



*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 AGENCY MINUTES**

**JUNE 14-15, 2012**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012**

**AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman  
Richard Booth, Member  
Sherman Craig, Member  
Arthur Lussi, Member  
Frank Mezzano, Member  
William Thomas, Member  
F. William Valentino, Jr., Member  
Cecil Wray, Member  
Jen McCormick, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development  
Dierdre Scozzafava, Designee, NYS Department of State  
Robert Stegemann, Designee, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Terry Martino, Executive Director

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT**

Fred Monroe, Executive Director

**AGENCY STAFF PRESENT**

Daniel Spada, Supervisor, Natural Resource Analysis  
Richard Weber, Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs  
James Connolly, Deputy Director, Planning  
Walter Linck, Associate Natural Resources Planner  
Daniel Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs  
Colleen Parker, Environmental Program Specialist 3  
Kathy Regan, Associate Natural Resources Planner  
Suzanne McSherry, Environmental Program Specialist 2  
Brian Grisi, Local Planning Assistance Specialist  
Robyn Burgess, Environmental Program Specialist 1  
Jen McAleese, Senior Attorney  
Keith McKeever, Public Information Director  
Paul VanCott, Associate Attorney  
Milt Adams, Environmental Program Specialist 1  
Robert Kreider, Information Technology Specialist 2  
Laurie Bullis, Secretary 1  
Mary Reardon, Secretary 1  
Amy Hall, Calculations Clerk  
Deborah Lester, Secretary to Executive Director

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The webcast of this meeting is available at [http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=2](http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2).

Chairwoman Ulrich called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. She noted the return of black bear season and urged people to take the proper precautions against bear-human confrontations.

She also noted her participation in a recent meeting hosted by the Adirondack Landowners Association at Blue Mountain Lake. Also in attendance at that meeting was State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, who was accompanied by Adirondack League Club members.

The Chairwoman commended the June 9 retirement celebration held for John Banta to honor his decades of service to the Agency and the State of New York.

### **1. Approval of May 17, 2012 Draft Agency Minutes**

On motion of Mr. Lussi, seconded by Mr. Wray, the Agency unanimously adopted the Draft Agency Minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting.

### **2. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Martino presented a report on staff activities over the past month and other items of note including:

- Governor Cuomo's announcement regarding the replacement of the Upper Jay firehouse, which suffered heavy damage from Hurricane Irene.
- A change in the Agency's landscaping featuring a combination mowed/non-mowed and groomed/non-groomed landscape along with a brochure in progress on the memory trees and interpretive signage;
- Executive Director Martino's representation of Roseanne Murphy, Executive Director of the North Country Regional Economic Development Council, at its June 5 meeting, where Contract/Incentive Proposals and the Governor's Path Through History Initiative were discussed;
- Agency assignment to construction and permitting work group as part of the Statewide Chairmen's Work Group;
- Continued staff assistance to the Regional Economic Development Council, most recently with scheduling of public forums;
- APA/DEC Coordination - Agency participation in June 11 sessions in Old Forge and Blue Mountain Lake, with CAP-21 members providing important feedback in the APA/DEC focus on concurrent review, and a final report to the Chairwoman and Commissioner to be submitted in September;
- APA/DEC staff participation in a scenario-building workshop on June 18-19 in Blue Mountain Lake;

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- June 8 meeting between the Chairwoman and Executive Director, and Dave Wick and Bruce Young of Lake George Park Commission, regarding the Asian Clam infestation in Lake George, with a presentation/update to the Agency in September;
- Appointment of Suzanne McSherry to the Environmental Program Specialist 2 position in the Regulatory Programs Division.

Mr. Monroe noted Warren County's significant commitment of resources towards combating the Asian Clam infestation in Lake George, and suggested inviting Warren County and other local governments that have contributed funding to participate in the September meeting.

Ms. Martino then read aloud a draft resolution proposed for the Agency's commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

On motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. Valentino, the Agency unanimously adopted the resolution. A copy of the resolution as approved by the Agency is attached to the official minutes.

Mr. Booth requested a copy of the material provided by the Agency Public Information Officer to local media regarding state lands and conservation easements.

Mr. Craig inquired about fast-tracking projects involving invasive species. Staff advised that a general permit is in place which shortens the permit processing time for a variety of invasive species management issues. Additionally, APA and DEC staff are looking at policy questions concerning chemical treatment options.

### **3. Motion for Executive Session**

On motion by Mr. Wray, seconded by Mr. Valentino, the Agency unanimously agreed to convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing the litigation involving the Adirondack Club and Resort project.

### **4. Motion to Adjourn into Committees**

On motion of Mr. Wray, seconded by Mr. Valentino, the Agency unanimously adjourned into committees at 9:35 a.m.

### **5. Community Spotlight: Town of Newcomb, Essex County**

The Agency reconvened at 1:10 p.m. for the Community Spotlight segment of the meeting.

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Town of Newcomb Supervisor George Canon was the featured speaker. A copy of Supervisor Canon's presentation is attached to the official minutes.

Supervisor Canon's presentation began with a history of Newcomb, which included a relationship to President Theodore Roosevelt's succession to the presidency after President William McKinley's death in 1901. He pointed out Newcomb's significant history in logging and mining, as well as historical buildings and landmarks, including a memorial plaque on Route 28N marking the site where Theodore Roosevelt became President of the United States upon President McKinley's death, the foundation of a historical round barn, the hotels Lake Harris House and Wayside Inn, both of which burned but were reconstructed with smaller structures, an old iron furnace, and Tahawus Club, all of which exist today.

The Supervisor noted the important role of the Newcomb iron ore mines in World War II through the production and importation of ilmenite, a titanium-iron oxide, by the National Lead Company (NL) in 1941. The company also built a small village at the Tahawus site to house its workers. A number of years later the company moved the houses to Newcomb to allow for the expansion of mining operations.

Supervisor Canon also described the town in present day. He called attention to a majestic overlook, the High Peaks Golf Course, various organizations and services, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry's (SUNY-ESF) campus at Huntington Forest and the visitor interpretive center, the medical center, and Newcomb Central School. He also highlighted local churches, Goodnow Mountain, Great Camp Santanoni, town beach, Lake Harris campground and various small cottage industries.

Supervisor Canon pointed out SUNY-ESF and Newcomb Central School as key components to Newcomb's future. He noted the school's recent celebration of its 101<sup>st</sup> student, compared to 56 students in 1986. He also called attention to the school's international student program which has attracted 41 students from 21 nations. The school is looking to expand the international program and is contemplating student housing on school grounds to support the program. The school has also established a connection with NCCC in exploring the possibility of students completing college courses while in high school, with the opportunity to graduate high school and earn an associate's degree at the same time.

In the Board discussion that followed, Mr. Mezzano credited Supervisor Canon with saving Camp Santanoni, while the Supervisor noted the key role played by the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Trust in that effort.

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In terms of the future, Supervisor Canon said the innovative thinking of the Newcomb Central School, the support of SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and the Town's relationship with DEC, combined together give him hope for the Town going forward.

When asked about his thoughts on the Finch land deal and the potential economic impact in terms of recreational business, Supervisor Canon said that historically he has never been a supporter of State land acquisition, but he believes the State's ownership of Santanoni is a plus. In the case of the Finch purchase and whether it will have a positive economic impact for the Town, he said he is reserving judgment.

With regard to recent media reports regarding the value of the mine tailings for rare earths, Supervisor Canon advised that Iowa Pacific, owner of the Tahawus rail line, has indicated a willingness to haul the tailings out of the area to companies that will refine the tailings into rare earths. He noted State Geologist Dale Kelly's skepticism about rare earth content in the Tahawus mine tailings.

In a discussion of the school enrollment, Supervisor Canon acknowledged that closing of the mine and changes in lumbering technology both contributed to the decline in the student enrollment from 250-300 in the 1960's to as low as 56 in 1986.

Chairwoman Ulrich asked Supervisor Canon for his opinion in terms of what the Agency can do for Newcomb or for the Adirondack Park as a whole. Supervisor Canon recommended that the unit management plan for the Camp Santanoni Historic Area include the garden as well as funding and approval to rebuild the barn that burned in 2005, both of which are key components of the Santanoni Farm Complex.

Chairwoman Ulrich presented Supervisor Canon with a Certificate of Appreciation for the opportunity to learn about the Town's goals, successes and challenges, and commended his leadership and support of initiatives that benefit the Town of Newcomb.

The Agency adjourned into committees at 1:55 p.m.

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**FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2012**

**AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman  
Richard Booth, Member  
Sherman Craig, Member  
Arthur Lussi, Member  
Frank Mezzano, Member  
William Thomas, Member  
F. William Valentino, Jr., Member  
Cecil Wray, Member  
Jen McCormick, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development  
Robert Stegemann, Designee, NYS Department of Environmental  
Conservation  
Terry Martino, Executive Director

**AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF ABSENT**

Dierdre Scozzafava, Designee, NYS Department of State

**AGENCY STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Weber, Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs  
James Connolly, Deputy Director, Planning  
Daniel Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs  
Kathy Regan, Associate Natural Resources Planner  
Brian Grisi, Local Planning Assistance Specialist  
Robyn Burgess, Environmental Program Specialist 1  
Keith McKeever, Public Information Director  
Paul VanCott, Associate Attorney  
Laurie Bullis, Secretary 1  
Deborah Lester, Secretary to Executive Director

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Chairwoman Ulrich called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m.

**1. Committee Reports**

**a. Public Awareness and Communications/State Land Committee**

Mr. Valentino commended the panel discussion on the development and evolution of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan in recognition of the 40th Anniversary of the Master Plan.

Mr. Booth thanked the panel members, including Peter Paine, William Kissel, Neil Woodworth, Michael DiNunzio, and Robert Davies.

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b. State Land Committee

(1) Second Pond Boat Launch Unit Management Plan and  
Reclassification

On motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. Wray, the Agency unanimously approved the DEIS and authorized staff to proceed with scheduling public hearings for the reclassification action.

c. Regulatory Programs Committee

(1) 2012-59, Peter and Denise Ward

The applicant proposed a commercial, industrial and agricultural service use involving a meat processing facility in an area classified Moderate Intensity Use in the Town of Ticonderoga, Essex County.

On motion of Mr. Mezzano, seconded by Mr. Lussi, the Agency unanimously approved the project in accordance with the draft permit. A copy of the permit as approved by the Agency is attached to the official minutes.

d. Local Government Services Committee

Mr. Thomas reported that the Committee had a lengthy discussion on local land use control and APA-approved local land use programs. The Committee intends to continue its discussion at a later date.

**2. Interim Reports**

The Enforcement, Administration, Park Ecology, Economic, Legal Affairs and Park Policy and Planning committees did not meet this month. Monthly activity reports for several of these committees were included in the mailing.

a. Economic Affairs Committee

On motion of Mr. Mezzano, seconded by Ms. McCormick, the Committee unanimously approved the May 17, 2012 draft committee minutes.

b. Legal Affairs Committee

On motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. Craig, the Committee unanimously approved the May 17, 2012 draft committee minutes.

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### c. Park Ecology Committee

On motion of Ms. McCormick, seconded by Mr. Wray, the Committee unanimously approved the May 17, 2012 draft committee minutes.

### **3. Public Comment**

Daniel Plumley, representing Adirondack Wild, offered congratulations on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan. He provided staff with copies of a report on achieving a truly wild Adirondack Park for distribution to the Agency Members.

Mr. Plumley's comments are available in the webcast of this meeting: [http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=2](http://nysapa.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2)

### **4. Local Government Review Board Comment\***

Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe commented on the State Land Master Plan panel discussion. He stated that while it was an interesting and informative discussion, it also raised an important question with respect to balance. He referred to a statement made during the discussion that the Master Plan rejects balance, and questioned the Master Plan's failure to provide balance when the APA Act's Statement of Legislative Findings and Purposes clearly calls for it.

### **5. Member Comment**

Ms. McCormick commended the meat processing project in Ticonderoga, noting appropriate siting, public good, and alignment with the economic growth of the Park.

Mr. Valentino expressed support for the suggestion of a future presentation on DEC facilities for people with disabilities. He also appreciated Rob Davies' characterization of the Park into five distinct areas.

Mr. Thomas commended the panel discussion on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State Land Master Plan as well as Supervisor Canon's spotlight presentation on the Town of Newcomb and the local land use program discussion.

Mr. Mezzano added his compliments regarding the panel discussion and the meat processing facility.

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\* Mr. Monroe provided comment upon the conclusion of the State Land Committee meeting on Thursday due to his anticipated absence from the Agency meeting on Friday.

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Mr. Stegemann noted his support for the slaughterhouse project, stating that it was a good example of aligning economic development and land use stewardship in the Park. He also commended the panel discussion, as well as the leadership displayed by the panelists and by Supervisor Canon.

Mr. Lussi added his appreciation for the panel discussion, particularly the panelists' in depth discussion and interaction with the Board and the audience. Mr. Lussi noted recent court decisions on shoreline cases and requested a staff update at a future date. He also expressed his support for the meat processing project, and commented on the Agency's landscaping/interpretive signage plan and the benefits of maintaining grass at a certain height to withstand drought conditions.

Mr. Craig commended the enthusiasm of the panelists and spoke about conflict being a generator of creativity. He also noted plans for broadband service coming to Star Lake-Wanakena-Cranberry Lake in the next several months.

Mr. Wray added his compliments on the panel discussion, and requested a copy of panelist Mike DiNunzio's prepared remarks. He suggested as a future educational topic a presentation on easements in general as well as the economic and legal consequences of easements. Mr. Wray also commended the vigorous discussion on local land use programs.

Mr. Booth referred to the three maps displayed by Rob Davies depicting the Forest Preserve in 1972, additions since 1972, and conservation easements, and suggested they be on permanent display at the Agency. He also commended the meat processing facility as a good indicator of the advantages for certain sectors of the economy. He noted that the panel discussion illustrated the spirit of listening to each other.

Ms. Martino commented on the importance of the Agency's new landscaping plan and noted a visit the day before by a young family who viewed the tree planted in memory of their great uncle, Edwin Ketchledge. She also spoke of the significance of the meat processing facility, which is a vital element of the Park's agricultural infrastructure and will contribute to the production of livestock. She also commented that the panel discussion was meaningful in giving voice to history. She noted the value of the local land use planning discussion and the need to further explore program amendments and the larger question of the potential for an application similar to the general permit for projects.

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Chairwoman Ulrich gave praise to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary panel discussion and referred to the moment when the discussion was opened to the audience for questions as a landmark moment and a turning point in how the Agency conducts business. She also appreciated the meaningful photo taken of Peter Paine and George Canon. The Chairwoman then referred to the July 18<sup>th</sup> Common Ground Alliance forum, which will feature a report on the scenario planning that has taken place over the past year. The report will help inform the Agency in its work as well as Governor Cuomo in moving forward with possibilities for the Park. She then noted the new "Planet Earth" exhibit at the Wild Center in Tupper Lake and her plans to visit later in the day. She also encouraged year-round and seasonal residents of the Park to model their behavior towards curbing human garbage and preventing the spread of invasive species.

**6. Adjournment**

The Agency unanimously adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

LCU/TDM/dal

Attachments:

Resolution - 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan

Town of Newcomb PowerPoint Presentation

Permit 2012-59, Peter and Denise Ward

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Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman