

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 Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Legislator Bill Lindsay - Chairman
Legislator Kara Hahn - Vice-Chair
Legislator Tom Cilmi
Legislator Kevin McCaffrey

Members Not Present:

Leg. Steven H. Stern, Excused Absence

Also in Attendance:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature.
Amy Ellis - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Debbie Harris - Aide to Legislator Stern
Jennifer Hann - Aide to Legislator Lindsay
Laura Hollaran - Budget Review Office
Greg Dawson - Commissioner/Suffolk County Department of Parks
Katie Horst - County Executive Assistant
Lance Reinheimer - Director, Vanderbilt Museum
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Gabrielle Severs - Court Stenographer

Minutes Transcribed By:

Denise Weaver - Legislative Aide

(THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:34 PM)

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Good afternoon. Welcome to the Parks and Recreation Committee hearing. If you could all please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator McCaffrey.

Salutation

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Good afternoon. For the record, Mr. Clerk, if you could just note that Legislator Stern has an excused absence. We will go to the public portion. We have one comment card, Lance Reinheimer. Lance, good afternoon.

MR. REINHEIMER:

Thank you very much. I'm here to speak on behalf of IR 1126, it's a capital program appropriating resolution for a \$130,000. This is for ADA, American's with Disabilities Act to make improvements to our buildings and also 30 -- that's 100,000 for building improvements and \$30,000 to purchase a tram. The reason why I'm putting this resolution in so early this year is because I'd like to time things so that we can get two trams by the summer. Years ago, I shouldn't say years ago, five years ago the museum had three trams, one was lost in a building collapse in 2010. The second one over time really basically died and we catabolized that one to keep our third one up and running so the third one really is a combination of parts from the previous two trams. This tram that we have is a 2001, so it's 15 years-old and we have 100,000 visitors with the cobblestones, with people with limited ability -- limited mobile -- mobility to navigate the cobblestones. It's important for us to have a tram especially for people that are -- have physical restrictions. We have 100,000 people and many of them are older people that come and visit the mansion and so I hope that you support this for the purchase of two trams.

We've done a lot of work in the museum in the past year under the ADA Act. We put in a family ADA compliant restroom in the planetarium, we modified the bathrooms in the parking lot so that they're now ADA compliant. We put on ADA compliant doors on the marine museum, we put on ADA compliant doors on the Stoll Wing, which is over by the mansion. So we're looking to continue to make improvements to the buildings. The \$100,000 for construction is to put in ADA compliant doors in the planetarium. Those are the original doors, they're 40 years-old. Out of 100,000 people probably somewhere between 60 and 80,000 go through those doors each year and they're 40 year-old aluminum frame doors and they're not ADA compliant.

I'll be happy to answer, and oh, one last thing I'm really excited about last week. Last week schools were closed, winter vacation, we had a 50% increase in revenue over last year for the same week and I'm real proud of that. We have 700 members now. We had a 200% increase in the number of members in the museum since May of 2015 and my feeling is by the end of this year we'll have a 1000 members. So we're doing really well. We're doing everything we can to -- to improve and to continue to increase our revenue from memberships and from admissions.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

That's great, Lance, thank you. I'm glad to hear that the museum's doing so well and that membership is up. Legislator Kennedy has a question for you.

LEG. KENNEDY:

You answered half of it. The aluminum doors, the refurbishment is not going to change the architectural or the historical building itself?

MR. REINHEIMER:

No, they can work with the existing openings and just kind of replace the frames and the doors that are currently there. There would -- minimum building modifications for that. Those doors, I guess, now you could call them historic 1970, many of us remember the 70's, I guess that's historic now, odd as it seems.

LEG. KENNEDY:

The bathrooms; you -- when you upgrade, I know you have other things to do, will you be taking out anything historic?

MR. REINHEIMER:

Oh, no, those bathrooms -- no, those bathrooms were done this past year.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MR. REINHEIMER:

The restrooms -- actually the planetarium, the restrooms in the planetarium, in order to make them ADA compliant we'd have to expand the building, so what they did in place of that they put in one family bathroom that's ADA compliant, didn't impact the looks or the exterior of the planetarium. The restrooms in the parking lot are part of the guard booth restroom facility and they just retrofit within the existing space, but they brought them up to ADA compliance. So the -- the 100,000 would be just -- would be for the doors and what's leftover is to continue to do ADA improvements as Public Works and the museum prioritizes projects.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Any other questions? Thank you, Lance.

MR. REINHEIMER:

Okay, thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

That is the only comment card we have, if anybody else is interested in speaking from the public for the public portion please come forward. Okay, not seeing anybody, not seeing any additional speakers I'll close the public portion and move on with the agenda.

We'll go into introductory resolutions starting with **Introductory Resolution 1045 - Authorizing the use of Smith Point County Park, Cathedral Pines County Park and Smith Point Marina by the Long Island 2 Day Walk to Fight Breast Cancer, Inc., for breast cancer walk in 2016. (Browning)** Motion by Legislator Kennedy, seconded by Legislator Hahn. Commissioner, if you just want to come forward, we got a bunch of these if you just want to nod that anything is okay with them as we go, we'll get through them quickly. How are you today, Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Good. How are you?

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Doing well, thanks.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yeah, so all of these are in order for these particular resolution.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. So we have a motion and we have a second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1051 - Authorizing use of Southaven County Park for the Kara's Hope 5K Run/Walk. (Browning) We're all good on that as well, Commissioner, good? Legislator Hahn makes a motion to approve, I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1053 - Authorizing use of Smith Point County Park property in 2016 by the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library's Family Literacy Project. (Browning)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yes, it's a one-time event, the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. I'll make a motion on that, second by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1059 - Authorizing use of Indian Island County Park by Birthright of Peconic, Inc., for a fundraising walkathon. (Krupski) We're okay there as well, Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yes, this is the second year all the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. Motion by Legislator Kennedy, I'll second that motion. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1060 - Authorizing use of Indian Island County Park by North Fork Environmental Council, Inc., for a 5k Earth Day walk/run fundraiser. (Krupski)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yes, all the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Thank you, Commissioner. I'll make a motion, second by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1066 - Authorizing use of Makamah Preserve in Northport by Northport Running Club. (Spencer) Motion by Legislator Kennedy, second by Legislator McCaffrey.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

All fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1070 - Approving a License Agreement for Robyn Kuebler to reside at 178 Mill Pond Road, St. James. (Co. Exec.)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

This falls within our housing program.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

-- paying fair market value, we went through the proper steps in the advertising, a Suffolk County police officer will be residing, so.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. Motion by Legislator Kennedy, second by Legislator McCaffrey. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1071 - To amend the User Fee Schedule for Suffolk County Parks. (Co. Exec.)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

What we're looking to do is make some administrative changes to the code. It's so voluminous that when we did the -- we did the fee changes back in -- back last year we missed a couple things, we want to clear up a couple administrative items. There is one reduction. We were asking for a little bit less money for the mobile stage in that we're just trying to make it easier for the hourly rate.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

We're going for five -- \$550 for the first four hours to \$540 so we could make the hourly rate \$135.00, so.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

We only have one of those. Correct?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

We only have one stage, that's correct.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

You might see the demand on that increasing cause some of the towns, I know Town of Islip is getting rid of all their showmobiles so I'm sure the requests are going to be up on that.

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Yeah, Brookhaven did last year and they were up as well.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. I'll make a motion to approve, second by Legislator Hahn. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1072 - Authorizing use of Blydenburgh County Park by the New York Blood Center, Inc. for its Hike for Life Fundraiser. (Co. Exec.) Motion by Legislator Kennedy, second by Legislator McCaffrey. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1073 - Authorizing use of Blydenburgh County Park by the Care Center for its Annual Walkathon Fundraiser. (Co. Exec.)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Again, this is a fundraiser, all the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. Motion by Legislator Kennedy, I'll second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1079 - Approving a License Agreement for Timothy Benson to reside at 5334 Sound Avenue, Riverhead. (Co. Exec.)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Again, this is another property that falls within our housing program. It's a three bedroom house up at North Fork Preserve and we went through the required steps through the -- the Legislative process.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

He's a police officer or parks?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

He's also a police officer, correct.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Motion by Legislator Kennedy, second by Legislator McCaffrey. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1082 - Authorizing use of Sears Bellows County Park and the County-owned portion of the Paumanok Trail by Jayasports for its Paumanok Pursuit fundraiser. (Co. Exec.)

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

Again, it's a fundraising -- a fundraising event and all the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. I'll make a motion, second by Legislator McCaffrey. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1126 - Appropriating funds in connection with modifications for compliance with ADA at Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum (CP 7450). (Spencer) I'll make a motion to approve this. Do I have a second? Yes? Legislator Hahn, second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

Introductory Resolution 1143 - Authorizing use of Smith Point Park property by Getco Company, between the Ports and Event Power, Long Island, for a Triathlon. (Browning)
How are we doing with that one? All good?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

All the fees are in order.

CHAIRMAN LINDSAY:

Okay. I'll make a motion to approve that, second by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 - Not Present: Leg. Stern)**

We don't have any procedural motions on the agenda so I will make a motion to adjourn. Thank you.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 12:46 PM

{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY