support the resolution going forward, but perhaps by the time we come back to our full meeting, we can have an answer to Legislator Barraga's question as to which parks are in need of this technology upgrade in order to make us more accessible to our residents, point of service, point of sale. But I share the same concern. This is a big number. We want to know how many parks we're talking about. Perhaps we can get that information by the time we have it come back before us at the general session.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Do you want to discharge it without recommendation so that we make sure we get these answers?

LEG. STERN:

Sure. Let's do that.

LEG. MONTANO:

All right. So I'll withdraw my second, I believe. I'm going to make a motion to discharge without recommendation.

LEG. STERN:

And I'll second.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

And second by Legislator Stern. Discharge without recommendation.

LEG. MONTANO:

So this way -- this way it'll be highlighted when it comes up and then those answers will be available so we don't have any delay. Is that fair?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Absolutely.

LEG. MONTANO:

Sounds good.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

I just have another quick question on the revenue collection issue. This is solely for Green -- Green Card -- Green pass collection, to purchase a Green Card?

LEG. MONTANO:

Green Key. Green Cards deal with immigration.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Green Key, rather. I'm sorry. You see that at state parks.

MR. MACCARRONE:

Well, I think it would include other items as well. The point of sale systems --

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

We'll, we're talking revenue? We're just collecting revenue? I mean, entrance fee to the park, I mean does that -- is that part of the collections --

MR. MACCARRONE:

Well, no, not necessarily just that. Like I say, Green Key Cards, outer beach passes, point of sale systems, printers, scanners, cameras, all these items could be inclusive underneath -- underneath this title.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

Okay. So this is not a revenue collection system other than for those specialized issues. In other words, if I came up with \$10 to get into the park, this machine would not have something to do with that?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Well, if it was a point of sale system for, say, parking your vehicle, it could. You could use -- you could take in the revenue for that, yeah. If we put a system in that, say one of our toll booths, okay, I'm going to use Smith Point as an example, right now you couldn't get a Green Key at the toll booth but this might allow you to do that. It's handheld devices that you might be able to utilize, things of that nature.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

I'd like to see the system if I could at some point, Joe. Sounds like -- bring it in. How big can \$50,000 get you?

MR. MACCARRONE:

Come down to West Sayville, we'll show you.

VICE CHAIR HORSLEY:

There you go. Okay, I'd like to see the machine. All right. We have a recommendation -- an approval without recommendation. Discharge without recommendation. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. NOWICK ABSENT)**

I believe that finalizes the agenda and we are adjourned.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1:19 PM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**