



Parks & Recreation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: David Tubiolo

800 Michaelan Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, October 18, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations, Public Works & Transportation and Public Safety

The County Board will meet pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>

With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 10:16 AM.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Catherine Borgia, Kitley Covill, Anand Singh, Yolanda Valencia, Elizabeth LoBello, Jill Axelrod BOL Remote: Nancy Barr, Margaret Cunzio, Vedat Gashi, Christopher Johnson, Alfreda Williams, Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, MaryJane Shimsky, Jose Alvarado PARKS Remote: Peter Tartaglia and Ken Uhle DPW/T Remote: Robert Abbamont

Present: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Maher

Remote: Committee Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Committee Vice-Chair Walter

MINUTES APPROVAL

October 4, 2021 at 10 AM Minutes

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Walter, seconded by Legislator Maher, the above item was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[ACT-2021-187](#) CBA-RWPR5-Ward Pound Ridge Reservation Fire Tower

AN ACT amending the 2021 County Capital Budget Appropriations for Capital Project RWPR5 - Ward Pound Ridge Fire Tower.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC SAFETY AND PARKS & RECREATION

Joint with B&A, PW&T and PS

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Ken Uhle, Program Coordinator - Capital Planning - Department of Parks & Recreation & Conservation

First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia discussed the background and history of the project. He explained that this fire tower will be a replica of the original fire tower which was built in 1926 and taken down in the '70's. It will be constructed on the original site in the Cross River mountain area, and will offer incredible views of the Long Island Sound across New York City to the Hudson River. It will be used by local visitors, as a tourist attraction/point of interest, and for educational purposes. It was and will be the only fire tower in the state located in Westchester County. It will replace a historical piece of the park, and will not be used as a fire watch.

Robert Abbamont, Director of Operations (Capital Planning Program) for the Department of Public Works and Transportation, shared photos of a similar fire tower located in Bloomingdale, New York. Legislator Cunzio asked if that fire tower is similar to the one in Mount Beacon Park. Mr. Abbamont noted that the new tower is different because it will have programmed events and tours, and will have a security fence around it. Legislator Barr asked about the cost of having staff to monitor it. Mr. Tartaglia said monitoring will be done by existing Parks staff, Friends of Trailside staff or other groups, depending on what the patterns of visitation require. Legislator Covill noted that there should be a video feed, and Mr. Tartaglia said he will make note of that, and they will talk about that during the design phase.

On motion of Committee Chair Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Committee Vice-Chair Walter

Away: Legislator Maher

[ACT-2021-188](#) BOND ACT-RWPR5-Ward Pound Ridge Reservation Fire Tower

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$300,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project RWPR5 - Ward Pound Ridge Reservation Fire Tower.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC SAFETY AND PARKS & RECREATION

Joint with B&A, PW&T and PS

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Ken Uhle, Program Coordinator - Capital Planning - Department of Parks & Recreation

Please refer to item # 1.

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Committee Vice-Chair Walter

Away: Legislator Maher

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Committee Chair Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Tubiolo, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Committee Vice-Chair Walter

Away: Legislator Maher

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