

CENTRAL PINE BARRENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Emergency Meeting held on February 17, 1994
Riverhead Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

Michael LoGrande called the meeting to order. Mr. LoGrande stated that he had received many phone calls and two letters about calling an emergency meeting and felt that a meeting was needed. Mr. LoGrande then proceeded to read a memo from Tim Hopkins that covered the Advisory Committee functions and also explained that the Commission is acting as they are allowed to under the law.

The chairman then opened up the floor. Many topics of discussion arose. Richard Amper handed out a series of prepared resolutions for the committee to vote on. Detailed discussions ensued on various issues as follows:

- 1.) Firemans Park Non-development status
- 2.) Communication between Advisory Committee and the Commission
- 3.) Executive Sessions
- 4.) Commission should be meeting with the Advisory Committee periodically
- 5.) Agendas should be provided five days before a Commission meeting so that the Advisory Committee would know the issues beforehand, and would be able to act if necessary

The first resolution motioned by Richard Amper was dealing with the Firemans Park Non-development issue(all resolutions are attached). Bruce Dicter from Longwood Youth Sports Association (LYSA) was asked to give a presentation on the project. He went over the plans for the fields and answered questions from the committee. The committee basically asked if LYSA would hold off on their project for 45 days so the committee could research alternative sites to which LYSA agreed. A motion for a second resolution to amend the first resolution was made by Connie Keper basically stating that at the end of the 45 days if an alternative site is not found that LYSA will be allowed to proceed with their project.

Various committee members stated that the goings on of the Commission such as Executive sessions, were illegal and that the Advisory Committee should be a part of the decision making in applications pending. Kim Darrow stated that he disagreed with the Commissions process and that they were supposed to meet with the Advisory Committee periodically. A detailed discussion took place.

A motion was made by Richard Amper that addressed the following:
The Commission should turn to the Advisory Committee for their input for critical operational and plan development issues. Also that Advisory Committee meeting when ever possible should be scheduled five working days before a Commission meeting and agendas should be provided as soon as they are done. The motion included that a Liaison will be formed to enhance communications between the Commission and The Advisory Committee. And lastly that a letter be drawn up by the Advisory Committee to the federal, state and county government officials concerning the need for \$10 million dollars in funding for acquisition and additional funding (\$5 million) for a TDR bank.

A very detailed discussion ensued.

It was suggested by Herb Balin that instead of passing all the resolutions that maybe it would be better to arrange a meeting with the Commission to discuss these matters instead of "declaring war". It was also mention by various committee members that prepared resolutions were handed out with any prior knowledge of what they contained. A motion to adjourn was made and passed.

Please see following page for resolutions and vote counts.

***Resolutions from Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee Emergency Meeting
February 17, 1994 Riverhead Town Hall 6:00 p.m.***

Resolution 1 (later amended by Resolution 2) :

A motion was made by Richard Amper, and seconded by Kevin McDonald as follows:

Whereas, a resolution adopted by the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission on Wednesday, February 9, 1994 proposed to grant permission for clearing of lands in the Core Preservation Area for the construction of athletic fields, and,

Whereas, questions concerning the completeness of the application, opportunity for public comment, examination of alternatives, segmentation of the proposed project and assurances concerning input from the Advisory Committee have now arisen, and,

Whereas, a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee including representatives from the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, Long Island Builders Institute, Long Island Farm Bureau and the civic appointees of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton have all agreed with the proposed project's sponsor, the Longwood Youth Sports Association, to explore alternatives to Core Area tree clearance for development of athletic fields, and,

Whereas, the Longwood Youth Sports Association has indicated no need to proceed with their proposed project prior to this cooperative effort,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Advisory Committee requests the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission to reconsider its approval of said application, in the interest of pursuing alternatives to Core Area clearing for a period not to exceed 45 days, after which the Advisory Committee will make siting and policy recommendations for action by the Commission.

Vote:

15 yes, 4 no, motion passed

Resolution 2 amending Resolution 1:

A motion was made by Connie Kepert and seconded by Herb Balin as follows:

Whereas, that at the end of the 45 day period if an alternative site is not found, the application should be deemed a hardship and the agreement that has been made with the Longwood Youth Sport Association should be allowed to proceed.

Vote:

11 yes, 9 no, motion passed

Resolution 3:

A motion was made by Richard Amper and seconded by Kevin McDonald as follows:

Whereas, the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission has routinely made decisions regarding budgets, requests for proposals, contracts and other critical operational and plan development issues without the opportunity for review and recommendation by the Advisory Committee, and,

Whereas, the interest and expertise of the Advisory Committee members can only advance good decision-making and the development of a plan responsive to the needs of the entire Long Island community, and,

Whereas, the administrative adjustments required to ensure the broadest possible input by the Advisory committee to the work of the Commission will impose no significant financial or time burden on the Commission or its staff,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Advisory Committee meetings be scheduled to occur within five working days before any Commission meeting, except that such Advisory Committee meeting may be convened within five days of both the Commission's Work Session and Regular Meeting when these Commission meetings are held only two days apart as in current practice, and,

Be it further resolved, that the Commission Executive Director shall supply to the Advisory Committee members, agendas for each Commission meeting as soon as they are done, so as to be available for review by the Advisory Committee before the Commission meeting, and,

Be it further resolved, that the Advisory Committee hereby establishes a Commission Liaison to enhance and improve the communication with the Commission staff. Such a Liaison shall maintain enhanced communication between the Commission and the Advisory Committee through written and telephonic communication, and,

Be it further resolved, that the Advisory Committee write to federal, state, and county government officials concerning the need for \$10 million in funding from each level of the government for acquisition and for the establishment of a Transfer of Development Rights bank, and,

Whereas, drafts of these letters were supplied to the Commission staff, and

Whereas, the Advisory Committee resolved to ask the Commission to seek from the towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton a more comprehensive list of adequate TDR receiving sites, and

Whereas, the Advisory Committee has yet to be informed about the execution of any of the above,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Commission staff prepare and post the requested funding requests and or advise the Advisory Committee liaison to prepare such correspondence.

Be it further resolved that in the event that the Commission has not already conveyed its requests to the towns for an adequate list of TDR receiving sites, that the Advisory Committee make these requests through Commission staff's preparation and posting of such requests or the Commission's staff shall advise the Advisory Committee liaison to prepare and post the said requests.

Vote:

13 yes, 6 no, motion passed