



SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

DRAFT MINUTES
Park Policy & Planning
Committee
May 11, 2017 Meeting
MK:ap

**PARK POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2017**

The Committee convened at 2:15 p.m.

Park Policy and Planning Committee Members Present:

Dr. Chad Dawson, Chair, Dan Wilt, William Thomas, Bradley Austin (ESD)

Other Members and Designees Present:

Sherman Craig (Chair), Art Lussi, John Ernst, Barbara Rice, Karen Feldman, Karyn Richards (DEC), Lynn Mahoney (DOS)

Local Government Review Board:

Frederick Monroe, Executive Director

Agency Staff Present:

Terry Martino, James Townsend, Kate-Lyn Knight, Robyn Burgess, Kathy Regan, Keith McKeever, Annemarie Peer

Town of Crown Point Map Amendment (Matt Kendall)

Matt Kendall presented a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) to reclassify approximately 201 acres in the Town of Crown Point from Low Intensity to Moderate Intensity. He provided the Board with minor changes that have been made: a correction on page 10 and the addition of a map.

Mr. Kendall showed the location of the proposed amendment . The Town will be requesting the reclassification of additional lands to Hamlet in the future.

Mr. Kendall presented maps showing existing land uses, elevation contours, slope, soils and photos of the area. Mr. Kendall stated that there is public water, but no access to the Town's public sewer.

Mr. Kendall reviewed the procedures the Agency must follow: Agency prepares a DSEIS, accepts public comment on the DSEIS, holds a public hearing, and prepares a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS). The Board will then vote on the acceptance of the FSEIS with the proposed classification amendment.

Mr. Lussi asked why the application from the Town states 389 acres. Mr. Kendall responded the Town had made an error. Mr. Lussi also wanted to know if they were planning for sewer. Mr. Kendall responded no. The Town is pursuing an additional map amendment, but wanted it done separately. The Town had originally submitted an application for two areas, but have asked us to review this amendment first.

Dr. Dawson asked about the three alternatives mentioned on page 21 and asked Mr. Kendall to go over alternative two.

Mr. Kendall responded the staff's view is that the larger area works better, but acknowledged that an alternative can be to exclude the areas around Putnam Creek and make two separate areas. The alternative regional boundary would then separate the area along Putnam Creek. He said staff come up with alternatives because some may not fit the reclassification.

Mr. Lussi asked about wetlands and possible future development.

Mr. Kendall responded it is difficult to look at the possible development configurations possible for the area. Mr. Townsend responded that this action does not effect wetland jurisdiction.

Mr. Lussi responded that if he was a land owner how would he develop if he does not know the development potential.

Ms. Feldman asked Mr. Kendall how this map amendment compares to other requests that the Agency has had in the past five years, is it large, small, or about average? Mr. Kendall responded that the size is medium. Ms. Feldman asked what the acreage was of the Town. Mr. Kendall responded 50, 000 acres.

A motion was made by Dan Wilt to accept the DSEIS and authorize staff to proceed to public comment. The motion was seconded by Bill Thomas. All were in favor.

Old Business

Dr. Dawson said the Planning Division should be looking at some way of addressing carrying capacity. This morning he was discussing carrying capacity as it related to water bodies, particularly with boat launches and referenced pages in the SLMP (p 4 and 44). It is requirement in a generic EIS for a campground UMP that a carrying capacity analysis should be completed. He would like to see a process developed before the board is to review additional plans and projects.

Chairman Craig told Dr. Dawson he is very supportive of his interest in resolving regional issues within the Park. New Agenda items, as they come forward, put these issues in the forefront. The Agency can put together a task force; he will follow up on that.

Ms. Richards asked if the Agency looks at the same carrying capacity issues for private land as they wish to for State land, for example an expansion of a dock or a marina?

Chairman Craig responded it is a part of our process.

Dr. Dawson responded that if you read the whole statement of the State Land Master Plan first consideration should be given to lakes that are wholly or the majority of them have State land along the shoreline and then to consider the others.

Ms. Martino said that The Act directs us to look at 37 development considerations which includes the impact on adjoining land owners. The Act does not use the term carrying capacity for our consideration when looking at private land development.

Dr. Dawson responded the wording not carrying capacity but looking at environmental impact. Those concepts are inter-related and how we apply them should be a subject for a task force.

New Business

Dr. Dawson said that in the morning session of the meeting, he was frustrated with the unit management planning process. He would like to clarify he is concerned about strategic planning for the connected trails and hut to hut. He supports them, but does not want them done in an ad-hoc basis. There is no thought process about the whole if you do a little of this and a little of that; he said the point is that the connecting corridor and hut to hut should be trails that are able to stand a lot more use than other trails. Dr. Dawson said these are strategic issues the Board need to address in a planning process for both marked and unmarked trails. He said he is in support of the idea, but needs to know how does it all fit together, what are the rules, do you regulate people who are adding trails. He pointed out this is an enormous problem in the federal system. Dr. Dawson believes we need to think ahead, because we are going to have more issues in the future.

Dr. Dawson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.