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SUFFOLK COUNTY GAMING TASK FORCE

William Rogers Legislative Building
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
Hauppauge, New York

April 3, 2009
10:00 a.m.

BEFORE:

RAY DONNELLY, Chairman

REPORTED BY:

THERESA PAPE, Court Reporter/Notary Public

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

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JOHN R. DURSO, President, Long Island
Federation of Labor

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JIM CASTELLANE, President, Building and
Construction Trades Council of Nassau and
Suffolk Counties

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LORI ANN TAGGART, Suffolk County
Community College

8

LANCE A. GUMBS, Shinnecock Indian Nation

9

PHILLIP BROWN, Shinnecock Indian Nation

10

LEGISLATOR WAYNE HORSLEY, 14th District

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NICHOLAS ZUBA, Representing
Supervisor Steve Bellone, Town of Babylon

12

13

THOMAS A. ISLES, Director,
Suffolk County Planning

14

GEORGE C. STANKEVICH, Attorney

15

W. MICHAEL PITCHER, Legislative Aide,
Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay

16

BOB ANRIG, Suffolk County Economic Development

17

BRYAN GALGANO

18

RICK BRAND

19

ROBERT FONTI

20

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2 (WHEREUPON, this proceeding
3 convened at 10:00 a.m. Off-the-record
4 discussions ensued, after which the
5 following transpired:)

6 (Time noted: 10:12 a.m.)

7 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: Good morning
8 everybody, and welcome to the Suffolk
9 County Gaming Task Force. And I wanted
10 to thank you, first of all, starting --
11 and I know Ray's going to ask you to go
12 around the room to introduce everybody
13 here, but what this is is an idea that
14 started pretty much for us, for Suffolk
15 County, within the last year when the
16 Shinnecock Nation appeared before the
17 Economic Development, Energy and Higher
18 Education Committee. And they
19 enlightened us about the status of
20 the -- of the Tribal Indian Nation
21 status that is -- that is going to be in
22 front of committees in Washington, and
23 their -- and their anticipation that
24 they will have tribal status in the
25 short run rather than the long run. And

2 after conversations with Lance Gumbs as
3 well as other Nation members, including
4 the -- the elected officials in that
5 region, there was a great deal of
6 interest in -- in the game- -- the
7 possibilities of gaming in Suffolk
8 County. And -- and Suffolk didn't want
9 to be left out, because we want -- we
10 are -- it is our county and we certainly
11 want to make sure that -- that Suffolk's
12 interests are -- are included in any
13 decision-making involving this issue.

14 So that being the case,
15 Presiding Officer Lindsay and myself put
16 together a piece of legislation to bring
17 together a gaming task force, which this
18 is what this is, to look at what would
19 be the best sites for a gaming
20 institution, if that was -- if it was to
21 be -- come about. And that's why we --
22 we put the legislation in. It was
23 passed by, I believe, the entire
24 legislation, I'm not sure.

25 Bryan, do you recall?

2 MR. GALGANO: It was 17 to 1.

3 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: Seventeen to
4 1. Okay.

5 It was 17 to 1 that we should be in
6 the forefront of this and take a look at
7 this issue and make sure that -- that
8 everyone's -- the -- the people's
9 interests are involved and brought
10 together.

11 So we put together a task force,
12 which is where -- we -- this is our
13 first meeting. And -- and I've got to
14 tell you, the interest of getting on
15 this committee was -- was huge. I --
16 not a day went by that someone would
17 call and say, I want to be on that task
18 force, that sounds like something I'd be
19 very much interested in.

20 Okay, but we can only have it so
21 large.

22 So I think this is a well-rounded
23 task force. We included -- and Ray will
24 go over the particulars why certain
25 peoples were included, whether it be for

2 the government, or whether it be for
3 academia, or whether it be for the
4 business community and -- and the like.
5 This is an economic development issue
6 for Suffolk County. So I asked Ray
7 Donnelly, to my right, to be chair. And
8 if you don't know Ray, he's a good, fair
9 man. I can say that.

10 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Thank you.

11 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: But he's
12 also -- he's -- he's a business person.
13 And as most of you know by now that Ray
14 was the economic development czar?

15 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I don't like
16 that term. I don't like that particular
17 term, they shot -- the shot the czar --

18 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: Okay. Yeah,
19 that's true.

20 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- they just
21 ran me out --

22 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: That's true.

23 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- of town.

24 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: And the
25 family, too, you've got to really worry

2 about that.

3 There's still a question about
4 Anastasia; right?

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right. That's
6 right.

7 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: There you go.

8 But he was the -- for Brookhaven
9 Township. And so he is from Brookhaven,
10 he has a lot of interests -- community
11 interests. And, frankly, I've known Ray
12 going back a number of years when he was
13 actually a business -- business
14 entrepreneur over in Great Britain;
15 right?

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah.

17 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: Is when I
18 first met Ray. And not only that, he
19 worked for Telephonics, and he's got a
20 broad background. Now he works for
21 Lift, the technology group that's
22 centered in Bay Shore. And so he's got
23 a long history, and I thought he was the
24 right guy for this job. And he has no
25 relationship to gaming in itself, so

1
2 I -- I thought that would be an
3 appropriate person to -- to look at
4 what -- our interests.

5 So that being the case, we're here
6 today and one of our charges is to take
7 a look at what would be -- if -- if
8 gaming was to come to Suffolk County,
9 what would be the right place for it.
10 And what is in the best interests of the
11 Shinnecock Nation. What is in the best
12 interests of -- of quality of life
13 issues relating to traffic and things
14 like that. The sociological issues
15 involving gaming. The business
16 interests. The fact that -- putting
17 people to work in a time that we have
18 financially hard times, and there are a
19 lot of people who are unemployed.

20 All those things are before this
21 board. So this is -- you know, the
22 power is with you to come up with the --
23 the -- the right suggestions and the
24 right -- give guidance to Suffolk County
25 and the 1.5 million residents.

2 So with that, I would turn it over
3 to Mr. Chair, and -- and good luck.

4 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Let us begin.

5 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: And let us
6 begin. There you go.

7 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Thank you,
8 Mr. Legislator, and welcome again
9 everyone.

10 I think as Legislator Horsley said,
11 the -- the background of this is well
12 known to all of us. It's a story we've
13 all followed with various degrees of
14 interest for quite some time, and now we
15 kind of sit on the cusp of perhaps the
16 beginning of a process that will bring
17 this project fully to life and fruition
18 to the benefit of the residents of -- of
19 Suffolk County.

20 I think to the extent that we will
21 operate, we are -- are well guided by
22 the language of the enabling resolution
23 and its amendments, which is located in
24 the package we have for you this
25 morning. Of course, the next month's

2 package will contain reading minutes and
3 other addendum. This package is rather
4 thin, but it actually forms the
5 foundation for -- for what we have here
6 going forward.

7 With respect to my own background,
8 which Wayne was kind enough to
9 articulate, but more importantly I think
10 he used the key words, the benefit of
11 the Shinnecock Nation and the economic
12 development impact to the county. And
13 those are -- those are two -- two vital
14 components of this to maintain, assuming
15 that -- how do I say this? If and when
16 the Tribal application is indeed
17 approved, that -- that the Shinnecock
18 Nation achieves their aims, and the
19 economic development benefits for the
20 county that would flow from that are --
21 are equal to what we all anticipate.

22 I have a couple of unique
23 perspectives on this. I'm glad that
24 some of the representation here on the
25 task force committee includes labor and

2 the college. I think workforce is
3 critical, relative to this project.
4 There are all kinds of jobs that get
5 created by these; mega projects. There
6 are construction jobs at the front end,
7 there are service jobs at the back end,
8 there are business-related jobs that can
9 put our graduates to work.

10 Suffolk Community College has a
11 culinary arts program. What better --
12 what better place of employment for them
13 than a multifaceted entertainment
14 center, anchored by a casino that has
15 restaurants where they can go apply
16 their trade.

17 So I think there's a lot of
18 different elements to this from the
19 workforce side that -- that are
20 particularly critical to its usefulness
21 to the county.

22 The second piece that -- that I'm
23 particularly interested in and I hope we
24 can bring to life with respect to this
25 is the -- is the technology piece of it.

2 I spent a lot of my career background,
3 still am very involved in technology.
4 Not technology for its own sake, but
5 technology as a means to an end for
6 business purposes. And I think that
7 we've all visited -- the -- the casinos
8 in Connecticut, I'm sure, and looked
9 around, and we've seen -- we've seen
10 what's there. The kind of bright lights
11 and auto-visual wizardry that -- that
12 takes place.

13 I know the county executive has an
14 idea of -- of a multifaceted film and --
15 film and media technology development
16 park at Gabreski, what better -- what
17 better way than to -- to -- to feed that
18 technology into our own site right here
19 in Suffolk County. In the business
20 world, and particularly in the defense
21 industry, when you're doing product
22 development, you -- you, generally
23 speaking, try and do something that's
24 called the "lead user innovation model,"
25 where the lead user is really the beta

2 test for what you're trying to promote.
3 And that would seem to me that a -- a
4 media development park in Gabreski and a
5 requirement to the casino for that type
6 of technology would be very synergistic.

7 So that's my little preamble.

8 Again, I think we'll be guided very
9 much by the enabling resolution and its
10 amendment in terms of how we operate.

11 With that having been said, I'd
12 like to, because it is our first
13 meeting, do a whip around, have
14 everybody introduce themselves for the
15 benefit of each other, and as well as
16 our very able stenographer who, by her
17 own admission -- by her own admission, I
18 want you know, is the best there is.

19 DIRECTOR ISLES: Absolutely.

20 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Oh, wait, the
21 Commissioner seconds that.

22 So why don't we start on this side
23 of the table and we'll work our way down
24 (indicating).

25 MR. BROWN: My name's Phillip

2 Brown. I have been working on the
3 Shinnecock Nation Gaming Authority for
4 six years. I have been its chair. I am
5 presently the vice chair. And just
6 looking -- and hopefully something can
7 get started and we can move this thing
8 along.

9 DIRECTOR ISLES: Mr. Brown.

10 MR. BROWN: Yeah.

11 DIRECTOR ISLES: Could we have each
12 member identify their affiliation based
13 on the --

14 MR. BROWN: Oh, Shinnecock.

15 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay. And just in
16 terms of the committee assignments.

17 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right.

18 MR. BROWN: Okay.

19 DIRECTOR ISLES: If we could.

20 MR. BROWN: Well, I'm one of the --

21 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I think --

22 MR. BROWN: I'm one of the
23 designees for the Shinnecock Nation, as
24 the trustee or designee.

25 DIRECTOR ISLES: Great. Thank you.

1
2 MR. BROWN: Okay.

3 MR. GUMBS: I'm Lance Gumbs. I'm
4 the senior trustee, vice chairman of the
5 Shinnecock Indian Nation, at this point.
6 I am probably the initiator of the whole
7 gaming project, from its inception to
8 present date. I'll get into discussing
9 more of the logistics of it as we move
10 forward.

11 MS. TAGGART: I'm Lori Ann Taggart,
12 representing Suffolk County Community
13 College.

14 MR. CASTELLANE: Jim Castellane,
15 president of the Building and
16 Construction Trades of Nassau and
17 Suffolk on Long Island.

18 MR. DURSO: John Durso, president
19 of Long Island Federation of Labor,
20 AFL-CIO.

21 MR. ANRIG: I'm Bob Anrig, and I'm
22 representing the Suffolk County Economic
23 Development Department. I'm also a
24 resident of the Town of Southampton, I'm
25 familiar with -- with the Shinnecock

2 Nation.

3 DIRECTOR ISLES: I'm Tom Isles,
4 director of Planning for Suffolk County.

5 MR. ZUBA: Nicholas Zuba. I'm
6 legislative aide for Supervisor Steve
7 Bellone, Town of Babylon, and was also
8 chairman of the Suffolk County
9 Supervisors Association. That's who I'm
10 representing today.

11 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Okay. So we
12 have seven of the 11 named members here
13 this morning, and we still have two --
14 two billets to be filled, I guess;
15 right?

16 LEGISLATOR HORSLEY: That's my
17 understanding.

18 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Okay. And
19 we'll work on getting those filled by
20 the -- by the next meeting.

21 With respect to the business
22 contents of today's meeting, and the
23 first incidence, obviously, beyond the
24 introductions, what I thought was most
25 important, because it really is the

2 pivot of which the rest of our work here
3 will turn, is the status of the
4 Shinnecock Nation application.

5 I was given an update last week, or
6 two weeks ago, by one of the lawyers for
7 the Shinnecock Nation, there's a long
8 history to it. I think probably many of
9 us is familiar with some of that
10 history. The history is important, but
11 perhaps less important than the current
12 status and how -- how we take our next
13 steps. And how the application process
14 will, in fact, influence what we do in
15 terms of can we begin a planning process
16 here with respect to siting that
17 anticipates approval, how much can be
18 done, how much should be done. Those
19 are the questions we may start to think
20 about between now and the next meeting.

21 But to get to the -- to the
22 baseline from which we start, I've asked
23 Lance if he could give us an update on
24 the -- on the current application
25 status, and the latest developments,

2 some of which I think took place this
3 week in Washington.

4 MR. GUMBS: Currently, from the
5 2003 initiation of this, when it was
6 first brought to light, it was said that
7 it would take approximately 12 years or
8 better for us to get federal
9 recognition. Through the courts --

10 (WHEREUPON, Mr. Robert Fonti joined
11 the proceeding in progress.)

12 (Time noted: 10:26 a.m.)

13 MR. GUMBS: Through going through
14 the court system and through various
15 negotiations with the Department of
16 Interior, we have cut that time period
17 down to now approximately a year and a
18 half to two years.

19 We have currently five lawsuits
20 pending against the Department of
21 Interior. And one of those lawsuits has
22 really moved the whole process forward,
23 and that is our unreasonable delay claim
24 that we have that's currently here in
25 Federal Court in Islip under

2 Judge Bianco.

3 That claim of unreasonable delay,
4 where we have been waiting for now
5 31 years to be federally recognized, has
6 pushed the whole Department of Interior
7 to come up with settlement negotiations,
8 which we are currently in.

9 We started settlement negotiations
10 May 23rd of '08. The Assistant
11 Secretary of Interior Carl Artman, wrote
12 a new set of regulations that really,
13 even though it was a general set of
14 regulations, only pertain to the
15 Shinnecock Indian Nation.

16 In it, it talked about a tribe who
17 had had state recognition for over
18 100 years, a tribe who had recently had
19 confirmation of their federal status by
20 a federal court judge. There's only one
21 tribe in the country that that fit, and
22 that's us.

23 And so from that point we moved
24 forward with -- there were certain
25 criteria that we had to meet.

2 August 1st we had to have in all of our
3 material pertaining to federal
4 recognition. That deadline we did meet.

5 From that August 1st deadline, they
6 had a deadline to come back to us by
7 November 9th to make the determination
8 as to whether they were going to move us
9 up on the active list.

10 (WHEREUPON, Mr. George Stankevich
11 joined the proceeding in progress.)

12 (Time noted: 10:28 a.m.)

13 MR. GUMBS: There's two parts to
14 the federal process. You -- we were
15 sitting on the "ready for active" list,
16 and then you have to move from the
17 "ready for active" list to the active
18 list.

19 We moved to the active list
20 November 9th of 2008. Not only did we
21 move to the "ready for active" list on
22 November 9th, but we also moved to the
23 top of the list.

24 They immediately assigned a
25 three-member team to our petition. At

2 that point the process started. We had
3 until January 9th to put in any final
4 remaining material. We delivered to the
5 Department of Interior, on January 9th
6 of this year, 40 more boxes of material;
7 bringing our total amount of pages in
8 our documentation to over 40,000 pages.

9 We are the best petition right now
10 that the department has ever seen, and
11 that's from their own words.

12 With that, the settlement
13 negotiations started, and we have been
14 trying to negotiate an end date.

15 Right now we have a preliminary
16 finding date, that will be November 9th
17 of this year. They will give us a
18 preliminary finding as to our federal
19 status.

20 That's one track that we're on.

21 The second track that we're on, the
22 day before the weekend -- the Friday
23 before the inauguration, the Shinnecock
24 Indian Nation Board of Trustees traveled
25 to Washington, D.C., to meet with the --

2 with the incoming President Obama's
3 transition team for Native Americans.
4 We had a very good discussion with them
5 on the situation of our federal
6 recognition, and our feeling that we
7 should not even have to go through this
8 process at all. That from 1914 through
9 the 1940s, we did have prior
10 recognition. We were a tribe that was
11 never terminated, and we felt that due
12 to that status, we should be just put on
13 the list.

14 There have been tribes that have
15 gone through that, and they have just
16 been put on the list. For whatever
17 reason, they were forgotten in the
18 process and they were put on the list.

19 So it was our contention with them
20 that we should just be put on the list,
21 not only because of the prior
22 recognition, but because of the fact
23 that we had a 2005 court decision by a
24 federal court judge stating that we are
25 a federal tribe. And under the 1994

2 Tribe's List Act, there are three ways
3 that a tribe can be recognized:

4 Through the fact process or the bar
5 process, which we've been in for over
6 30 years;

7 Through congressional recognition,
8 which a lot of the tribes, including our
9 neighbors who own casinos to the north,
10 that's how they were recognized;

11 And through a district court.

12 And so we have two advantages, and
13 thus that started our -- one of our
14 other claims which was equal protection.
15 So we have an equal protection claim
16 going now stating that because of other
17 tribes being recognized in this fashion,
18 we should also be recognized under the
19 equal protection claim. So that's
20 another claim that we have.

21 Currently, we are in negotiations
22 with the Department of Interior and DOJ,
23 the Justice Department, to come to some
24 kind of resolution on an end date for
25 this petition to be settled.

2 We are also in negotiations with
3 members of the department who are going
4 to be taking over. We're waiting right
5 now for the new assistant secretary to
6 come in. We have a pretty good idea of
7 who that's going to be, a gentleman,
8 Larry Eckelhawk (phonetic).

9 Tuesday, we just went to Washington
10 to meet with President Obama's new
11 liaison from the White House -- that's
12 going to be the liaison between the
13 White House and all of the tribes in the
14 country. That was a very good meeting.
15 She is a -- a Lakota from Standing Rock.
16 She knows a couple of our tribal members
17 that married some of their tribal
18 members. She also went to Dartmouth
19 with one of our tribal members, so she
20 was well aware of who we were. And she
21 has pledged to actively push our
22 petition to just be put on the list
23 before the department.

24 So at this point we are -- we're
25 waiting another meeting in Washington.

2 We just sent back our latest proposal as
3 to what we would like and the end date
4 that we would like to see.

5 Right now we have an end date that
6 could either be May of 2010, or June of
7 2010. And we are in the process of
8 trying to even cut that time period down
9 for a final determination.

10 Once we have that final
11 determination, the door is open and we
12 intend to go through it, you know, at
13 100 miles an hour.

14 And that's pretty much where we're
15 at, at this point.

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Well, hopefully
17 Tuesday was a good day for you. It
18 sounds like it was.

19 MR. GUMBS: It was a very good day.
20 We -- we felt that -- we've had -- we've
21 been having meetings with all of the new
22 personnel that's coming into the
23 Department of Interior on a regular
24 basis. We believe, in our minds, that
25 we're going to expedite this whole

2 process even further by just being put
3 on the list.

4 One other note that I'd like to
5 bring up, because it's come out and I
6 know Newsday did a story on it, and that
7 is a decision that was made in the
8 State of Rhode Island concerning -- it's
9 called the "Carcieri decision," and it
10 talks about the ability to -- for tribes
11 who were not previously recognized in
12 1934 when they had the Indian
13 Reorganization Act. And what that says
14 is that tribes that weren't recognized
15 prior to the 1934 Reorganization Act
16 will not be allowed to take land into
17 trust. And that really directly effects
18 what we're doing here, because if that
19 law is not fixed, then the only place
20 for our gaming facility to go will be on
21 Shinnecock Reservation in the Town of
22 Southampton. Like it, lump it, whatever
23 the situation may be, that's where it
24 will go.

25 So we're looking at the fact, and

2 one of the reasons why we want to be
3 considered a restored tribe rather than
4 a tribe that just went through this
5 process is because being a restored
6 tribe would give us that status of being
7 recognized prior to 1934, which would
8 then enable us to go out and look for
9 land and have the ability to put that
10 land into trust.

11 So there is a -- a lot riding on
12 being recognized through -- from that
13 time period 1914 through the 1940s,
14 1950s.

15 MR. ANRIG: Lance --

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: No, I think
17 that --

18 MR. ANRIG: If I could just
19 interrupt.

20 You talk about being forced to
21 locate in Southampton, does that mean
22 just your presently owed properties --

23 MR. GUMBS: That's correct.

24 MR. ANRIG: So either the -- the
25 westward side or the --

2 MR. GUMBS: That would be correct.

3 MR. ANRIG: -- reservation side, no
4 place else.

5 MR. GUMBS: There's no place else.

6 Based on -- based on what the Supreme
7 Court just came down with.

8 We just had a big conference call
9 with just about every Indian lawyer from
10 around the country, because this won't
11 only affect us, this is going to affect
12 a lot of tribes. Some tribes who
13 currently, right now, are waiting on
14 land into trust. And they're working on
15 what they're calling right now the
16 "Carciari fix," which they're hoping
17 that congress will put through so that
18 all tribes, irregardless of when they
19 are recognized, will be able to take
20 land into trust.

21 But right now it's -- it's not a
22 good thing, because it really is going
23 to affect a lot of tribes that are
24 applying for land into trust and who did
25 not have that prior recognition.

2 MR. ANRIG: Would the Westwoods
3 property still qualify?

4 MR. GUMBS: Yes, the Westwoods
5 property would -- would -- would qualify
6 if we had -- well, the Westwoods
7 property would qualify irregardless.
8 What the judge said is that we just
9 didn't have aboriginal territory.
10 They -- it's clear that it's Indian
11 territory, it's Indian land. We have
12 owned it since prior -- even before the
13 prior reorganization issue of 1934 in
14 the Indian Reorganization Act. So that
15 land would qualify also.

16 MR. ANRIG: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: So we'll follow
18 all these developments very closely.
19 Obviously, I think we all would agree
20 that having more options is better.

21 MR. GUMBS: That's why we're
22 pushing for opt- --

23 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Sure.

24 Understood.

25 MR. GUMBS: We -- we call it

2 "Option A," that's between -- before the
3 bar; "Option B," obviously, for -- the
4 bar is for us to go through this
5 process. But our Option A is to have
6 them just reinstate us rather than --
7 rather than go through this process.

8 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right.
9 Correct. Got it.

10 MR. GUMBS: Okay.

11 DIRECTOR ISLES: So you're working
12 that internally with the Department of
13 Interior. Is there anyone opposing that
14 or --

15 MR. GUMBS: Well, the Department of
16 Interior has, under the present -- under
17 the Bush administration, did not want to
18 touch it with a ten-foot pole, even
19 though it's in their own rules and
20 regulations, which we've pointed out to
21 them. So that's one of -- that's our
22 third lawsuit against the department.
23 Is -- the -- we call it the "last act
24 litigation," because we should have just
25 been put on the list, we should not have

2 to go through this process.

3 There are -- there's a precedent
4 that has been set by, I would -- I
5 believe it's seven or eight other tribes
6 who, for whatever reason, just got left
7 off the -- the list, and they were just
8 reinstated. And so we have -- that's
9 our -- one of our other lawsuits.

10 As I said, we have a number of
11 lawsuits going against the federal
12 government. And we're hopeful that the
13 new people that are coming in, most of
14 them are going to be Indian, which is a
15 drastic change from the previous eight
16 year -- eight years where most of them
17 were non-Indian people in the position
18 within the Department of Interior. Most
19 of the people that are coming in now are
20 all Indian that are going to be in these
21 positions to make that decision.

22 And I did speak to -- the day
23 before the inauguration, we did have a
24 conversation and I did get to speak to
25 the new Interior Secretary Ken Salazar

2 about our situation. And when I
3 mentioned Shinnecock, he said, I'm well
4 aware of your situation and we are going
5 to take a serious look at it, because no
6 one should have to wait 30 years, the
7 process, you know, that -- the fact
8 process is obviously broken.

9 So he's well aware of us and so,
10 hopefully, things will work themselves
11 out.

12 MR. FONTI: (Indicating)

13 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Mr. Fonti, do
14 you have a question?

15 MR. FONTI: Yes, I do.

16 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry, would you
17 introduce yourself.

18 MR. FONTI: Sure. My name is
19 Robert Fonti. F-O-N-T-I.

20 Question for you. Is the -- can
21 the federal government institute a
22 moratorium on applications, or approval
23 for designations? And as this process
24 goes along, you don't want to come out
25 of the -- come out of the findings and

2 then find out there's a moratorium. I
3 just want to make sure there wouldn't be
4 a time deadline or a delay.

5 MR. GUMBS: No, as far as -- you're
6 referring to the gaming itself?

7 MR. FONTI: Yes.

8 MR. GUMBS: The doing gaming (sic)?

9 MR. FONTI: Yes.

10 MR. GUMBS: No, there's no
11 moratorium on that. And, actually, the
12 people that are in there are all pro- --
13 most of them are pro-gaming. So I don't
14 see there being any moratorium on the
15 gaming. There's too many tribes out
16 there right now -- there are 462 Indian
17 gaming facilities; we've got 204 tribes
18 waiting for federal recognition; you've
19 probably got -- in the cue, you probably
20 have another 30 or more gaming
21 facilities just waiting for approval
22 through the compact process with their
23 individual states. So it's not going
24 anywhere, and there -- there's too much
25 power behind, you know, the -- the whole

2 gaming industry now for that to happen.

3 MR. FONTI: My follow-up question
4 is, with regard to the -- the land trust
5 between the government and -- and the
6 tribes -- and the tribe, is that -- has
7 that been done before and how
8 successful? What -- does that add
9 another tail to the process? In other
10 words, will that extend the process even
11 further because of this?

12 MR. GUMBS: Land in the trust, most
13 of the tribes have had to do land in the
14 trust because of their locations. The
15 tribes like us -- see, New York State is
16 a little different from all of the other
17 states. All of the tribes in New York
18 State hold their land pretty simple. So
19 it's really not a requirement under --
20 in New York State to have your land in
21 the trust; ala, us using our two pieces
22 of land that we have to do gaming.

23 Now, when we want to step outside
24 of our, you know, territory, then any
25 land that we would acquire would have to

2 go into trust. And that comes down to
3 then working with the state, working
4 with our senators and congressmen to
5 expedite that process.

6 If there's an agreement with the
7 state and -- and your -- the
8 congressional leadership, that process
9 can be moved along, you know, rather
10 quickly.

11 MR. FONTI: Okay.

12 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I think one
13 thing we would all agree with, Lance,
14 because we all live here, is New York
15 State is different, that's for sure.

16 (Laughter)

17 MR. DURSO: (Indicating)

18 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Mr. Durso.

19 MR. DURSO: Well, you -- you asked
20 him part of this before.

21 Where is our senator -- our two
22 senators and our congressional
23 delegation on this as far as being
24 helpful to the process; and then once
25 the process is completed, where are we

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with them and the governor on moving
the -- the rest of this forward?

MR. GUMBS: Well, we had, before he
was -- about three weeks before he was
the governor, we met with the then
lieutenant governor, and we had, you
know, discussions on the gaming.
Obviously, everyone should be aware
that, you know, there are approvals for
three gaming facilities right now in the
Catskills; so New York is pro-gaming.

We have, also, you know, looked at
the viability of doing something at
Aqueduct and Belmont.

Our congressman -- our local
congressman, Tim Bishop, we have an
agreement with him, with a certain line
that's designated for the East End. So
he's pretty much on board, as long as we
do not go east of this particular line.

Senator Schumer is also pretty much
on board, if we do not go beyond this
particular line.

Senator Gillibrand we have -- we

2 just met with her staff two week ago,
3 but we have not had a direct
4 conversation with her, so we do not know
5 her immediate position. But it seems as
6 though how Schumer goes is how she goes
7 right now, based on being handpicked.

8 So it's pretty much our
9 understanding that we have our senators
10 and our congressmen on board with us at
11 this point.

12 MR. ANRIG: Are you allowed to say
13 where the line is, or -- or no?

14 MR. GUMBS: I'd rather not right
15 now.

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I think we'll
17 leave that --

18 MR. GUMBS: Yeah.

19 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: We'll leave
20 that --

21 MR. CASTELLANE: Lance --

22 MR. GUMBS: Yes.

23 MR. CASTELLANE: -- could I -- I'd
24 just like to ask you a few questions.

25 MR. GUMBS: Uh-huh.

2 MR. CASTELLANE: Number one, thank
3 you for fighting as hard as you're
4 fighting to get something done. I'd
5 just like to open it up and be a little
6 bit more relaxed here. How anyone can
7 fight a fight for 31 years for something
8 that they deserve is -- that demands --
9 I just want to let you know on behalf of
10 the building and construction trades,
11 myself, I've only been the president for
12 a year --

13 MR. GUMBS: Uh-huh.

14 MR. CASTELLANE: -- so I want to
15 shoot some stuff with you; all right?

16 MR. GUMBS: Okay.

17 MR. CASTELLANE: What -- what --
18 what type of support have you had,
19 Lance? Where -- where is your support
20 coming from right now?

21 MR. GUMBS: Ah --

22 MR. CASTELLANE: If any.

23 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Is this
24 something that's the subject to this
25 task force, or is it something that you

2 want to talk to him about outside?

3 MR. DURSO: No.

4 MR. GUMBS: Well, I think it's kind
5 of important because, you know --

6 MR. DURSO: I'm fine with it.

7 MR. GUMBS: -- people -- you know,
8 the support has actually been coming
9 from all over. We have had -- you know,
10 even our -- our local, local
11 Southampton, you know, politicians have
12 started to come around and to
13 understand, you know, that, one, this is
14 going to happen at some point in time.

15 And I think, too, the -- as -- as
16 was stated earlier when -- when -- when
17 we opened up, this is about jobs. You
18 know, this is about creating jobs on the
19 front end, this is about creating jobs
20 on -- on the back end. But to the
21 Shinnecock Indian Nation, this is about
22 a right that we have to do this, as per
23 the federal government. Who, in their
24 initiatives, and even under Richard
25 Nixon, has stated that the object of any

2 economic development should be to have
3 the tribes become economically
4 self-sufficient and not reliant on
5 federal subsidies, federal funds. And
6 so I think even our senators and our
7 congressmen know that once we get
8 federalized, we're going to have funding
9 coming in from the federal government.

10 Now, if we can, you know, sort of
11 alleviate that through our own internal
12 economic development, that's a savings
13 to the federal government. You know,
14 that's not a -- a -- an additional
15 burden on the tribes -- I mean, on the
16 federal government itself, it's the
17 tribe becoming economically
18 self-sufficient.

19 So we're getting a lot of
20 support -- I mean, we have a lot of
21 support here on Long Island. We did
22 a -- a poll on Long Island, of which
23 I -- I believe it was -- what was it --
24 72 or 71 percent of the people on Long
25 Island?

2 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: 72 percent.

3 MR. GUMBS: 72 percent of the
4 people --

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right.

6 MR. GUMBS: -- came back in support
7 of gaming on Long Island in some place,
8 so there is -- is -- is a lot of support
9 as far as we're concerned.

10 I think that when this initially
11 started, people didn't understand it.
12 People, for whatever their reasons, just
13 came out of the box with a lot of
14 negativity, which was really -- it was
15 really sad for us. And it was sad for
16 us to have the State of New York
17 challenge us as to our existence, our
18 town. And I think there's some
19 embarrassment there also. You know, how
20 you could challenge a tribe that
21 predates your town, predates your state,
22 predates the United States of America,
23 and how you would challenge as to their
24 existence. And I think even the federal
25 judge that recognized us the very first

2 day in court -- when we went to court,
3 the state sued us as the Shinnecock
4 Nation and the state sued the leadership
5 as the leadership of the Shinnecock
6 Nation, as did the town, and the judge
7 said, you know, Am I in the twilight
8 zone here or something? He said, You
9 just sued them as to who they are and
10 you're questioning who they are, and it
11 makes no sense.

12 So I think there is a lot of
13 support.

14 MR. DURSO: Yeah. Lance, I just
15 want to be honest. The reason I
16 asked -- I asked you that question --
17 and for the rest of these gentlemen in
18 the room, the reason I asked that
19 question was because this is all new to
20 me, what's going on here now. And I
21 want to make sure I have a full grasp on
22 what's going on, and I just want to let
23 you know, right now, before the meeting
24 goes even -- any further, I will support
25 you 1,000 percent on what you're trying

2 to do. So let's get together as soon as
3 possible.

4 MR. GUMBS: Appreciate that.

5 MR. CASTELLANE: Thank you.

6 MR. FONTI: (Indicating)

7 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Mr. Fonti.

8 MR. FONTI: Okay. Another
9 question.

10 Is there a moratorium with regard
11 to radius restrictions -- not
12 moratorium, excuse me.

13 Is there a radius restriction in
14 terms of where the -- where the lines
15 are --

16 MR. GUMBS: At this point, yes.
17 Before the Bush administration went out,
18 there was a 75-mile radius. And that's
19 what, actually, shut down the Mohawk
20 Casino situation Upstate. The Mohawks
21 were approximately 400 miles from
22 their territory. And then
23 Secretary Kempthorne came back and
24 said -- well, it was actually Carl
25 Artman, but under the directive of

2 Secretary Kempthorne, said that they're
3 going to institute what's called a
4 "commutability" -- "commutability law."
5 And that was that a tribe had to be -- a
6 gaming facility had to be within a
7 75-mile radius of the tribe. And then
8 somewhere it came back that, you know,
9 they reduced that to be 25 miles. So --

10 At this point, though, we do
11 believe that that's going to change, we
12 do believe that the new
13 Secretary Kempthorne is going to take
14 that and -- and reverse that -- that
15 memorandum that came down. The two
16 reasons -- but the main reason was there
17 was never any consultation with any of
18 the tribes, and that is a requirement
19 when laws like that are passed, there
20 has to be consultation with tribal
21 entities, and there was none. And
22 second, it was just a memorandum, it
23 really was not an actual law. But it
24 was a policy decision made by interior
25 at that time. So -- but we do believe

1
2 that that's going to be reversed.

3 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: So I guess
4 that, in a certain sense, that -- you
5 know, as I said at the top, that we're
6 guided by the enabling resolution. The
7 enabling resolution says that the
8 purpose of the task force is to evaluate
9 the -- the feasibility, viability, and
10 siting. And I -- I don't know that
11 anybody here doesn't think that this
12 isn't feasible or viable, if all these
13 proper approvals are obtained.

14 And so, in that context, beyond the
15 actual approval tribal status, the
16 question is whether or not you get
17 approved so that it's -- it's seen as
18 not something that's new, but that goes
19 back into your history --

20 MR. GUMBS: Uh-huh.

21 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- and that
22 that -- that that commutability figure
23 is changed from 25 miles back to
24 75 miles.

25 MR. GUMBS: (Head gesture)

2 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: And those are
3 two -- two key pivot points --

4 MR. GUMBS: That's two of them.

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- two key
6 pivot points for this -- for this task
7 force at this point. The clarity of
8 those will enable us to have a vision as
9 to where we can --

10 MR. STANKEVICH: (Indicating)

11 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- we take this
12 thing.

13 George.

14 MR. STANKEVICH: George Stankevich.

15 Senator Schumer has been in
16 constant contact with Bill Lindsay and
17 Wayne Horsley since the idea of this
18 committee was created. Obviously, he's
19 a politician and his finger is always to
20 the wind, and I guess he recognizes the
21 power of education, which I think is the
22 charter of the committee. To get the
23 facts out and answer the questions that
24 people have, and to eliminate the
25 circumstance all too often found around

2 the country that people start yelling at
3 each other without knowing the facts.

4 Part of knowing the facts is to --
5 to know Shinnecock. Most people don't
6 realize that there are tribes on Long
7 Island, and you have two of the finest
8 members of the tribe sitting with you
9 today, and they have a wealth of
10 information.

11 One of the suggestions I would make
12 is that as early as possible, among your
13 early meetings, we have a meeting out at
14 the reservation so that you can meet the
15 full leadership and you can have a tour
16 to see the community facilities, the
17 health facilities, the churches, the
18 museums, the hatcheries, and various
19 activities that the Shinnecoeks engage
20 in as a nation. You have a replication,
21 really, of what goes on at the county
22 and state level right there at
23 Shinnecock.

24 Part of the ability for people to
25 understand the impact of gaming is to

2 really just look at Connecticut. We
3 really don't have a better circumstance
4 than look at the parallel development of
5 Connecticut, and it's been highly
6 studied, so there's no guess as to the
7 hundreds of millions of dollars each
8 that go from Long Island to Connecticut,
9 no guess as to the tens of thousands of
10 jobs that have been created in the
11 multiplier effect, et cetera.

12 We started this process off with
13 the legislature by having Jeff Blodgett
14 come down from the Connecticut Resource
15 Center to discuss the economic impacts
16 with the legislature. I mean, they've
17 really studied them, they have
18 phonebook-size studies; Harvard has
19 studied it, the University of
20 Connecticut has studied it. So there is
21 a wealth of information and experts that
22 come -- come down and meet with us to
23 discuss and answer questions regarding
24 the economics.

25 What I can pass out today is a

2 summary of the major studies, and you
3 can get them online and you can take a
4 look at them for yourself and sort of
5 get up to speed (handing).

6 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Thanks, George.

7 I guess in sort of, you know,
8 trying to figure out how to -- have we
9 accomplished here what we needed to
10 today, we would want to think about next
11 meetings and -- and George's suggestion
12 that we hold the meeting at Shinnecock;
13 it seems like a pretty good idea,
14 actually, to me, as I think about it.

15 And we have some dates for the next
16 meeting, no, Bryan?

17 MR. GALGANO: Yes, we do.

18 Just preliminarily, May 1st, which
19 is a Friday; and for June it would be
20 June 12th, which is also a Friday.

21 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: One of those
22 things where you're trying to sort of,
23 you know, coordinate a dozen different
24 BlackBerries and calendars here, but do
25 those dates immediately seem bad to

2 anybody?

3 MR. ANRIG: Is June 12th part of
4 the U.S. Open week, or is that the
5 following week?

6 MS. TAGGART: It's that week.

7 MR. ANRIG: That's the following
8 week?

9 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Well, I was --
10 I was there -- that's a fair point, and
11 I'm glad somebody's a golfer because I'm
12 not. But I was actually thinking,
13 because we're really still very much in
14 I think a -- a building the foundation
15 stage here of knowledge, that if -- if
16 it was appropriate to have the next
17 meeting at the reservation, we might
18 want to try and do that to really lay
19 the foundation for our knowledge of --
20 of the Shinnecocks, the process they've
21 been through.

22 As -- as our friend Mr. Castellane
23 has said, they've been fighting the good
24 fight for a long period of time here.
25 It's -- it's -- it's the job of this

2 task force to evaluate the feasibility
3 and viability, but also to make sure, in
4 that context, that the process is open
5 and transparent, and we want to make
6 sure that they get to tell their story
7 as well as possible; which, perhaps, in
8 the past, hasn't been the case.

9 So I would like to propose, if it's
10 okay with the Shinnecocks and with the
11 member of the task force, that we
12 actually hold the next meeting at -- at
13 their -- at their site.

14 MR. GUMBS: Well, it's fine with
15 us. We're were --

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Is it?

17 MR. GUMBS: Actually, we're were
18 going to -- at George's, we were
19 discussing it earlier and --

20 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I had a feeling
21 you guys had figured that out.

22 MR. GUMBS: Yeah.

23 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah, right.

24 MR. GUMBS: That's where --

25 MR. STANKEVICH: It's a plan.]

2 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah. I was
3 born at night --

4 MR. DURSO: What time did you want
5 to do that, Ray?

6 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I was born at
7 night, but not last night.

8 (Laughter)

9 MR. CASTELLANE: So that's May 1st,
10 gentlemen?

11 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah. It's a
12 Friday.

13 Is Friday okay for everybody?

14 MR. DURSO: Same time?

15 MR. CASTELLANE: And what timeline?

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Midmorning okay
17 for everybody? 10:00, 10:30, is that
18 okay with you guys?

19 MR. GUMBS: If everybody can get
20 there; 10:00, 11:00 is fine.

21 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: We'll firm it
22 up, but 10-ish -- we'll say 10-ish;
23 between 10:00 and 10:30. We'll get a
24 specific start time. We'll get
25 directions to everybody relative --

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MR. STANKEVICH: Have lunch out there.

CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah. Whatever -- however you guys lay out the day to put your best foot forward, recognizing that it's part of the fact-gathering process for us and -- and -- and important for us to lay the foundation. It -- it looks to me like, with respect to the timing of things with -- you know, with -- we're -- we're going to be drinking from a fire hose here, to use the metaphor, sort of information gathering, while we're -- we're on a separate track watching the application itself unfold, knowing that, you know, in the good graces of time, if and when that application's approved, we want to have a plan to be able to react to it, depending on the status of that application.

I mean, the one thing we know from these mega projects that are taking place on Long Island now, the

2 lighthouse, Riverhead, the good work
3 Commissioner Isles has done on the
4 Yaphank project with the county, is that
5 nothing goes according to plan.

6 MR. GUMBS: That's for sure.

7 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: So I think
8 we could --

9 MR. GUMBS: That's for sure.

10 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- we could
11 count on that part, but we can also --
12 we can also count on the fact that this
13 is good and worthy work, because these
14 projects, from an economic development
15 point of view, really help to -- to lift
16 the whole region. So I think, you know,
17 it's -- it's important we keep our eyes
18 firmly fixed on -- on that end result.

19 MR. DURSO: (Indicating)

20 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: John.

21 MR. DURSO: Just -- just quickly,
22 Ray.

23 The 12th would be at the same --
24 about the same time, about 10 o'clock?

25 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Around the same

2 time -- June 12th around the time, but
3 back here.

4 MR. DURSO: Okay. Yeah, no,
5 that's -- that's good. We're just
6 trying to --

7 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yeah, and we'll
8 probably -- for the next meeting, if we
9 invite somebody down from Connecticut,
10 we'll probably -- I didn't -- I didn't
11 take the horseshoe today because I just
12 thought for the first meeting we ought
13 to sit across the table and get to know
14 each other, but the horseshoe is
15 available to us if we need it. And if
16 we have guest speakers come in, we'll
17 meet inside in the leg room in the
18 horseshoe to give it a little more
19 ceremonial feel. But I thought
20 everybody should just sort of -- sort of
21 sit elbow to elbow here as we get to
22 know each other.

23 DIRECTOR ISLES: (Indicating)

24 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Commissioner.

25 DIRECTOR ISLES: Just if you could

2 outline, Ray, what our duties are in
3 terms of what do we have to accomplish
4 and what is our rough time frame. What
5 do you see in terms of -- you've
6 mentioned that we're going to be getting
7 an awful lot of information very fast.
8 I think the suggestion to go to the
9 reservation is a great idea, getting
10 input from Connecticut and other
11 locations. The reports, the prior
12 studies that have been done I think is
13 excellent. How much time do you think
14 we have and what is it we should be
15 working towards in terms of the output;
16 are we going to produce a report or some
17 sort of memorandum. In terms of -- and
18 I know we've mentioned, you know,
19 looking at other sites and so forth.
20 How and when do you want to get going on
21 that end and --

22 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Sure.

23 DIRECTOR ISLES: -- because we want
24 to start identifying the criteria --

25 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: What I have now

2 is a set of --

3 DIRECTOR ISLES: Like a work plan
4 kind of thing.

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Sure.

6 What I have now is a set of
7 considered opinions, and I think --

8 DIRECTOR ISLES: Yeah.

9 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- not that I
10 think, I mean, clearly, we're all new to
11 this, we're coming together for the
12 first time and I want -- what I'm
13 thinking is not necessarily correct, and
14 what other people have as ideas need to
15 be factored in. But in conversations
16 I've had with -- with Legislator Horsley
17 and some other informed people about how
18 to do about this, I think we want to
19 concentrate from now until -- well, at
20 least for the May and June meetings, on
21 information gathering. We've got a good
22 start here today with an update from
23 Lance. We're going to go out to the
24 reservation. Probably in June we'll
25 think about having somebody come down

2 from Connecticut and giving us an update
3 on that, similar to what you did.

4 Obviously, July, August are months when
5 maybe not much will be happening; maybe
6 we'll meet, maybe we won't. A lot
7 depends on the status of the
8 application.

9 If that application catches fire,
10 if the Obama administration, with all
11 the many challenges it faces, in -- in
12 the cold light of day decides that
13 they're going to take a very fast track
14 to address a -- a wrong that was done a
15 long time ago, then we'll move more
16 quickly.

17 I would suspect by the autumn or
18 the fall we -- we would want to start
19 thinking about -- thinking about a
20 process that begins to think about
21 siting from a macro level. Not about
22 individual sites, but assuming if, if,
23 and if -- that the application's
24 approved, that you're granted the status
25 that goes back in history, and that the

2 75 miles is the -- is the number, not
3 25 miles -- what are we looking for;
4 egress/ingress, the viability of sewers.
5 There's probably a laundry list of
6 things we could all come up with if we
7 went around the table that says what a
8 site should have. Not what a particular
9 site has now --

10 DIRECTOR ISLES: Right.

11 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- but what a
12 site should have.

13 DIRECTOR ISLES: General criteria.

14 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: General
15 criteria. I mean, use your good
16 experience at this sort of multi- --
17 multilevel, multiuse development to say
18 what should a site have.

19 DIRECTOR ISLES: Right. Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: And then start
21 to consider how we, you know, go about
22 it from there and produce some sort of
23 report by the -- by the end of the year,
24 maybe early into next year, that says
25 this is the criteria for siting a

2 casino, and we recommend -- and it was
3 my thought and I said it to a couple of
4 people, that at some point we would
5 actually -- if, if, and if. And I want
6 to make sure every time I make these
7 statements I'm couching that that way,
8 because what we're all -- we all may be
9 hopeful of certain outcome, it's not
10 clear that that outcome is guaranteed.
11 And we're all old enough to know that
12 things go amiss.

13 But at some point after that
14 report, one of the conclusions of that
15 report would be to issue an RFP to the
16 development community that says, if you
17 have a site and it meets these criteria,
18 tell us about it and -- and see where we
19 go from there.

20 That's just --

21 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: That's just a
23 broad --

24 DIRECTOR ISLES: That helps a lot.

25 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- idea --

2 DIRECTOR ISLES: Framework.

3 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- of what I'm
4 thinking.

5 MR. ANRIG: I'd just like to bring
6 up two things.

7 I look forward to the meeting at
8 the reservation, because to better
9 understand the -- the -- the real
10 economic driver, you really have to go
11 to the reservation to understand --

12 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right.

13 MR. ANRIG: -- the people and the
14 needs of the people. And that's what
15 it's all about really. It's not about,
16 although I represent Suffolk County,
17 economic development today. It's not
18 about the substantial benefit really to
19 the county. That's a secondary benefit,
20 the primary benefit is --

21 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Uh-huh.

22 MR. ANRIG: -- benefits to the
23 Nation.

24 And I think we also have to have an
25 understanding from Lance and from the

2 tribal council as -- as -- as to their
3 sense of mass. I don't know what they
4 want to construct.

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Uh-huh.

6 MR. ANRIG: I don't know what they
7 want to construct.

8 That's not fair, I do know what
9 they want to construct. I know we've
10 had those discussions --

11 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Right.

12 MR. ANRIG: -- but -- but, you
13 know, we can go from a bingo hall to
14 Mohegan Sun. So we have to have some
15 sense of mass, and part of that is based
16 upon their personal and financial
17 resources --

18 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Uh-huh.

19 MR. ANRIG: -- if it's feasible,
20 and then I think we can talk about sites
21 and appropriateness of those sites.

22 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Well, I'm
23 not -- and that's what I'm saying, I'm
24 not talking about sites.

25 MR. ANRIG: Yeah.

2 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Unless you
3 missed the first part.

4 MR. ANRIG: No, no.

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I'm talking
6 about criteria --

7 MR. ANRIG: I understand.

8 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY -- for a site --

9 MR. ANRIG: Yeah.

10 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- not
11 individual sites.

12 And I think the other thing that
13 clearly will be a factor here, and is a
14 factor every day, is the times in which
15 we live. Because the times in which we
16 live may, in fact, dictate, you know,
17 what can and cannot be done relative to
18 size, scope, and finance. And so I --
19 you know, all of this is going to unfold
20 literally before our eyes.

21 I mean, one of the -- one of the
22 exciting piece of doing this kind of
23 work and one of the great challenges in
24 doing that kind of work, and I know from
25 having done it when I ran economic

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development in the -- in the Township of

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Brookhaven, was that -- and -- and Tom

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gets to do it in a way every day,

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it's -- it's a little bit like building

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the house while you're living in it.

7

It's not even remodeling the house while

8

you're living in it, that's easier to

9

do; you already have the house, you go

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build it one room at a time. This is

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like building a house while you're

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living in it; so you build yourself one

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little room and then you have to build

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yourself a second floor.

15

You know, and I think we're kind of

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in that -- where we're just getting the

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foundation set here, and that's what we

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need to concentrate on between now

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and -- and -- well, the next two

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meetings anyway, and then let's try and

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take it from there; assess where we're

22

at and try and take it from there.

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MR. STANKEVICH: (Indicating)

24

CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: George.

25

MR. STANKEVICH: One of the phrases

2 I hate in construction projects is "fast
3 track." I think what we're trying to
4 do --

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I think Lance
6 would probably agree with you that fast
7 track is not in his personal --

8 MR. STANKEVICH: -- is to get ahead
9 of the track.

10 MR. GUMBS: That's for sure.

11 MR. STANKEVICH: What we're trying
12 to do is to get ahead of the track, get
13 our feet on the ground, get as much
14 information so intelligent decisions can
15 be made in the future.

16 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: But we -- many
17 of us know each other from other walks
18 of life, everybody in here understands
19 the possible impacts to the county with
20 this type of project, and I think that,
21 you know, it goes without saying that --
22 you know, the moment may -- may come
23 when get this to go -- actually, bring
24 something to life here that would be a
25 great benefit to the tribe, to the

2 region, and we just sort of have to
3 multitrack it as much as we can.

4 DIRECTOR ISLES: (Indicating)

5 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Tom.

6 DIRECTOR ISLES: There's two
7 things.

8 One is, maybe for the next meeting,
9 if we could have a list prepared through
10 Legislator Horsley's office of each of
11 the designations --

12 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yes.

13 DIRECTOR ISLES: -- the name of
14 who's actually on it so we can share
15 that among ourselves, and maybe even a
16 contact --

17 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Yup.

18 DIRECTOR ISLES: -- e-mail or --

19 MR. DURSO: Everybody's e-mail
20 list.

21 DIRECTOR ISLES: Yeah, I think --

22 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: We need -- in
23 fact, we need to get an e-mail list and
24 contact list of everybody, Bryan --

25 MR. GALGANO: Yeah, that's why --

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CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: -- and we need -- and we really need to get the other two billets, too.

MR. GALGANO: Yeah, that's what I'm going to do.

DIRECTOR ISLES: And just one last question. Just to ask, when we're talking about Connecticut and the casinos up there and stuff like that, they're not opposed to this, or have they expressed anything --

(Laughter)

DIRECTOR ISLES: -- in terms of, Hey, wait a second, we've had all this market on Long Island, and it's going across the Orient Point Ferry and so forth --

MR. GUMBS: It's going to be interesting.

DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

MR. GUMBS: No, I know both tribal leaders very well. What they say and what their business division says are probably two different things.

2 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

3 MR. GUMBS: But we have had offers
4 from at least one of them to partner
5 with us. So we'll see where it goes,
6 but -- no, that is -- we're probably
7 going to get more opposition from
8 old Donny and his crew down in Atlantic
9 City than -- I have had -- he called and
10 wanted to --

11 DIRECTOR ISLES: Really?

12 MR. GUMBS: -- speak about it. But
13 we're probably going to get more opp- --

14 DIRECTOR ISLES: But, here again,
15 you would establish rights --

16 MR. GUMBS: Yeah, we're going to --
17 we're going to get more opposition from
18 Atlantic City.

19 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay,

20 MR. GUMBS: I mean, even the -- you
21 know, the tribes here, I mean, they
22 pretty much know it's coming, and I
23 think that's why an offer was put on the
24 table to us from one of -- one of them
25 to sort of work with us. You know --

2 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

3 MR. GUMBS: -- so that they can
4 have a -- not lose as much, put it that
5 way.

6 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

7 MR. GUMBS: I mean, literally, as
8 George said, you know, the numbers
9 coming off of Long Island -- you know,
10 and I get teased every time I go up
11 there. You know, they -- they laugh.
12 They're like, Yeah, we're taking all
13 your money. You know, and -- you know,
14 because I grew up with all the guys
15 who --

16 DIRECTOR ISLES: Yeah.

17 MR. GUMBS: -- own Foxwoods, who
18 run Foxwoods and -- and Mohegan Sun, we
19 all came up at the same time. And, you
20 know, it's -- it's a running joke up
21 there, as to how much money they are
22 making off of Long Island. I mean, it
23 really is, they laugh about it, and how
24 much money is coming out of New York
25 State, going to their two facilities.

2 DIRECTOR ISLES: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Well, let's see
4 if we can't have the last laugh.

5 MR. GUMBS: That's my intent.

6 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: Anything else?

7 (WHEREUPON, there was no response.)

8 MR. STANKEVICH: Thank you very
9 much for the meeting.

10 CHAIRMAN DONNELLY: I don't have a
11 gavel. Bryan, I need a gavel. If I'm
12 going to be the chair, I need a gavel.

13 The meeting's closed.

14 (WHEREUPON, this meeting of the
15 Suffolk County Gaming Task Force
16 adjourned at 11:10 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, THERESA PAPE, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of the stenographic notes taken herein.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage; and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 3rd day of April, 2009.



THERESA PAPE