



Adirondack Park Agency

KAREN FELDMAN
Acting Chair

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, 2/27/19 10:00 am TDM:sas

FEBRUARY 14-15, 2019

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY MEETING

Thursday, February 14, 2019

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Karen Feldman, Acting Chair
Chad Dawson, Member
John Ernst, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
William Thomas, Member
Dan Wilt, Member
Lynne Mahoney, Designee, NYS Department of State
Brad Austin, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development
Robert Stegemann, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Paul Van Cott, Associate Attorney
Terry Martino, Executive Director

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Jerry Delaney, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Keith McKeever, Public Information Officer
Rick Weber, Deputy Director Regulatory Programs
Ariel Lynch, Environmental Program Specialist 2
Matt Brown, Environmental Program Specialist 1
Colleen Parker, Environmental Program Specialist 3
Kathy Regan, Supervisor, Natural Resources Analysis
John Burth, Environmental Program Specialist 3
Chris Blue, Environmental Program Specialist 1
Milt Adams, Environmental Program Specialist 1

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

Acting Chair Feldman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Public Comment

None

2. Approval of December 13-14 Agency Minutes

On motion of Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Wilt, the Agency unanimously adopted the Draft Agency Meeting Minutes of December 13-14, 2018. 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 reported the Biomass project is running at 90% in the Agency.

She said staff are working on the Annual Report which will be distributed in March.

Ms. Martino reported that staff continue to work on strategic planning throughout the divisions to increase efficiency while continuing to provide environmental protections.

She announced the addition of an Environmental Program Specialist 3 position in the Regulatory Program Division. She welcomed John Burth to the position. She said this addition would allow for increased efficiency during Rick Weber's transition to the Planning Division. She noted Mr. Burth would still supervise the Enforcement Division staff and would continue to report to the Enforcement Committee. She asked the Board to consider approving a Delegation of Signing Authority to allow the two EPS 3 staff to sign permits, NIPAs and letters of completion for the Regulatory Division.

Ms. Martino welcomed Christian Blue as an Environmental Program Specialist 1 Trainee.

She welcomed Christopher Cooper, Esq as Agency Counsel effective March 25.

Ms. Feldman said the reorganization of staff positions would increase efficiency within the Agency.

6. Motion to Adjourn into Committees

On motion of Mr. Wilt, seconded by Dr. Dawson, the Agency unanimously adjourned into committees at 1:25 p.m.

Friday, February 15, 2019

AGENCY MEMBERS, DESIGNEES AND EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Karen Feldman, Acting Chair
Chad Dawson, Member
John Ernst, Member
Arthur Lussi, Member
William Thomas, Member
Dan Wilt, Member
Lynne Mahoney, Designee, NYS Department of State
Brad Austin, Designee, NYS Department of Economic Development
Robert Stegemann, Designee, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Sarah Reynolds, Acting Counsel
Terry Martino, Executive Director

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD PRESENT

Jerry Delaney, Executive Director

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Keith McKeever, Public Information Officer
Rick Weber, Deputy Director Regulatory Programs
Ariel Lynch, Environmental Program Specialist 2
Susan Streiff, Secretary to the Executive Director

Full Agency

Ms. Feldman reconvened the Full Agency meeting at 9:00 a.m.

1) Committee Reports

a) Regulatory Programs Committee

On motion by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Ms. Mahoney, the Board unanimously approved a delegation of authority to the Environmental Program Specialists 3 as described in the Executive Director's February 21, 2019 memorandum entitled "Delegated Authority to Sign Permits, Notices of Completion and Incompletion."

On motion by Wilt, seconded by Dr. Dawson, the Board unanimously approved P2018-218, NYS DEC, involving trail enhancements at the Frontier Town Campground, Equestrian and Day Use Area. Specifically, construction of stone pedestrian steps and timber foot bridge within 150 feet of the Schroon River and additional accessible trails and viewpoints.

b) Park Ecology Committee

Mr. Ernst reported on the Climate Change In the Adirondacks presentation given by Paul Smith's College professors, Drs. Evans, Sporn, and Stager.

d) State Land Committee

On motion of Mr. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Stegemann, the Agency adopted the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP resolution on APSLMP conformance with Ms. Feldman, Mr. Ernst, Mr. Lussi, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wilt, Ms. Mahoney, Mr. Austin, and Mr. Stegemann voting for; Dr. Dawson voting against.

2) Interim Reports

The Administration, Economic Affairs, Enforcement, Legal Affairs, Park Policy and Planning, Public Awareness and Communication, and Local Government Services committees did not meet this month.

3) Old Business

None

4) New Business

None

5) Public Comment

Ron Konowitz, Adirondack Powder Skiers Association, congratulated the Board on the adoption of the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP. He said members of his group are excited about the ski trail guidance moving forward. He said many multi-use trails need work. His complete comments can be viewed on the website address above.

Dan Plumley, Totem Adirondack Consulting Group, LLC, commented on the climate change presentation and work that needs to be done to start making changes. He informed the Board he was transitioning to the private sector and will be working locally, nationally and internationally. His complete comments can be viewed on the website address above.

Jack Drury, Hamlets to Huts, thanked the Board for their work on water carrying capacity. He commented on the Hamlets to Huts program and the continued work to improve it. His complete comments can be viewed on the website address above.

6) Local Government Review Board Comment

Mr. Delaney commented on the climate change presentation. He said people should embrace change. He said responsible forest product industry practice can be carbon neutral and that forest lands contribute to carbon sequestration. He said that renewable energy projects cause a lot of carbon in the transportation, building and maintenance of them.

7) Member Comment

Mr. Ernst commented on the climate change presentation. He said the conversation regarding the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP was encouraging and he felt the Board was moving in the right direction.

Mr. Lussi said the climate change presentation was sobering. He said by monitoring change, skeptics can be educated. He said the change to 90% biomass for heating the Ray Brook Complex was a great start. He praised the staff that worked on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP for their work on new trails.

Ms. Mahoney commented on the climate change presentation. She said she was pleased with the Phase 3 Trail Development on the Frontier Town project. She thanked staff for their work on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP. She said she felt the Agency was at a place where it could make significant changes through working with the Department and other agencies.

Dr. Dawson thanked staff for their work on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP. He thanked the Board for being open to respectfully disagreeing. He expressed his surprise and appreciation by the huge task the energy project had become. He commented on the climate change presentation.

Mr. Austin said he was impressed by the climate change presentation. He thanked staff for their efforts on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP. He encouraged everyone to visit the "I Love NY" website to see what is happening throughout the State.

Mr. Stegemann thanked all who worked on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP: DEC Foresters Steve Guglielmi and Josh Clague and APA's Kevin Prickett. He also thanked Dr. Dawson for his considerable efforts.

Ms. Reynolds said she was a proponent for good government. She said there is international interest in the Park and people should use science to better understand its protection.

Ms. Martino said she learned the biomass building burns so efficiently there are times it does not create smoke into the air. She thanked everyone that was involved with making the project possible. She said the climate change presentation was powerful. She noted the Youth Climate Change conference held at the Wild Center has become a model for groups all over the world which points to future opportunities for partnerships to address climate change. She said she appreciated the partnerships that were developed during the work on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP.

Ms. Feldman thanked Board members for their efforts on the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest UMP. She said they had made progress and she pledged to continue the work until it was finished. She thanked OGS and DEC for their work on the Frontier Town project and said she looks forward to seeing its completion. She commented on the climate change presentation and encouraged everyone to make a difference in some way.

She welcomed Dale Bryk, Deputy Secretary of the Environment and her assistant Amanda Lefton. She thanked Chamber staff for assisting with the appointment of the Agency's Counsel, Christopher Cooper. She expressed appreciation to Commissioner Seggos for staying in his position.

She thanked Rick Weber for his 8-plus years as Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs. She said she looked forward to working with him in his new position.

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Karen Feldman, Acting Chair

Attachments: P2018-218