

CENTRAL PINE BARRENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AC Plan Amendment Resolution on Wildfire Hazard Mitigation

Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee Meeting of May 12, 2010
Coram Operations Center, 2045 Route 112, Coram

Advisory Committee member organizations represented:

- Brookhaven National Laboratory Timothy Green
- Civic Representative for Brookhaven: Thomas Muller
- Environmental Defense Fund Jim Tripp
- Group for the East End: Jennifer Hartnagel
- Long Island Builders Institute: Robert Wieboldt
- Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference: Thomas Casey
- Long Island Pine Barrens Society: Richard Amper (Vice Chair), Beth
Motschenbacher
- North Fork Environmental Council Michael Domino, Ken Rubino
- Peconic Land Trust: Dawn Liubenov
- Stony Brook University Henry Bokuniewicz
- Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen: Robert Baumann
- Suffolk County Water Authority: Stephen Jones (Chair)

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Whereas, the AC recognizes the importance of proper development design to guard and protect development from the potential hazards of wildfire, and

Whereas, the AC has already recommended the reconstitution of the Fire Protection Assessment Committee into a Firewise Program Committee, with broad responsibility for making management recommendations in the “wildland urban interface” and

Whereas, the AC recommends that the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) not be too specific in it’s inclusion of bulk, area and setback requirements, because of the unique nature and configuration of real estate holdings in the Pine Barrens, now be it

Resolved, that the AC recommends a new section 5.3.3.13 for the CLUP (see below) to contain a statement on Firewise design policy to achieve the fundamental goal of protecting the health, safety and welfare of people living, and working near the vast open spaces of Pine Barrens which could be subject to wildfire, and be it further

Resolved, that the AC recommends to the Commission that the Firewise Program Committee be tasked with the creation of a design manual to be adopted by the Commission, containing various options and techniques that are to be employed in the proper design and construction of new development near the wildland urban interface.

Suggested language:

5.3.3.13 Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Standard

New development in the Central Pine Barrens continues within or adjacent to previously undeveloped wooded areas, known as the woodland-urban interface. This results in a greater potential wildfire risk that could cause property damage and threaten life safety. Wildland-urban interface fires can contribute to major losses of homes, properties, lives, injuries and destruction of natural resources, wildlife habitats and watershed protection.

A Firewise Design Options Manual shall be created and adopted by the Commission. New development in the wildland-urban interface shall thereafter comply with the design standards contained in the manual. These standards shall focus on access, identification of properties, water supply, fire protection and defensible space. The design options shall support and enhance the New York State Fire Code requirements and the Central Pine Barrens Fire Management Plan of April 1999. The Design Options Manual shall insure a uniform application to all site plans and structures whether they be residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional.

Motion by: Mr. Jones
Second by: Mr. Domino
Ayes: 11
Nays: 1
Abstain: 0