



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Final Approved Minutes of the October 20, 2022 Meeting Southaven County Park, Yaphank 1:00 pm

Robert Calarco
Chair

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Arthur Pendzick, Jeffrey Campo and Ryan Chalmers from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Jed Painter, Joshua Parson, Adriana Nayda and Robert Kerr from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Fabio Daino and Sgt John Dolezal, from NYS Police, Thomas Gadomski, from NYSDEC ENCON Police, Capt. Michael Smith from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

Commission Staff present:

Judy Jakobsen, Executive Director, Frank Carbone, Chief Enforcement Officer and Gary Enright, Enforcement Officer.

Minutes of meeting

A correction was noted that the date hunting season starts was indicated as October 1st in the minutes which should be corrected to October 31st. A motion to approve the minutes from September 15, 2022 was made by Fabio Daino from NYS Troopers and was seconded by Capt. Tom Gadomski, NYSDEC ENCON Police. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen, Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens Commission introduced Frank Carbone who is recently retired from NYSDEC ENCON Police, who has been hired as the Chief Enforcement Officer for the Central Pine Barrens Commission. Ms. Malangone was not present today since she is currently involved as Academy Coordinator at the NYWIMA training academy that is operating at SUNY Southampton campus from now to the end of October. She noted that wildfire training courses, a UTV driver course, in addition to other courses are being offered at the Academy. The annual summer Barrens to Bay camp was held again this year that had 120 campers. A Day In the Life programs are being held this fall that started in September at various river and estuaries that bring together local students with science experts from various agencies to collect water quality data, invertebrate and other data to evaluate ecological health of these water bodies.

Ms. Jakobsen reported the Commission recently received a violation payment of \$158,000 for a development project where the developer cleared prior to obtaining the

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

necessary permits and approvals from the Commission which brings the Commission Violation Fund up to \$231,000. Wildfire Task Force is currently being reactivated, with Ted Kern from Ridge Fire Department and PSEGLI serving as the new Chair and Baycan Fideli, Director of Public and Fire Safety at Suffolk Community College as the new co-vice chair and Capt. Tim Byrnes, NYSDEC Forest Rangers who continues to serve as the other co-vice chair on the Task Force.

Recent agency field enforcement

Arthur Pendzick reported there was only one detail since the last LEC meeting in September. He noted that since the County computers are down, he has not been able to send out reports on the last few details. He had copies available today on the last three details. He discussed briefly the last detail where ATVs were not too prevalent, however they came across OVRs that were issued tickets, one had felony warrants, and a vehicle was impounded.

Mr. Pendzick discussed he was evaluating the possibility of retiring at some point next year. He discussed the effectiveness of the ATV details and their importance. He hopes that these details will continue if he retires and that someone will step up and take over these details. Mike Smith mentioned ATV training that will be offered through the SC Sheriff's Office on November 3 through 30 and Dec 8th and to contact him if interested through his cell phone number.

Compliance and Enforcement

Mr. Carbone reported on dumping cases closed out with the Sheriff's Office and NYS ENCON Police with approximately \$6,000 of fines collected.

Enforcement Officer of the Year Award

Mr. Pendzick went over the enforcement officer of the year award and asked that members to submit nominations from their agency for officers they feel have performed significant work in environmental enforcement initiatives and deserve recognition for those efforts.

Round Table

Capt. Gadomski went over activities and cases related to fishing and hunting, performing field enforcement and working with Commission enforcement officers on dumping cases. He discussed the academy graduating officers in December and that there will be 20 officers, 10 for Long Island and 10 for NYC.

Fabio Daino discussed fine money that will be coming from the Town of Southampton to the Law Enforcement Council. He also mentioned the importance of the ATV details continuing.

Mr. Smith introduced Chief Layton from SC Park Rangers.

Mr. Pendzick discussed ATV impounds and the situation where one ATV was returned to the owner without having to pay redemption fees that is being investigated by the SCDA's office.

***A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Daino and seconded by Ms. Nayda.
The motion was approved unanimously.***

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Multi- Task Force Newsletter for September 8th, September 30th and October 20th



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Lieutenant Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Minutes of the February 17, 2022 Meeting Southaven County Park, Yaphank

1:00 pm

Final

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Walter Justincic from SCPD/DAO, Tom Casey from LI Greenbelt/PLC, Brian Severin, Michael Kelly, Gerard Hardy from SCPD, John Dolezal from NYSP, Dino Isgro from Riverhead PD, Arthur Pendzick and Dodd Amrhein from SC Park Rangers, Chris Klimek from Army Aviation, Tom Gadomski and Kaitlin Grady from NYS DEC DLE, Capt. Michael Smith from SC Sheriff's Office, Emma Pearce and Adrians Noyola from SC District Attorney's Office.

Commission Staff present:

Gary Enright, Katherine Malangone and Judy Jakobsen.

Minutes of meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 meeting was made by Arthur Pendzick from Suffolk County Park Rangers and was seconded by Tom Gadomski from NYS DEC DLE. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen reminded members of the Annual Cooperator's Meeting coming up on June 3, 2022.

Ms. Jakobsen also reported a discussion that was held during the public session of the Central Pine Barrens Commission meeting that was held yesterday regarding the Sunrise Wind Project located off of Montauk Hwy. She explained the transmission line is coming on shore at Smithpoint, traveling up William Floyd Parkway to the Southaven County Park area, which will cause a disturbance to the area. The discussion is set to be continued at the next Commission meeting in March.

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

Ms. Jakobsen also announced the Commission has been hiring a seasonal prescribed fire crew to assist and move forward with the prescribed fire program with NYS DEC. The focus will be on woodland area burns. A five-member seasonal crew was recently hired and will be working March to mid-May and then again July to September.

Ms. Jakobsen also announced the Commission is still recruiting for a new Fire Management Specialist. The current Specialist Bob Panko will be retiring next year. She also stated the Commission is hiring a part time Ecological Field Specialist.

Ms. Jakobsen also announced Commission staff member Sabrina Cohn, was recently promoted to a full-time position as Ecological Field Specialist.

She also announced Commission staff will be doing a presentation to American Society of Safety Professionals next week titled Uniting Change for Safer Communities. The focus will be on the Commission's Wildfire Prevention Program and Prescribed Fire Program.

Violation Fund

Violation funds currently in account are approximately \$165,000.

LEC By Laws Amendments

Arthur Pendzick distributed copies of the recent updates to the By Laws. He stated the one amendment that has already been put in place is the change of meetings to all open meetings with Executive sessions to be held following if needed. The remaining amendments will be reviewed and voted on at the next LEC meeting.

Recent Field Enforcement

Tom Gadomski announced a new DEC DLE Academy will begin on May 22nd.

Arthur Pendzick reported one detail was held since the last LEC meeting held in January. This detail was held on February 6th and resulted in three off-road vehicle apprehensions. The next detail is scheduled for Sunday, February 20th.

Compliance and Enforcement

Tim Huss reported dumping cases have slowed. Eight cases dumping, development and clearing.

Award Nominations

Mr. Pendzick distributed Certificates of Appreciation to all officers that assist with enforcement details.

Round table

Capt. Mike Smith announced ATV training will be held through the Sheriff's office at the end of April and beginning of May.

Kaitlyn Grady reported ATV complaints have been reported on old golf course in Shirley.

Dodd Amrhein reported recently retired Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens Commission will soon be joining the Suffolk County Park Rangers.

John Dolezal announced the State Police Trooper test is coming up and you can find it at www.nytrooper.com.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dodd Amrhein from SC Park Rangers and seconded by John Dolezal from NYS Police. The motion was approved unanimously.

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Draft minutes from January 20, 2022 meeting.
- 3.) LEC By-laws – proposed changes
- 4.) Pendzick newsletter



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Minutes of the April 21, 2022 Meeting Southaven County Park, Yaphank

1:00 pm

Final

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Emma Pearce and Rob Kerr from SC District Attorney's Office, Sgt. John Dolezal from NYS Police, Tom Casey from LI Greenbelt & PLC, Capt. Tom Gadomski from NYS DEC DLE, Arthur Pendzick & Dodd Amrhein from SC Park Rangers, Bill Kiernan from Southampton Police.

Commission Staff present:

Gary Enright, Jim Mazzio, Katherine Malangone and Judy Jakobsen.

Minutes of meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 meeting was made by Dodd Amrhein from Suffolk County Park Rangers and was seconded by Bill Kiernan from Southampton Police. The motion was unanimously approved.

LEC By-Laws Amendments

Judy Jakobsen explained that the section in the by-laws concerning the Environmental Benefit Fund has been changed to reflect the new name, Violation Fund Account, now that the original EBF funding from DEC has been depleted.

Arthur Pendzick also announced the change in meeting operations. Open and closed meetings will no longer be held. All future meetings will now be open and a closed Executive session will be held at the end if needed. Additional changes to the amendments listed the quorum number changed to five members present.

A motion to approve the amendments made to the LEC By-Laws was made by Dodd Amrhein from Suffolk County Park Rangers and was seconded by Emma Pearce from SC District Attorney's Office. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Ms. Jakobsen reported the Commission approved the Sunrise Wind Project at yesterday's Commission meeting. She stated there was also a public hearing held on the proposed Commission Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments. She also stated the deadline to submit public comments is May 31, 2022. A final impact statement should be completed by July or August and the Commission should decide whether to approve the amendments sometime in the fall.

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

Ms. Jakobsen also discussed the Commission's prescribed fire program. She mentioned the Commission had hired a five-member seasonal prescribed fire crew that will be working March to mid-May and then again in July to September to assist and move forward with the prescribed fire program with NYS DEC. Ms. Jakobsen distributed progress maps of areas where burns have been recently performed.

LEC Equipment Purchases and Commission Violation Fund

Mr. Pendzick revisited a prior purchase request made by Southampton Police for the purchase of an ATV. They were directed to re-submit three quotes, as the ones originally submitted have expired.

Recent Field Enforcement

Mr. Pendzick reported there have been five multi-agency ATV task force details that resulted in:
February 20th – 4 ATV apprehensions / 3 impounds / 4 summonses / 1 Off-road vehicle summon
March 6th – 4 ATV apprehensions / 3 impounds / 1 summon / 2 Off-road vehicle summons
March 20th – 6 ATV apprehensions / 4 impounds / 3 summons / 4 Off-road vehicle summonses
April 3rd – 3 Off-road vehicle summonses
April 16th – 1 ATV impounded / 1 Off-road vehicle apprehended
In total – 15 ATV apprehensions and issued 10 summonses / 11 impounds / 11 Off-road vehicles apprehended and issued 8 summonses.

Compliance & Enforcement

Jim Mazzio stated they are continuing to monitor dumping violations.

Award Nominations

Mr. Pendzick announced the award nominations for the Central Pine Barrens Annual Cooperators meeting that will be held in June:
Officer Kaitlyn Grady – NYS DEC DLE
Trooper Michael Massino – NYS Police
Officer Michael Algozzino – Southampton Police
Deputy Dale Doherty – SC Sheriff's Office
Ranger Ryan Chalmers – SC Park Rangers
Officer Ettore Naclerio – SC Police
Forest Ranger Scott Hick – NYS DEC

Round table

Tom Gadomski reported Officer Kaitlyn Grady has been promoted to investigator. He also reported they have been very busy with stripe bass and glass eels recently.

Dodd Amrhein reported recently retired Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens, John Pavacic, Commission will soon be joining the Suffolk County Park Rangers.

Bill Kiernan asked the Council if it was possible to perform more ATV details in the months of June and July.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sgt. John Dolezal from NYS Police and seconded by Capt. Tom Gadomski. The motion was approved unanimously.

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Draft minutes from February 17, 2022 meeting.
- 3.) LEC By-laws – proposed changes



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Minutes of the June 16, 2022 Meeting

Southaven County Park, Yaphank

1:00 pm

Final

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Supervisor Ed Romaine from Brookhaven Town, Tom Casey from Protected Lands Council & LI Greenbelt, Arthur Pendzick and Stephen Layton from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Joshua Parsons from Suffolk County Police Department, Captain Tom Gadomski and Frank Carbone from NYS DCE DLE, Lawrence Hynes from retired Central Pine Barrens Commission, Robert Kerr from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Jonathan Devereau from Riverhead Police Department, Lt. Todd Spencer from Southampton Police Department, John Gagne from NYS DEC DFP, Trooper Fabio Daino from NYS Police Department.

Commission Staff present:

Gary Enright, Katherine Malangone and Judy Jakobsen

Minutes of meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from April 21, 2022 was made by Captain Tom Gadomski and was seconded by Todd Spencer from Southampton Police Department. The minutes were approved.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen welcomed Brookhaven Town Supervisor, Ed Romaine. Mr. Romaine discussed the situation of the Brookhaven Town dump that will be closing approximately in 2024. Ash and construction debris are the two items that are accepted at the Brookhaven Town dump. The only other facility on the island that accepts construction debris is 110 Sand & Gravel. Mr. Romaine stated his biggest concern of this issue is the easy access that people will have of dumping in the Pine Barrens. He stated the State DEC has no regional plan for risk management for Long Island and continues to refuse to draft one. He stated the State DEC has said to Town Supervisors that they will be leaving it up to the towns and villages to devise their own management plan for dumping.

Ms. Jakobsen reported on the Annual Cooperators meeting that was held on June 3, 2022. She stated the Golden Pinecone Award was well received by all Law Enforcement Council recipients.

Ms. Jakobsen also spoke of the environmental impact statement for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan amendments. There was a hearing held in April

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

where comments were received from the Long Island Builder's Institute and various birding associations. She explained that bird collisions with buildings cause a loss of billions of birds country wide every year. There is currently a guideline proposed to attempt to address this concern. The proposal requests the builders start implementing ways to change the reflectiveness of the glass. There are several different methods that could be implemented. Ms. Jakobsen stated that she hopes to have the amendments finalized and brought to the Commission for approval by the fall of 2022.

Ms. Jakobsen also reported the Commission continues with its prescribed burn program. The Commission staff is hoping to have an opportunity to work with Brookhaven National Lab with performing some prescribed burns on their federal property. July will be a month that they will not be able to burn because of the Long-eared Bat, it is their pupping season. They hope to continue to burn in August or September.

LEC Equipment Purchases and Commission Violation Fund

Ms. Jakobsen reported the available balance within the VFA is \$167,203.68 which is not committed for restoration.

Arthur Pendzick discussed the purchase request for an ATV for Southampton Town Police. Lt. Todd Spencer of Southampton Town Police submitted the three quotes to the Council for approval.

John Gagne from NYS DEC Division of Forest Protection requested a purchase of a license plate camera security version with cell phone capability that sell for approximately \$800.00. Mr. Gagne was instructed to submit three quotes for this item at the next Council meeting.

Recent Field Enforcement

Mr. Pendzick reported there have been four multi-agency ATV task force details that resulted in:
May 1st – 3 ATV apprehensions / 3 impounds / 3 summonses / 3 Off-road vehicle summon
May 15th – 4 ATV apprehensions / 4 impounds / 9 summon / 1 Off-road vehicle summons
May 21st – 2 ATV apprehensions / 2 impounds / 4 summons / 1 Off-road vehicle summonses/ 1 Active dumper
June 5th – 1 ATV apprehension / 1 impound/ 9 summonses / 3 Off-road vehicle summons
In total – 10 ATV impounds and issued 25 summonses / 8 Off-road vehicles apprehended and issued 6 summonses.

Compliance & Enforcement

Tim Huss distributed pictures of a dumping behind Kohls in Rocky Point. The pictures were of the truck that was shown to do the dumping, but it did not show the license plate. He asked the Council Law Enforcement members to be on a look out for this vehicle.

Mr. Huss also stated that John Turner from Brookhaven Town had recently requested that the Commission restart the airlift program.

ATV 822 Law Revisions

Mr. Pendzick referred to and reviewed the wording of the ATV 822 law that is primarily used on the ATV details that states such wording such as ‘no person shall operate an ATV on or off a public highway or on public property within the county of Suffolk’. Another clause states ‘if

riding off highway on property that you yourself do not own you must have the written landowner's consent on your persons to ride on the property'. Mr. Pendzick stated that what the law does not specifically address is this law also gives the Police the ability to impound. Legislator Mazzarella has proposed an amendment to the 822 law the adds a third section that adds 'operate on any public highway'. He also is proposing to strengthen the minimum fine which is \$250.00. He would like to raise the minimum to \$500 and raise the maximum from \$500 to \$1000 and change the \$500 redemption fee to \$1000.

Round table

Tom Gadomski stated the DEC ECO Academy is approximately one month in. The Academy started with 20 ECO candidates, within the first two weeks 12 of the 20 candidates dropped out.

Mr. Romaine thanked the Council for all that it does and thanked all law enforcement personnel for all that they do.

Trooper Daino stated NYS Police will be participating in the ATV details more often once they receive more ATV units.

Robert Kerr welcomed the Council to reach out should they need to communicate issues that they may be able to assist with.

Ranger Gagne announced the Forest Ranger Academy started in May. It began with 40 students and is now down to 38 students.

Ms. Jakobsen expressed her appreciation to law enforcement personnel for all their efforts with ATV enforcement.

Mr. Pendzick reported that Dodd Amrhein, Director of Suffolk County Park Rangers is retiring at the end of July.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trooper Fabio Daino from NYS Police and seconded by Taylor Del Rocco from NYS DEC. The motion was approved unanimously.

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Draft minutes from April 21, 2022 meeting.
- 3.) ATV 822 Law – proposed changes



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Minutes of the July 21, 2022 Meeting

Southaven County Park, Yaphank

1:00 pm

Draft

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Arthur Pendzick and Bill Corcie from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Joshua Parsons from Suffolk County Police Department, Captain Tom Gadomski, Frank Carbone and April Small from NYS DCE DLE, Lawrence Hynes from retired Central Pine Barrens Commission, Jed Painter from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Ed Frost from Riverhead Police Department, John Gagne from NYS DEC DFP, Trooper Fabio Daino from NYS Police Department.

Commission Staff present:

Judy Jakobsen, Katherine Malangone, Gary Enright and Tim Huss.

Minutes of meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from June 16, 2022 was made by Captain Tom Gadomski and was seconded by Ed Frost from Riverhead Police Department. The minutes were approved with amendments.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen reported on the Commission's Barrens to Bay program that is currently in progress and will continue until September. She stated the camp is following covid protocols with a reduced number of children in attendance. She also stated the camp is run by the Commission's Education and Outreach Coordinator Melissa Griffiths and is held at the Wertheim Wildlife Refuge.

Ms. Jakobsen also reported the Commission Board recently approved the Law Enforcement ATV purchase request for Southampton Town Police Department.

Ms. Jakobsen also reported on the prescribed fire program, stating that approximately two weeks ago a prescribed burn was performed at Brookhaven National Laboratory. A total of twenty-three acres of woodland were burned. If weather permits, additional burns will be performed within the next month.

Violation Fund Account

Ms. Jakobsen reported there is currently \$166,203.00 available for LEC purchases.

Arthur Pendzick announced the Director of Suffolk County Park Rangers Dodd Amrhien has officially retired. He announced Steve Layton who had previously been the Director for the Suffolk County Park Police will now be the new Director

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

of the Suffolk County Park Rangers.

Recent agency field enforcement

Mr. Pendick reported on the latest details held since the last LEC meeting in June:

1.) June 18th - no ATV impounds/3 off-road vehicle issued summonses

2.) June 26th - 3 ATV impounds/a few off-road vehicles

3.) July 17th – 11 ATV impounds/4 off-road vehicles apprehended

The total for these three details consisted of 14 ATV impounds/ 9 off-road vehicles apprehended/ a few dozen miscellaneous summonses issued.

Tom Gadomski introduced new DEC DLE Officer April Small. He also spoke of a dumping issue in the area of Red Creek Road and announced there will be a new ECO exam offered in September and the deadline to register is August 3rd.

Mr. Pendzick distributed an article regarding the ATV Law that was written in the South Shore Press.

Compliance and Enforcement

Jed Painter from Suffolk County District Attorney's office discussed the proper procedure to follow when writing an ATV summons.

Mr. Pendzick distributed an article from South Shore Press that discusses a recent vote on items regarding the strengthening of the ATV law.

Round Table

Jed Painter discussed his desire to find an agency or group where persons faced with fines could perform community service for that agency or group in lieu of payment of their fine.

Mr. Pendzick distributed the latest report from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Tim Huss reported on drone use for Southern Pine Beetle monitoring and prescribed fire burns. He also reported the MOU with the Civil Air Patrol has been renewed and that he will be retiring sometime in the near future.

Fabio Daino from NYS Police stated the department is currently low on manpower.

A motion to adjourn was made by Fabio Daino from NYS Trooper and seconded by Bill Kiernan from Southampton Town Police Department. The motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting schedule

September 15, 2022

Attachments:

1.) Sign in sheet

2.) US Consumer Product Safety Report

3.) South Shore Press article



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Final Approved Minutes of the September 15, 2022 Meeting Southaven County Park, Yaphank 1:00 pm

Member attendance

member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Arthur Pendzick and Jeffrey Campo from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Jed Painter from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Lt. Danielle Willsey from Riverhead Police Department, Sgt. Thomas Sharkey from NYS Police, Bill Kiernan from Southampton Town Police, Marco Calise and Capt. Michel Smith from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

Commission Staff present:

Katherine Malangone, Gary Enright and Tim Huss.

Minutes of meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from July 21, 2022 was made by Jed Painter from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office and was seconded by Marco Calise from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Katherine Malangone reported on behalf of Judy Jakobsen who was unable to attend today's meeting. Ms. Malangone reported the Commission recently hired Frank Carbone, formerly from NYSDEC ENCON Police to serve as the new Chief Enforcement Officer. She stated current Chief Enforcement Officer Tim Huss, will be retiring a few weeks. She mentioned Ms. Jakobsen's appreciation for all of Mr. Huss's leadership and efforts along with Gary Enright, that has made the Commission enforcement program so effective working with all agencies in a cooperative and very effective manner.

Ms. Malangone also reported on Pine Barrens Discovery Day which is normally held each year at Wertheim Wildlife Refuge will be held as a self-guided discovery day on Saturday, September 17, 2022. She let members know for more information they can visit the Commission website and go to the education tab.

Violation Fund Account

Ms. Malangone reported the violation for Lewis Road has been resolved and \$83,000 has been paid which will go into the Commission's Violation Fund. The Commission Violation Fund is now at \$240,000. This includes the deduction for the recent ATV purchase for the Town of Southampton Police.

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

Recent agency field enforcement

Arthur Pendzick reported on the latest details held since the last LEC meeting in July:

- 1.) July 31st - 1 ATV impound/no summonses/2 off-road vehicle issued summonses
- 2.) August 13th - 2 ATV impounds/2 summonses/ 1 off-road vehicle summons/8 additional summonses
- 3.) August 28th – 1 ATV impound/no summonses/2 off-road vehicles apprehended/1 summons

Mr. Pendzick discussed the proposed legislation from the County Legislator to enhance the current 822 ATV Law to increase redemption fines from \$500 to \$1000 and increase the minimum fine from \$250 to \$500. They have also added an additional paragraph regarding the fleeing of a police officer.

Captain Mike Smith reported on a recent dumping discovered by Gary Enright of the Commission. The large dumping took place off of Long Island Avenue. The violator agreed to clean up the area and reimburse the person he had charged for the cleanup.

Compliance and Enforcement

Mr. Enright reported there has been twelve dumping cases since the last LEC meeting.

Round Table

Mr. Pendzick announced a detail that will be held on Sunday at 12:00 pm. He also reported hunting season begins October 1st.

Captain Smith announced the Sheriff's Office will be holding ATV training during mid-October. He stated anyone that may be interested can contact Captain Smith directly.

A motion to adjourn was made by Marco Calise from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office and seconded by Jed Painter from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. The motion was approved unanimously.

Next Meeting schedule

October 20, 2022

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Hunting season announcement



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair

Final Approved Minutes of the October 20, 2022 Meeting Southaven County Park, Yaphank 1:00 pm

Robert Calarco
Chair

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Member attendance

Arthur Pendzick, Jeffrey Campo and Ryan Chalmers from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Jed Painter, Joshua Parson, Adriana Nayda and Robert Kerr from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Fabio Daino and Sgt John Dolezal, from NYS Police, Thomas Gadomski, from NYSDEC ENCON Police, Capt. Michael Smith from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

Commission Staff present:

Judy Jakobsen, Executive Director, Frank Carbone, Chief Enforcement Officer and Gary Enright, Enforcement Officer.

Minutes of meeting

A correction was noted that the date hunting season starts was indicated as October 1st in the minutes which should be corrected to October 31st. A motion to approve the minutes from September 15, 2022 was made by Fabio Daino from NYS Troopers and was seconded by Capt. Tom Gadomski, NYSDEC ENCON Police. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen, Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens Commission introduced Frank Carbone who is recently retired from NYSDEC ENCON Police, who has been hired as the Chief Enforcement Officer for the Central Pine Barrens Commission. Ms. Malangone was not present today since she is currently involved as Academy Coordinator at the NYWIMA training academy that is operating at SUNY Southampton campus from now to the end of October. She noted that wildfire training courses, a UTV driver course, in addition to other courses are being offered at the Academy. The annual summer Barrens to Bay camp was held again this year that had 120 campers. A Day In the Life programs are being held this fall that started in September at various river and estuaries that bring together local students with science experts from various agencies to collect water quality data, invertebrate and other data to evaluate ecological health of these water bodies.

Ms. Jakobsen reported the Commission recently received a violation payment of \$158,000 for a development project where the developer cleared prior to obtaining the

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

necessary permits and approvals from the Commission which brings the Commission Violation Fund up to \$231,000. Wildfire Task Force is currently being reactivated, with Ted Kern from Ridge Fire Department and PSEGLI serving as the new Chair and Baycan Fideli, Director of Public and Fire Safety at Suffolk Community College as the new co-vice chair and Capt. Tim Byrnes, NYSDEC Forest Rangers who continues to serve as the other co-vice chair on the Task Force.

Recent agency field enforcement

Arthur Pendzick reported there was only one detail since the last LEC meeting in September. He noted that since the County computers are down, he has not been able to send out reports on the last few details. He had copies available today on the last three details. He discussed briefly the last detail where ATVs were not too prevalent, however they came across OVRs that were issued tickets, one had felony warrants, and a vehicle was impounded.

Mr. Pendzick discussed he was evaluating the possibility of retiring at some point next year. He discussed the effectiveness of the ATV details and their importance. He hopes that these details will continue if he retires and that someone will step up and take over these details. Mike Smith mentioned ATV training that will be offered through the SC Sheriff's Office on November 3 through 30 and Dec 8th and to contact him if interested through his cell phone number.

Compliance and Enforcement

Mr. Carbone reported on dumping cases closed out with the Sheriff's Office and NYS ENCON Police with approximately \$6,000 of fines collected.

Enforcement Officer of the Year Award

Mr. Pendzick went over the enforcement officer of the year award and asked that members to submit nominations from their agency for officers they feel have performed significant work in environmental enforcement initiatives and deserve recognition for those efforts.

Round Table

Capt. Gadomski went over activities and cases related to fishing and hunting, performing field enforcement and working with Commission enforcement officers on dumping cases. He discussed the academy graduating officers in December and that there will be 20 officers, 10 for Long Island and 10 for NYC.

Fabio Daino discussed fine money that will be coming from the Town of Southampton to the Law Enforcement Council. He also mentioned the importance of the ATV details continuing.

Mr. Smith introduced Chief Layton from SC Park Rangers.

Mr. Pendzick discussed ATV impounds and the situation where one ATV was returned to the owner without having to pay redemption fees that is being investigated by the SCDA's office.

***A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Daino and seconded by Ms. Nayda.
The motion was approved unanimously.***

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022

Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Multi- Task Force Newsletter for September 8th, September 30th and October 20th



PINE BARRENS LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Captain Michael Smith, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Chair
Deputy Director Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Rangers, Co Vice Chair
Captain Thomas Gadomski, NYS Environmental Conservation Police, Co Vice Chair



Minutes of the December 15, 2022 Meeting at Southaven County Park, Yaphank 1:00 pm

Member attendance

Arthur Pendzick and Ryan Chalmers from Suffolk County Park Rangers, Joshua Parson from Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Fabio Daino from NYS Police, Thomas Gadomski, from NYSDEC ENCON Police, Capt. Michael Smith Rorsyn Kuebler and Brian Butler from Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, John Gagne NYSDEC Forest Protection, John Turner from Town of Brookhaven, Patryk Loszewski and Eric Cohen from Riverhead Police Dept., Dodd Amrhein, formerly from SC Park Rangers (retired), Tim Huss formerly from Central Pine Barrens Commission (retired)

Robert Calarco
Chair

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member

Mike Smith recognized John Turner from the Town of Brookhaven who spoke about abandoned vehicles in the woods. John Turner, Land Management Specialist for Town of Brookhaven, discussed the Town's interest in obtaining assistance with vehicle removal in preserve areas owned by the Town from the Air Guard and the LEC via helicopters. It was mentioned that Chris Klimek from the Air Guard would be the person to reach out to for assistance. It was mentioned there was a huge motor home deep in the woods in Manorville that on further discussion it was mentioned that it was burned by someone and officials removed it.

Commission Staff present:

Judy Jakobsen, Executive Director, Polly Weigand, Science and Stewardship Manager, Frank Carbone, Chief Enforcement Officer and Gary Enright, Enforcement Officer.

Minutes of meeting

A correction was noted that the date for when hunting season starts that was indicated as October 1st in the minutes should be corrected to October 31st.

A motion to approve the minutes from September 15, 2022 with the correction was made by Fabio Daino that was seconded by Capt. Tom Gadomski. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Committee Updates

Pine Barrens Commission

Judy Jakobsen provided an overview of the NYWIMA training academy that occurred at the end of October and that Kathy Malangone will provide further information at a subsequent meeting. It was mentioned that Ms. Malangone had a bad fall while at the Academy and is currently not back to work.

624 Old Riverhead Road
Westhampton Beach, NY,
11978

Phone (631) 288-1079
Fax (631) 288-1367
www.pb.state.ny.us

She discussed the Wildfire Task Force, new chair, Ted Kern and co-vice chair, Baycan Fideli. They are looking forward to reinvigorating the Task Force next year and possibly the water bucket training. The Commission Plan amendments are in the final phases of environmental review and they will hopefully be adopted the beginning of next year. The Commission's Violation fund is \$231,103. The LEC can request purchases for enforcement related equipment from this fund that would require Commission approval.

Recent agency field enforcement

Arthur Pendzick reported on ATV details performed in October and November and provided information on ATVs and ORVs that were impounded and received summons. He mentioned that one impound was under the a new local law for all-terrain vehicles that doubled the fine to \$500 and redemption to \$1,000. The impounding agency can charge up to \$300 for towing and storage costs. He also discussed a former impound that was returned to the owner without him being required to pay fines or show proof of ownership. He mentioned this is being investigated by the SCDA's office. He provided copies of the ATV laws that have been revised. It was discussed whether there should be a press release to inform the public about the new laws. Another new law addresses drag racing and includes motor vehicles that do wheelies, etc. that may be applied to ATVs which under this law the vehicle is forfeited.

Mr. Pendzick mentioned he is not able to send out reports by email due to the County system being down and he mentioned that his vehicle has been decommissioned so he won't be able to participate on details. A detail is planned for this Sunday. He is still preparing reports, which he provided hard copies.

Compliance and Enforcement

Mr. Carbone reported that there are currently 14 cameras in use as part of the field surveillance program in the Pine Barrens and that the Commission enforcement officers continue to work with the Sheriff's Office and NYS ENCON Police which has led to successful prosecutions. The Commission is still looking to fill the third position in the enforcement division.

Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards

Mr. Pendzick discussed the environmental officer of the year awards that will awarded at the Annual Pine Barrens Cooperators meeting to be held in June 2023. He distributed forms for member agencies to submit nominees.

Mr. Pendzick nominated John Dalen, SC Parks Ranger for the LEC Environmental Officer of the Year award. He reviewed Mr. Dalen's enforcement efforts and discussed his participation on ATV details. On one detail, Mr. Dalen was severely injured by an ATV that drove into him and he is undergoing a long recovery. The nomination will be brought up for a vote at the next LEC meeting.

Round Table

Mr. Smith stated the ATV training went well. Next training will be in Spring and to contact him if interested in this training at the end of February, beginning of March.

Capt. Gadomski reported a new class graduated out of the DEC academy. He received 8 officers and the rest went to NYC that received ten or eleven officers. There are now a total of thirty-four field officers for Long Island.

John Gagne mentioned he has 3 quotes for a license plate reader field camera which he provided to Ms. Jakobsen. The purchase was approved by the LEC at their last meeting.

Patryk Loszewski requested the purchase of a quad for the Town of Riverhead Police. He will need to obtain 3 quotes. The motion to purchase a quad for the Town of Riverhead Police was approved.

Polly Weigand discussed the Southern Pine Beetle outbreak and potential tree hazards in wooded areas.

Gary Enright thanked the deputies for helping with the dumping cases.

Ms. Jakobsen thanked everyone for all of their hard work and wished everyone a great holiday and will see everyone in the new year.

The 2023 meeting schedule was circulated.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Daino and seconded by Mr. Loszewski. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022 Attachments:

- 1.) Sign in sheet
- 2.) Multi- Task Force Newsletter for November 10th, November 17th and December 8th.