

Protecting the Environment



MEADOWLANDS CONSERVATION TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

DATE: June 13, 2018
TIME: 10:07 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

MAYOR ALBERTO SANTOS
HMMC Delegate
Mayor of Kearny

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

ABSENT:

DONALD PALOMBI
NJDCA Delegate

ALSO PRESENT:

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

Chairman Sheehan called the meeting to order, followed by the flag salute.

CEO Sanz read the Sunshine Law statement into record.

Ms. Mercado took roll call.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Sheehan presented the Open Session meeting minutes from the April 11, 2018 meeting. Upon motion by Trustee Marra and second by Vice Chairman Remaud, the April 11, 2018 minutes were carried with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN REPORT - none

CEO REPORT

CEO Sanz advised that the CY2018 license plate revenues through April were \$6,223.00. She noted that she would provide a property acquisition update at closed session. CEO Sanz then congratulated the Board on the opening of Mehrhof Pond Park, which she stated was really an exceptional day and testament to the Board and hard work of Colleen Mercado, staff, as well as cooperation with several governmental units.

Chairman Sheehan stated that he was honored to be there.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

MCT's consultant, Donald Smith of Hansen & Smith Environmental Consulting, provided a review of the May monitoring report:

Fox Hill West, Norwood - There is still a lot of ATV's accessing the property doing a lot of erosion along the trails and the creek. Mr. Smith stated that local law enforcement is needed to take care of this issue.

North Central Woods, Norwood - There is still a problem with trash being dumped at the end of Madison Avenue that should be brought to the attention of the Town and perhaps a sign can be put up noting a fine for littering. A tree has fallen onto an adjacent property's fence causing damage and it seems the landscapers for the property are dumping grass clippings into the creek.

Skeetkill Creek Marsh, Ridgefield - Restoring the landscaping, clearing of trail and replacement of decayed benches are currently on list to be done. Yellow rail and Skimmers have been sighted at the Creek.

Kane Tract North - Don spoke with Andy Derickson regarding the eroded embankment under the second bridge on Williams Road. Mr. Derickson's consultants had seen this also and were going to take care of it. There are limited signs of new growth on west side. Litter which had piled up smothering new growth has since washed away in a storm.

Kane Tract South - Hundreds of shore birds using the site during migration along with waterfowl, Egrets, Herons and Osprey.

Mr. Smith advised the Board that he had recently spoken with representatives from the Russo Corporation relative to the Trust property located along Commerce Boulevard where the trees had been cut down due to the fire that occurred on the Kane site last year. He proposed working with Russo on getting that area covered with clean fill and possibly doing a nice demonstration planting. Mr. Smith went on to talk about the rest of that site, where he would like the Trust to consider planting a wetlands forest, approximately 200 feet out from Commerce Boulevard. This would require approximately two feet of clean fill and someone to do the mitigation.

CEO Sanz stated that the projects Don proposed would need to be carefully reviewed by the Board before authorizing any placement of fill. She noted that any fill would need to be tested by an independent company authorized by the Trust in advance and to confirm whether any permits would be needed for the amount of fill to be brought in.

Mr. Smith went on to talk about the dredging project going on at Losen Slote Creek and the concerns regarding the fill being placed on the flood plain. He noted that he would be meeting on behalf of Little Ferry with the Bergen County Utilities Authority and hopefully the County in regards to getting the dirt moved.

CEO Sanz made it point to state that all of Don's comments with regard to Losen Slote were being made as a public citizen and not as the Trust representative.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 18-07

Consideration of a Resolution creating an advisory committee to be comprised of representatives of Bergen and Hudson County Parks or Open Space departments.

Chairman Sheehan was in favor but was a little concerned about making it seem like an official committee and questioned softening the term. CEO Sanz suggested changing the word "committee" to "group" throughout the resolution so that it would be clear that the entity wouldn't have any legal authority with respect to the Board's activities. Vice Chairman Remaud motioned to move the amended resolution and second by Trustee Marra. Roll call was taken and with all in favor, amended Resolution 18-07 was passed.

Resolution 18-08 - 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 18-08 was approved.

CEO Sanz read the resolution for Closed Session into record.

Closed Session commenced at 10:27 a.m.

Open Session recommenced at 10:41 a.m.

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

The meeting concluded at 10:42 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 June 13, 2018.



Christine A. Sanz
Chief Executive Officer

NAME	Roll Call	Resolution 18-07	Resolution 18-08
Chairman William Sheehan	P	Y	Y
Vice Chairman Greg Remaud	P	Y	Y
NJDCA Delegate Donald Palombi	--	--	--
NJSEA Delegate Ralph Marra	P	Y	Y
HMMC Delegate Mayor Alberto Santos	P	Y	Y

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