

Protecting the Environment



MEADOWLANDS CONSERVATION TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

DATE: June 12, 2019
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

STEVEN CATTUNA
NJSEA Delegate

KIMBERLY HOLMES
NJDCA Delegate

GREG REMAUD, VICE CHAIRMAN
NY/NJ Baykeeper

ALSO PRESENT:

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

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 March 13, 2019 meeting. Upon motion by Vice Chairman Remaud to approve the minutes and second by Trustee Holmes, the March 13, 2019 Open session minutes were approved with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN REPORT - none

CEO REPORT

- CEO Sanz advised the Board and the public that Mayor Alberto Santos resigned his position as Trustee and that the Hackensack Meadowlands Municipal Committee (HMMC)

had been informed of the need to have a new appointment to the Board. During the HMMC's May 6th meeting, Chairman Mayor Cassella, advised that a letter would be going out to all Mayors informing them of the opening. CEO Sanz noted that the HMMC's June meeting was postponed until July so it may be a little bit of time before an appointment is made. Chairman Sheehan asked when was the Trust's next meeting? Ms. Mercado responded the next meeting was scheduled for September.

- CY2019 license plate revenues through June 2019 were \$6,774.39.
- CEO Sanz stated that before the Board today was the acceptance of the Annual Audit and Financial Report. She thanked Ms. Mercado saying that without her the Trust would not be in the great position they find themselves in year after year. CEO Sanz also thanked the NSJEA staff, John Yarenis and the finance department. She thanked the auditors and noted that they were present in case the Board had any questions.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Clarke Property, Demarest – The property is well maintained as usual, and kept very nice and neat.

Pine Terrace, Demarest – The garbage that was on the property last month has been removed and there is no new garbage behind the veterinarian's property.

Emerson Woods, Emerson – There is lots of ponding water due to the significant amount of rainfall recently. Some big heavy branches have fallen from the trees onto the pedestrian pathway which should be removed. Mr. Smith commented that he was surprised the Town hadn't taken care of this already.

Fox Hill West, Norwood – There continues to be an issue with ATV riders causing erosion and impacting the water quality in the stream. The tires are forming hollows in the woods which then hold water becoming loaded with mosquitoes. The culvert still needs some work due to debris from upstream. This is a constant maintenance issue.

Norwood Central Woods, Norwood – Along 14th Street is looking good but people in the neighborhood are dumping their grass clippings along with other stuff at the end of Madison Avenue.

Skeetkill Creek Marsh, Ridgefield – Property doing fine, except for the trail which needs to be weed-whacked. Mr. Smith had done it last year and wanted to know if the landscapers could take care of that. CEO Sanz advised Mr. Smith that she would discuss this with him.

Kane Tract – Mr. Smith pointed out that there was a lot of litter from vegetation against the gas pipeline road. Some years the litter is there and some years it is not, depending on the prevailing winds during a storm. He noted that there is not much we can do but it does impact

the growth of the salt marsh cordgrass. He pointed out that a little south of the road the cordgrass is growing well because it is not impacted by the plastron.

Kane Tract @ River Barge Park - The habitat is looking fine and the Spartina have a lot of good growth coming up.

Pomander Walk, Teaneck - Property was neat and clean, but grass needed to be mowed. Mr. Smith stated that the planters are still in need of repair. He noted that a resident had advised him that the Town was concerned about this and they planned to do some rehabilitation. Mr. Smith is waiting to see if this takes place.

CEO Sanz stated that she wanted to provide an update to an issue Mr. Smith had raised at the last meeting regarding some erosion on the southern-most bridge of the Kane Tract. CEO Sanz advised the Board that Mr. Derickson responded to the concern. She said that Mr. Derickson stated that he is addressing the issue and has planned to place larger rocks along the eastern shore of the southern bridge and will backfill as necessary with additional soil and smaller rocks to contain the erosion.

Chairman Sheehan thanked Mr. Smith for his report and said that he had a comment on something had come up in Mr. Smith's report. He stated that there was a new mayor in the town of Emerson and it was possible the new mayor was not aware that the Town is supposed to be a partner on the Emerson Woods site. Chairman Sheehan recommended sending a letter or having a face-to-face meeting with the mayor. CEO Sanz responded by saying she would set up a meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 19-02

Consideration of a resolution accepting the Trust's 2018 Annual Audit and Financial Report. Chairman Sheehan advised that a meeting was held that morning with the auditors to review the document. He noted that everything went very well and he thanked the auditors. He then asked for a motion to accept the report. Upon motion by Vice Chairman Remaud, seconded by Trustee Holmes, Resolution 19-02 was accepting with all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT - Upon no further business, Motion to Adjourn was made by Trustee Holmes and seconded by Vice Chairman Remaud, with all in favor.

The meeting concluded at 10:23 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 12, 2019.


Christine A. Sanz
Chief Executive Officer

NAME	Roll Call	Resolution 19-02
Chairman William Sheehan	P	Y
Vice Chairman Greg Remaud	P	Y
NJDCA Delegate Kimberly Holmes	P	Y
NJSEA Delegate Steven Cattuna	P	Y

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