

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislature Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on May 29, 2013.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Lynne C. Nowick, Chairwoman
Leg. Lou D'Amaro, Vice Chair
Leg. Kara Hahn
Leg. Wayne R. Horsley
Leg. Steven H. Stern

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay, 8th Legislative District
George M. Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel to the Legislature
Renee Ortiz, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Robert Doering, Budget Review Office
Greg Dawson, Commissioner/Parks Department
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Nowick
Deborah Harris, Aide to Leg. Stern
Justin Littell, Aide to Leg. D'Amaro
Deborah Tinnirello, Aide to Leg. Hahn
Michael Pitcher, Aide to Presiding Officer
Thomas Vaughn, County Executive Assistant III
John Marafino, Aide to County Executive
Paul Perillie, Aide to Leg. Gregory
Ali Nazir, Aide to Leg. Kennedy
Rick Brand, Newsday
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY:

Denise Weaver, Legislative Aide

(THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:14 PM)

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Can we rise for the Salute to the Flag led by Legislator Horsley.

SALUTATION

Okay. Welcome to the Parks and Recreation Committee. We do not have any cards from the public, but I see our Commissioner sitting here, so Commissioner, did you want to address the Committee?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Good afternoon, Madam Chair. Just a couple of quick housekeeping items. First, I'm happy to let Legislator Horsley know that the RFEI for the historic houses will be advertised in tomorrow's paper.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

You're the man.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

And the -- any perspective candidates can pick them up at our office on Monday. If you have anybody that you know is looking for that package, if you just forward that to us, we'll be happy to do that.

Also, it's come up at the last Committee meetings, the naming rights, corporate sponsorship issue with Legislator D'Amaro. I drafted a memo. The first part of that resolution was for the Parks to come up with a list of sites that we thought were appropriate. So we worked on it the last couple of weeks and I've provided the Committee with -- with that memo with a list of sites.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

All right.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

So if you want to have some time to digest it we can --

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Yeah, Commissioner, that's what we decided. I talked to the sponsor of the original legislation, Legislator D'Amaro, and maybe we'll take -- it's a short cycle. I think it's a two-week cycle. And we'll read this and digest it and then we can talk about it next time we meet, which is only, I think, in two weeks. Right, Greg?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

I believe so. Okay, very good.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Okay. And what else?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Beaches opened up last weekend. Obviously we had a -- not such a great Saturday. Sunday was a little better, but Monday was good. I don't have the -- I don't have the overall totals just yet, but I can get that for you for the next -- the next Committee meeting.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

How are the golf courses doing?

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COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Not as well as last year. We had, as you're aware, we had a very nice Spring last year. We've had a very, very rainy season, very windy season so we're kind of hoping things pick up a little bit, but the rounds are definitely down from last year.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Any more complaints about the errant balls?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

No.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Okay. Okay, that sounds good.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Very good.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

(Inaudible)

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

I guess you're not out there playing. (Laughter).

Does anybody else have any other questions for the Commissioner? Absolutely.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Commissioner Dawson, I just want to thank you for that memo. I know we'll be discussing it in two weeks. I just wanted to get an idea, though, of what the next step is so as I read the memo and think about where we're going, what are you looking for from us on that?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

I think just general consensus on the list that we put forward. I mean, we think it's a pretty -- pretty detailed in-depth list. We'd like to -- obviously if we're in agreement with you, and the Committee, we'll take it before the Parks Trustees at their next meeting. And as long as they approve it and then we'll move forward from there. There are a couple of things we -- we'd like to discuss as far as the contract that would be in place for any perspective candidate -- any perspective sponsors. I think we need to brush up on that a little bit. But I think we're good from here.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay, very good. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

You're welcome.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Okay. We're going to go Tabled Resolutions. Does anybody else have any questions for the Commissioner? Okay.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

Tabled Resolution 2228 - Authorizing Montauk Chapter of the Boy Scouts to enter into a License Agreement. (Schneiderman) George?

LEG. D'AMARO:

Motion to table.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Motion to table by Legislator D'Amaro; second by myself. All in favor? Opposed? **2228 has been tabled. (VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Introductory Resolution 1400 - Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of Heavy Duty Equipment and Specialty Vehicles for County Parks (CP 7011). (Co. Exec.)

George, this is just appropriating, right? It's already in the budget. I'll make a motion, second by Legislator Stern. All in favor?

LEG. D'AMARO:

Just on that motion.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Sure.

LEG. D'AMARO:

I just wanted to ask the Commissioner specifically what type of equipment are we -- are we talking about?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

We're looking to purchase two pieces of equipment: An excavator and a dump truck. The excavator's going to be used for taking down old buildings. We actually see it as a -- as a cost-saving measure. The last two buildings that we took down were -- it cost us in excess of 100 -- Sweet Hollow Hall was about \$175,000 and the -- the building out at Robinson Duck Farm cost about 130,000. We did that by contractor. If we could purchase an excavator, we could -- we have at least six or seven other houses that we need to remove. We could do that in-house with the excavator; we'd be saving.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So one of the vehicles is an excavator?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Excavator.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And what's the other vehicle?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

A dump truck.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And do we have a place where we can store this equipment?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yes, we do.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Where is it going to be stored?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
Cathedral Pines.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Okay. All right, thank you.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
You're welcome.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:
How much is an excavator?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
It's looks like it -- it's like a large backhoe. It's got a claw on it.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:
No, no, no. How much does it cost?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
Oh, I'm sorry. Between 155 and 175,000. We need to -- obviously, that needs to go out for bid.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:
Okay, thank you. We do have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? **1400 is approved. (VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

(IR) 1411 - Appropriating funds in connection with fencing and surveying various County Parks (CP 7007). (Hahn) Did you put that in, Kara?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
Yeah. Yeah, I'm sorry, I thought that the sponsor was going -- actually looking for that one --

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:
Did you have a comment, Commissioner?

LEG. HAHN:
I'll make a motion -- I'll make a motion to table pending what I think he's about to say.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Second.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:
Yes, we have other capital accounts and we have money for the project that the Legislator wanted to have done up at McAllister County Park. So we have existing funds that we can utilize. We don't need this appropriated. It's --

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:
So we have a motion to table by Legislator Hahn; second by myself. All in favor? Opposed? **1411 is tabled. (VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

Introductory Resolution 1418 - Appoint member to the Suffolk County Board of Trustees of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation (Christopher DiGregorio). (Krupski) Mr. DiGregorio could not make it today so we will make a motion to table.

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LEG. D'AMARO:

Second.

CHAIRWOMAN NOWICK:

Second by Legislator D'Amaro -- I'll make the motion to table, second by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? **1418 is tabled. (VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

We have no further business at this meeting so I will adjourn.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 12:21 PM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**