



**Pine Barrens Commission Meeting Summary
For Wednesday, November 16, 2016 (Final-Approved 12/21/16)
Brookhaven Town Hall
One Independence Hill
Farmingville, NY
2:00 pm**

Commission members present: Mr. Romaine and Ms. Prusinowski (for Brookhaven), Mr. Walter and Mr. McCormick (for Riverhead), Mr. Collins and Mr. Shea (for Southampton), Mr. Freleng (for Suffolk County)

Others present: Commission and other agency staff members included Mr. Milazzo, Mr. Pavacic, Ms. Hargrave, Mr. Hynes, Ms. Jakobsen, Ms. Carter, Ms. Weigand and Ms. Ostrowski (from the Commission). Additional attendees are indicated on the attached sign-in sheet.

Ms. Gallagher called the meeting to order at approximately 2:10 p.m. with five members present, which constitutes a quorum.

Carrie Meek Gallagher
Chairwoman

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Sean M. Walter
Member

1. Administrative and Public Comment

a. Public Comment

Summary: There were no public comments.

b. Minutes for 10/19/16 review, approval

Summary: **The motion was made by Mr. Walter and seconded by Mr. Freleng to approve the 10/19/16 meeting summary. The motion was approved by a 5:0 vote.**

Mr. Romaine arrived at approximately 2:20 pm.

2. Science and Stewardship

a. Education and Outreach

Summary: Mr. Pavacic discussed the previously distributed Education and Outreach Division October-November 2016 Update (attached) and he discussed highlights from the report including, "Day in the Life of the River and Estuary Programs" that were very successful and pointed out the statistics in the report which reflect significant participation by the schools, students and teachers. Mr. Pavacic mentioned that the Fourth Annual Long Island Natural History Conference is scheduled for March 24 and 25, 2017 as well as a Southern Pine Beetle conference that is planned for March of 2017.

b. Science and Stewardship

Summary: Ms. Weigand discussed the previously distributed Science and Stewardship Division update, dated November 16, 2016 (attached) and she introduced Kate Abazis and Michael Ferrara who are the two new Commission interns assisting with the SPB field surveying and monitoring work. Ms. Weigand stated that the interns will be working on SPB surveying at Sears Bellows and Hubbard County Park over the next few months.

Highlights from the update that Ms. Weigand reported on included restoration activities related to the SPB management, such as the "Seeds of Success Program" and the pitch pine cone collections that resulted in over 500 lbs. of cones being collected. She discussed the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange (NAFSE) and associated workshops planned for 2017 including an evening presentation, "Keeping the Pine in the Pine Barrens", scheduled for

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May 3rd and on May 4th, the workshop "Use of Fire in the Region" will be presented by regional land managers from New York, Massachusetts and New Jersey. Additional highlights from her report included, the Sand Plain Grassland Managers meeting for coordinating grassland management that was held on October 18, 2016, the Pine Barrens Sawyer team training that was conducted on November 4, 2016, the NYSDEC SPB field survey training, SPB trapping and ground and aerial survey work status and the MOU with Town of Southampton related to SPB management. Ms. Weigand mentioned "The Southern Pine Beetle in the Northeast Research and Management Forum" is scheduled for March 8, 2017 at BNL and she discussed other forest health issues that included Oak Wilt that has been found in Connetquot State Park and the plans for its removal.

Ms. Gallagher reported that a grant from the US Forest Service will cover the cost to conduct prescribed burns for SPB infected pitch pines in Rocky Point. She further noted that NY State plans to hire a full time staff person whose focus will be solely on SPB management.

3. Land Use

Planning and Land Use

a. Compliance and Enforcement

Summary: Mr. Hynes discussed items from his previously distributed Compliance and Enforcement Division update for November 2016. Items from the report that he highlighted included, legislation introduced by Suffolk County Legislator Kate Browning to strengthen existing laws related to illegal ATV use in the Central Pine Barrens, the LEC Multi Agency ATV Task Force report that includes statistics such as in the last eight years over 1,300 ATVs have been impounded and the new Police Technology Bureau is headed by Lt. Fred Weber. There are plans to develop a central database for all arrests in connection with illegal activities in the Central Pine Barrens that would be shared by all agencies.

b. Land Use

Summary: Ms. Hargrave discussed the previously distributed Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of November 16, 2016 (attached) and she highlighted items such as the pending hardship applications including, the Henry Dittmer Core Area Hardship, the Kent Animal Shelter Core Area Hardship and the Hills at Southampton DRS. Ms. Hargrave continues to review referrals from the towns and is working on the DGEIS for the Plan Amendments.

4. Pine Barrens Credit Program

a. NUTOP LLC Letter of Interpretation Credit Appeal / Calverton / Request for an increase in Pine Barrens Credit allocation from 1.15 PBCs to 5.72 PBCs.

Summary: Mr. Milazzo discussed the previously distributed Draft Resolution on NUTOP, LLC SCTM#: 200-857-1-1.4 (formerly Lot 1.1) Located in the J Business 2 Zoning District, southeast of Exit 73 on the Long Island Expressway (I-495) (attached).

The motion was made by Mr. Romaine and seconded by Mr. Walter to approve the Draft Resolution on the NUTOP Credit Appeal. The motion was approved by a 4:0:1 vote with Mr. Freleng abstaining.

b. *Credit Program*

Summary: Mr. Tverdy discussed the previously distributed Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse report for November 2016 (attached) and items that he highlighted from the report which included Credit program statistics that three new parcels have been added to the conservation easement protected lands, approximately 40 Credits has been sold and that the current average price of a Credit is approximately \$75,000. Mr. Milazzo pointed out that there have been \$44,000,000 Pine Barrens Credit related transactions over the history of the Credit Clearinghouse.

5. Public Hearing

a. *Henry Dittmer Letter of Interpretation Credit Appeal public hearing / Yaphank SCTM # 200-529-5-36/ Request for an increase in Pine Barrens Credit allocation from .10 PBC to 1.0 PBC*

Summary: Mr. Milazzo reported that a letter was received from the Applicant for the Henry Dittmer Credit Appeal requesting an adjournment of today's public hearing.

The motion was made by Mr. Romaine and seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the Applicant's request for an adjournment of the Henry Dittmer public hearing scheduled for today. The motion was approved by a 5:0 vote.

The motion was made by Mr. Romaine and seconded by Mr. Walter to adjourn the meeting and move into a closed Advisory Session with no further Commission business to be conducted. The motion was approved by a 5:0 vote.

The meeting ended at approximately 3:00 pm.

Attachments (in order of discussion)

1. November 16, 2016 Commission Meeting Sign in Sheet (1 pages)
2. Draft Commission meeting summary for October 19, 2016 (4 pages)
3. Education and Outreach Division October-November 2016 update (29 pages)
4. Science and Stewardship Division update, dated November 16, 2016 (5 pages)
5. Compliance and Enforcement Division update for November 2016 (5 pages)
6. Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of November 16, 2016 (1 page)
7. November, 2016 Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse report (5 pages)