



Adirondack Park Agency

SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

NOTE: The attachments referred to herein are on file at the Agency and are on the Agency's website. Copies are also available for inspection on request.

Draft Minutes, Full Agency, 9/29/16
TDM:sas 1:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2016

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY MEETING

Thursday, September 15, 2016

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Sherman Craig, Chairman
Chad Dawson, Member
John Ernst, Member
Karen Feldman, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
William Thomas, Member
Dan Wilt, Member
Brad Austin, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development
Sandi Allen, Designee, NYS Department of State
Bob Stegemann, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Terry Martino, Executive Director
James Townsend, Counsel

ABSENT AND EXCUSED

Barbara Rice, Member

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Fred Monroe, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Keith McKeever, Public Information Director
Kathy Regan, Deputy Director, Planning
Mary Palmer, Office Assistant 2
Walt Linck, Assoc. Natural Resources Planner
Amy Hall, Calculations Clerk 2

Video and MP3 audio recordings of the proceedings, including public comment, are available in their entirety via webcast at

http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2

Chairman Craig called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Public Comment

None

2. Approval of August 2016 Agency Minutes

On motion of Mr. Wilt, seconded by Ms. Feldman, the Agency unanimously adopted the Draft Agency Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2016. A copy of the official minutes as adopted by the Agency is on file at the Agency.

3. Recusals

None

4. Motion for Executive Session

None

5. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Martino commented on the reported increased usage in the High Peaks area of the Park. She congratulated the Department for the recent graduation of new Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Officers. She said the new staffing positions are a welcome addition to help protect the Park and its users.

Ms. Martino reported that Chairman Craig spoke at the Northeastern Transportation and Wildlife Conference on September 12 in Lake Placid. She said our DOT partners can claim credit for the major efforts in the restoration of roadways and bridges post Irene. She said ten bridges in Essex County have totaled more than \$25M in construction costs.

Ms. Martino announced that the Agency will be participants on a statewide task force on renewable energy. She said the task force is working with landowners and municipalities to develop information about renewable energy projects. She said that the Agency has available a supplement to the Citizen's Guide addressing its role in wind and solar projects. She reported the State Complex Biomass Project has an extended timeline with construction to begin in spring 2017. Agency staff will present the 814 order for the project to the Board in the near future.

Ms. Martino said there has been very positive press regarding the economic impact of the Wilmington Wild Forest UMP Amendment. She thanked staff members Matt

McNamara, Leigh Walrath, Kevin Prickett and Keith McKeever for their volunteer efforts on this mountain bike project. She said staff are continuing to work on the ski trail guidance and will be bringing it to executive level discussions in the future.

Ms. Martino said that Dan Kelleher would be presenting the Agency's Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance Initiative (HEPA) to the Southern Adirondack Planning and Zoning Forum on October 6 in Lake George as part on his ongoing planning assistance throughout the Park.

Ms. Martino said the Agency would recognize the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service with a presentation by Jim Connolly. She said many events are planned in the Newcomb area to celebrate this milestone and Theodore Roosevelt. She said the National Park Service has acknowledged they are dealing with issues related to climate change, overcrowding and finances.

She announced the promotions of Stephanie Petith to Secretary 1 and Kyle Martin to Laborer.

Mr. Craig said the October meeting dates are the 13th and 14th. He asked the Board to note that due to Veterans Day, the November meeting will be held Thursday the 10th, and if necessary, the afternoon of Wednesday the 9th may be added.

6. Approval of 2017 Agency Meeting Schedule

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Ms. Feldman, the Board unanimously approved the 2017 Agency Meeting Schedule. Mr. Austin said that previous schedules noted when the meetings did not take place the second week of the month.

7. Motion to Adjourn into Committees

On motion of Mr. Lussi, seconded by Mr. Ernst, the Agency unanimously adjourned into committees at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, June 10, 2016

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Sherman Craig, Chairman
Chad Dawson, Member
John Ernst, Member
Karen Feldman, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
Barbara Rice, Member
William Thomas, Member
Dan Wilt, Member
Brad Austin, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development
Sandi Allen and Lynne Mahoney, Designee, NYS Department of State
Bob Stegemann, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Terry Martino, Executive Director
James Townsend, Counsel

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Fred Monroe, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Keith McKeever, Public Information Director
Kathy Regan, Deputy Director, Planning
Rick Weber, Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs
Mary Palmer, Office Assistant 2
Walt Linck, Assoc. Natural Resources Planner
Sarah Reynolds, Associate Counsel
Elaine Caldwell, Administrative Officer

Full Agency

Mr. Craig reconvened the Full Agency meeting at 10:45 a.m.

1) Committee Reports

a) **State Land Committee**

On motion by Ms. Feldman, seconded by Mr. Stegemann, the Agency unanimously adopted the Resolution on Vanderwhacker Wild Forest UMP Amendment's conformance with the State Land Master Plan.

On motion by Ms. Feldman, seconded by Mr. Ernst, the Agency unanimously adopted the Resolution on Horicon Boat Launch UMP's conformance with the State Land Master Plan.

Ms. Feldman reported on the Grass River UMP presentation.

b) Regulatory Programs Committee

On motion by Mr. Lussi, seconded by Mr. Wilt, the Agency unanimously approved P2016-0008 involving a variance request from the shoreline setback requirements for the expansion of a pre-existing single family dwelling located within 75 feet of the mean high water mark of Long Lake.

On motion by Mr. Lussi, seconded by Dr. Dawson, the Agency unanimously approved P2016-0132 involving timber harvesting on a 115± acre portion of the Adirondack League Club's 37,000 acre property. The project consists of the overstory removal phase of an established seed tree system, and a shelterwood establishment harvest on 25± acres.

c) Local Government Services Committee

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Ms. Feldman, the Agency unanimously approved the Town of Horicon Approved Local Land Use Program Amendment.

d) Public Awareness and Communication Committee

Mr. Thomas reported on the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service presentation by Mr. Connolly.

e) Park Policy and Planning Committee

Mr. Wilt made a motion to accept the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Study for the Town of Minerva map amendment, seconded by Mr. Stegemann.

Mr. Lussi said he felt the Board was setting a terrible precedent by approving the expansion of the hamlet without requiring a wastewater treatment facility. He said the unregulated use of residential homes as rental facilities could tax a normal septic system and pose a potential environmental hazard especially along a river.

The Agency accepted the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Study for the Town of Minerva map amendment with Mr. Craig, Dr. Dawson, Mr. Ernst, Ms.

Feldman, Ms. Rice, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wilt, Mr. Austin, Ms. Allen, and Mr. Stegemann voting for, and Mr. Lussi voting against.

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Agency approved the Town of Minerva map amendment with Mr. Craig, Dr. Dawson, Mr. Ernst, Ms. Feldman, Ms. Rice, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wilt, Mr. Austin, Ms. Allen, and Mr. Stegemann voting for, and Mr. Lussi voting against.

Mr. Craig noted that Ms. Mahoney replaced Ms. Allen at the Board table.

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Ms. Feldman, the Agency unanimously accepted the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Study for the Town of Crown Point map amendment.

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Ernst, the Agency unanimously approved the Town of Crown Point map amendment.

2) Interim Reports

a) Legal Division

Ms. Feldman said that in May 2016, the Board had approved an update the Agency's FOIL regulations. She reported the notice of proposed rulemaking will be published in the State Register on September 29; a public hearing will be held November 14 at the DEC in Albany and on November 15 at the Agency in Ray Brook. She said the public comment period will end on November 21. Ms. Feldman reported the package will then come before the Board for consideration and possible approval. She thanked Mr. Van Cott for his work.

b) Park Ecology

Mr. Lussi requested a presentation by Ed Snizek on the closing of the Million Dollar Beach in Lake George due to contamination and what can be done to prevent it. Mr. Stegemann said the Department is looking into the cause which may be from geese and seagulls or possibly a septic system. He said he would report the findings back to the Board.

The Administration, Economic Affairs, Enforcement, committees did not meet this month.

4) Old Business

None

5) New Business

None

6) Public Comment

None

Mr. Craig reminded the Board of the October and November meeting schedules.

7) Local Government Review Board Comment

Mr. Monroe reported that the LGRB would be pleased to hear that backcountry ski guidance was moving forward. He said the LGRB was also pleased by the Town of Minerva map amendment and the proposed ATV connector trail in the draft Grasse River UMP.

8) Member Comment

Ms. Mahoney thanked staff for their work and presentations.

Mr. Wilt thanked Robyn Burgess and Matt Kendall for their presentations. He agreed with Mr. Lussi that there should be future discussion about how the rental of homes can affect septic systems.

Ms. Rice thanked staff for their work. She expressed regrets for missing Thursday's meeting and said she did not foresee future conflicts.

Mr. Lussi spoke of his recent visit to National Parks in Utah and how it compared with his experiences in the Adirondack Park. He said on a recent hike in the High Peaks he saw two busloads of hikers arrive at the Adirondack Loj to hike as one group. He said the crowding of the High Peaks area needs to be addressed.

Mr. Ernst commented that he was pleased to witness that logging companies are comfortable working with the Agency to obtain permits and that towns are cooperating with the Agency in their zoning programs.

Mr. Stegemann said Department staff are working on a process to manage the overuse of the High Peaks area by turning away hikers when lots are full and by posting information about other areas to hike on social media. He commented on the 100th

anniversary of the National Park Service. He said the work the Agency and Department are doing every day is a delicate balance between public and private lands which will evolve into the Park being preserved for 100 years and beyond. He thanked staff for their work.

Ms. Feldman thanked Agency and Department staff for their work on the State Land UMPs. She thanked Mr. Van Cott for his work on the FOIL regulations. She said she was encouraged by the invasive work being done within the Park which is way ahead of the work outside of the Park. She acknowledged the passing of Norma Wickersham who was a great steward of the Park.

Mr. Dawson said he was pleased with Mr. Connolly's presentation about the National Park Service. He said the Adirondack Park is world-class and he would like to see planning for the Park be parallel to the National Park Service efforts. He thanked staff for their work.

Mr. Thomas said that in response to Mr. Craig's request, he would like to see more community spotlights on the agenda so that supervisors could inform the Board about various issues in their communities. He said he would also like more discussion on climate change which affects tourism, waterbodies and storms among others.

Mr. Townsend said he agreed that climate change is affecting waterbodies. He said he participated in the 90 Miler Canoe Race and noticed lower water levels. He reported on an article in the September issue of National Geographic about the use of artificial Emerald Ash Borers to help prevent reproduction.

Ms. Martino commended staff on the content of work that was presented. She expressed appreciation for Jim Connelly's presentation about the National Park Service. She said the western peaks have an awesome beauty and that the Adirondack Park is unique with its mix of public and private lands.

Mr. Craig showed a slide of the National Parks which he traveled for four years. He said he agrees the Adirondack Park is world-class and said it is an enormous responsibility for the Board and staff. He appreciated everyone's work.

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Attachments:
P2016-8
P2016-132

Sherman Craig, Chairman