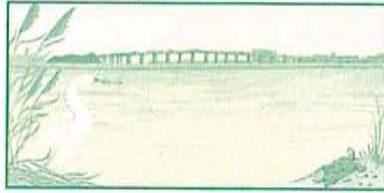


Protecting the Environment



MEADOWLANDS CONSERVATION TRUST

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OPEN SESSION MINUTES

DATE: December 13, 2017
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: NJSEA Environment Center 2nd Floor Lecture Room
Two DeKorte Park, Plaza, Lyndhurst, NJ

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

WILLIAM SHEEHAN, Chairman
Hackensack Riverkeeper

GREG REMAUD, VICE CHAIRMAN
NY/NJ Baykeeper

DONALD PALOMBI
NJDCA Delegate

MAYOR ALBERTO SANTOS
HMMC Delegate
Mayor of Kearny

RALPH J. MARRA, JR., ESQ.
NJSEA Delegate

ALSO PRESENT:

CHRISTINE A. SANZ, Chief Executive Officer
JASON STYPINSKI, Deputy Attorney General
COLLEEN MERCADO, Senior Operations Administrator, NJSEA

Chairman Sheehan welcomed everyone, followed by the flag salute.

CEO Sanz read the Sunshine Law statement into record and Ms. Mercado took roll call.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Sheehan presented the Open Session meeting minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting. Upon motion by Trustee Marra and second by Vice Chairman Remaud, the October 11, 2017 minutes were carried with all in favor.

Chairman Sheehan announced the need for the Board to go into closed session to request legal advice relative to the status of the Trust's funds. Upon motion by Vice Chairman Remaud, second by Trustee Marra, all voted in favor to go into closed session.

CEO Sanz read the resolution for Closed Session into record.

Closed Session commenced at 10:05 a.m.

Open Session recommenced at 10:45 a.m.

Chairman Sheehan deferred his report and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

CEO REPORT

CEO Sanz provided the following updates:

- License plate revenues through October 2017 were \$15,779.
- An environmental science student from Ramapo College spent ten hours in the field with Don Smith to satisfy college credit requirements. She thanked Don Smith for his service in this regard.
- A request for information on the Mehrhof Pond Project was received from Linda Fisher of DEP representing Rebuild by Design. Ms. Fisher advised they were working on a flood protection project in Little Ferry and wanted to include information on the Mehrhof Pond Project in the project's Environmental Impact Statement. Ms. Sanz advised that staff provided Ms. Fisher with the information requested.

CONSULTANT'S REPORT

Mr. Donald Smith of Hansen & Smith Environmental Consulting provided the following updates on the monitoring of the Trust's properties for the month of November:

- Emerson Woods, Emerson - one of the big problems is the exploding deer population. The deer eat everything - there is nothing on the ground and no recruitment of young trees. Mr. Smith feels the deer are becoming a growing problem which could translate into accidents with automobiles and injury.
- Fox Hills, Norwood - Debris has built up in the culvert on the property and it is not being maintained. Mr. Smith noted that on the Trust site, the Kane Site where Moonachie Creek enters the Meadows, it is full of debris - logs, plastic bottles - and no one is taking care of it. He feels this can be a mosquito problem in summer when water backs up. Chairman Sheehan questioned if the issue on the Kane Tract was in the area of the gates under the Turnpike. Mr. Smith responded negatively noting that it was the area under Commerce Boulevard, 50 feet downstream.
- Skeetkill Marsh, Ridgefield - The environmental science student interning from Ramapo College assisted Mr. Smith with trail maintenance and removal of the fallen trees. Mr. Smith noted that there were also problems at this site of the deer rubbing all the young trees coming up. Mr. Smith noted that the rest of the Trust's sites were doing okay.

- Mr. Smith provided the Board members with photos depicting the effects of the September 30th fire at the Kane Tract. He said the fire had apparently started from a cigarette being thrown from the side of Commerce Boulevard and since it was a very windy night the fire spread from the spot on the edge of the grass out to the Meadow. He noted that some of the dike's gabion baskets had melted and pointed out (in the photos) the little ponds where the fire burned for about a month underground, into the peat. Mr. Smith said this would be a mosquito problem come the spring, and suggested that maintaining a water level and making a huge impoundment by putting fill by the Turnpike could possibly quell the issue.
- Mr. Smith also provided the Board members with photos of the work completed to date at the wildlife observation area at Mehrhof Pond.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 17-16

Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the MCT 2018 Annual Schedule of Meetings. Upon motion by Vice Chairman Remaud and second by Trustee Palombi, proposed Resolution 17-16 was unanimously approved.

Resolution 17-17

Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the 2018 Conservation Trust Budget. Upon motion by Trustee Marra and second by Trustee Palombi, Resolution 17-17 was approved unanimously.

Resolution 17-18

Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Land Trust Standards and Practices as Guiding Principles. CEO Sanz advised the Board that as part of membership, the Land Trust Alliance requires all member entities to adopt their guiding standards and practices. CEO Sanz stated that she had spoken with a Land Trust representative and informed them that the MCT is a State body and bound to State ethic laws, statutes and regulations. She noted that she made modifications to the Land Trust's resolution to reflect that fact.

Vice Chairman Remaud advised that he would like to review the Land Trust standards more thoroughly to see if any of them conflicted with the MCT's land use issues. CEO Sanz advised that there was no reason this could not be tabled to the next meeting to allow the Board to review. Upon motion by Trustee Mayor Santos and second by Vice Chairman Remaud, proposed Resolution 17-18 was tabled to the next meeting.

Resolution 17-19

Resolution Authorizing Reimbursement to the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. Chairman Sheehan asked if the reimbursement was in line with past performance and services. CEO Sanz responded affirmatively and confirmed it was for services provided in CY2017. Upon motion by Vice Chairman Remaud and second by Trustee Mayor Santos, proposed Resolution 17-19 was approved, subject to the recusal of Trustee Marra.

Chairman Sheehan stated the need for the Board to go back into Closed Session to discuss the proposed property donation from Bellemead.

Resolution 17-20 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution authorizing the MCT to conduct a meeting, to which the general public shall not be admitted for the purposes of discussing legal matters, personnel matters and contract negotiations. Upon motion by Trustee Marra, second by Vice Chairman Remaud and followed by all in favor, Resolution 17-20 was approved.

Closed Session commenced at 11:04 a.m.

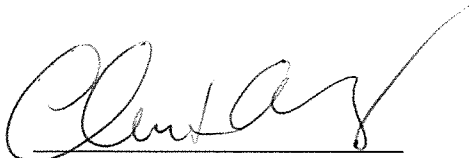
Open Session re-commenced at 11:15 a.m.

Chairman Sheehan asked the Board to offer a resolution authorizing staff to move forward with the negotiations on the pending property acquisition on behalf of the Trust. Trustee Mayor Santos made motion to have staff investigate the properties that are proposed by Bellemead for donation to the Trust. Trustee Marra seconded, with all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT - Upon no further business, Motion to Adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Remaud, second by Trustee Palombi will all in favor.

The meeting concluded at 11:17 a.m.

I certify that this is a true and accurate transcript of the Open Session Minutes of the Meadowlands Conservation Trust Board of Trustees meeting of December 13, 2017.



Christine A. Sanz
Chief Executive Officer

NAME	Roll Call	Resolution 17-16	Resolution 17-17	Resolution 17-18 TABLED	Resolution 17-19	Resolution 17-20
Chairman William Sheehan	P	Y	Y		Y	Y
Vice Chairman Greg Remaud	P	Y	Y		Y	Y
NJDCA Delegate Donald Palombi	P	Y	Y		Y	Y
NJSEA Delegate Ralph Marra	P	Y	Y		R	Y
HMMC Delegate Mayor Alberto Santos	P	Y	Y		Y	Y

P = Present -- Absent A= Abstain
R= Recuse Y = Affirmative N = Negative