

CENTRAL PINE BARRENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

*September 25, 1996
Brookhaven Town Offices, 6 p.m.
(Draft)*

Approved 10/23/96

Please note that a quorum did not exist during the entire meeting.

1) **Approval of Minutes from the Joint Meeting of 7/9/96**

A motion was made by Mr. Shaber and seconded by Ms. Emrick approving the meeting minutes of 7/9/96. The motion was carried unanimously.

2) **Report from Executive Director Ray Corwin**

Mr. Corwin distributed the printed version of the Plan, Volume 1. A revised publications list was also distributed. This document is a list of publications which are currently available through the Commission.

Mr. Corwin stated that the **Protected Lands Council** is presently working on a set of goals and objectives which should be finalized in the very near future. The Protected Lands Council is also reviewing the Nature Preserve Handbook, as well as those portions of the Plan that deal with public lands management. The group is comparing the two documents to see if any conflicts exist, and whether one may be made consistent with the other. The Protected Lands Council is also reviewing signs presently being used on protected lands.

The **Law Enforcement Committee** has been involved in sweeps with ATVs, and have picked up people on weapons charges, and outstanding warrants. The vehicle lift operation has satisfied many stolen vehicle reports. The Law Enforcement Committee Handbook is also being developed. The local civil air patrol is assisting the Law Enforcement Committee in developing future enforcement actions.

The **Wildfire Task Force** has been broken up into five sub-committees. The Task Force has released an Interim Report, which was distributed by Mr. Corwin. Copies of the resolution establishing the law were distributed. The Task Force invited all of the fire districts to informational meetings which took place in July. Only a few districts attended these meetings.

Mr. Corwin stated that a research forum will be held at Brookhaven National Laboratory

on Friday, October 4, 1996. The forum will take place from 8:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. The forum will consist of sixteen 20 minute discussions. Presently, there are approximately 110 people who have signed up for this seminar.

3) **Staff Overview**

Pine Barrens Credit Program

Central Pine Barrens Commission staff member John Milazzo gave an overview of the Central Pine Barrens' Clearinghouse activities. The Clearinghouse was created by the Commission to oversee the Pine Barrens Credit (PBC) Program. He detailed the two step process for obtaining PBCs. The first step is to apply for a Letter of Interpretation. The Letter of Interpretation states the number of PBCs allocated to the parcel. The second step is transforming the Letter of Interpretation allocation to a Pine Barrens Credit Certificate, and that involves recording a conservation easement on the parcel with the County Clerk's office. After the conservation easement is filed, the Clearinghouse will issue the Certificate. To date, there have been two pine barrens certificates issued.

Additionally, the Clearinghouse receives numerous telephone calls from people interested in learning about the program. The Clearinghouse is exploring ways of facilitating PBC transactions. Presently, the Clearinghouse is considering holding a Dutch Auction. A Dutch Auction is a mechanism by which a developer may go to the Clearinghouse and authorize them to be their agent to send an offer to purchase Pine Barrens Credits at a specified range to landowners holding credits. Questions regarding any of these issues may be directed to either Mr. Milazzo, Mr. Corwin, or Mr. Hopkins.

The Suffolk County Water Authority at a recent board meeting authorized the Clearinghouse to perform the first Dutch Auction by which the Authority would purchase two PBCs. The Authority is planning to offer between \$7,200 and \$15,000 per credit. This item will be on the Clearinghouse meeting agenda for Monday, September 30, 1996.

Development Applications

Central Pine Barrens Commission staff member Ms. Plunkett gave an overview on the present development applications.

Ms. Plunkett stated that the Commission has approved 19 core preservation hardship applications to date, the most recent application being the TNT Waterworks, a project which preserves approximately 6 acres of dwarf pine plains vegetation. There have been five applications which have been denied in the core area, and presently, there are four applications pending. Mr. Amper asked about the application of the Nassau County Council of Boy Scouts. Ms. Plunkett stated that they are requesting a hardship exemption

to build a golf course on 147 acres of their 550 acre site. There have been 28 applications approved by the Commission in the compatible growth area. The most notable application being the Manorville Nursery Expansion. Currently in the towns of Brookhaven and Southampton, all compatible growth area projects go directly to the Town, and are reviewed at the town level. The Town of Riverhead has not yet amended their zoning code so certain CGA projects would still have to come before the Commission. The projects no longer come to the Commission unless they are in a critical resource area, a development of regional significance, or have been petitioned for review by a Commissioner.

Mr. Amper noted that the Long Island Pine Barrens Society has a lawsuit pending against the Town of Brookhaven, as well as the Central Pine Barrens Commission with respect to the Manorville Nursery Expansion decision.

4) **Chairman LoGrande's Meeting with CPR**

Mr. LoGrande recently met with the Civil Property Rights group, at the request of "CPR". This group consists of small property owners located in the Central Pine Barrens. Mr. LoGrande gave an overview of his meeting with this group.

A document entitled "Principles for Settlement" was distributed. This document will be submitted to the Central Pine Barrens Commission for review.

Discussion ensued regarding Advisory Committee membership and how an identified group may submit a letter to the Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee requesting a seat on the Committee.

A letter from the Civil Property Rights Group will be submitted to the Chairman of the Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee requesting a membership seat on the Committee.

5) **Other items**

It was suggested that future joint meetings with the Central Pine Barrens Commission be held during evening hours. This will enable the Advisory Committee members to attend these meetings without difficulty.

The date of Wednesday, October 23, 1996 will be reviewed by the Central Pine Barrens Commission at their next meeting as a possible date for the next joint meeting with the Advisory Committee. Once a decision has been made, and a date set, the Advisory Committee members will be notified. The Advisory Committee may hold a meeting on the same date as the joint meeting, prior to meeting with the Commission. Further details will be given once a definite date has been chosen.

Possible agenda items for the next joint meeting are as follows: Clearinghouse issues, Staff report on acquisitions designated by the State and County, Boy Scouts, and the Bond Act.

The meeting was adjourned without a formal resolution.