

Garden State Preservation Trust
June 15, 2022 Substantive Meeting Minutes
Teleconference 10:00AM

Chairman Benjamin Spinelli called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Chairman Spinelli read a statement that advance notice of at least 48 hours of the date, time, and toll-free teleconference number with access code and ZOOM Meeting Identification number of the meeting of the Garden State Preservation Trust Board, on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 10am, in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act and as amended by PL 2020 Chapter 11 was given and distributed to the State House Press Row, specifically to Politico, NJ Law Journal, NJTV, NJ Spotlight, Bloomberg News, NJ 17 Press, and NJ 101.5. Notice of today's meeting was filed with the Secretary of State for due notification and to be posted, published and broadcast.

Jo-Ann Povia, Chief of Staff, Department of the Treasury called the roll in place of the Executive Director. Public members in attendance on the call were: Chairman Spinelli, Vice Chairman Greg Romano and Alex Rivera. Ex-Officio members in attendance on the call were Susan Payne (for Agricultural Secretary Douglas H. Fisher), Martha Sapp (for Commissioner Shawn LaTourette) and Ryan Feeney (for Treasurer Elizabeth Muoio). No representative from the Department of Community Affairs was present.

The Executive Director position is vacant and the ninth position on the board is vacant.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Spinelli welcomed members to the teleconference, thanked them for joining, and thanked everyone for putting the meeting together.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 25, 2021 AND OCTOBER 20, 2021, BOARD MEETING

Chairman Spinelli asked the Board to consider the review of the minutes and asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the meeting. There were none.

Moved by Ms. Payne

Seconded by Vice Chair Romano

Approved 4-0

Ms. Sapp had a legal question. Ms. Sapp did attend both May and October 2021 meetings but abstained as Ray Bukowski was the official representative for DEP. Mr. Rivera abstained because he was not a member of the board.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS

Chairman Spinelli welcomed new member Alex Rivera to the board. Chairman Spinelli then swore in Mr. Rivera. Chairman Spinelli advised Mr. Rivera that he will need to come into the Treasurer's Office to sign his Oath of Office. Chairman Spinelli asked Mr. Rivera to give a short bio of his background, which he obliged.

Chairman Spinelli also made mention of another new member Daniel Harris who had a last second conflict and was unable to attend.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2022

First Order of Business by our By-Laws is to elect three officers, which is Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

Gregory Romano nominated Ben Spinelli again as Chairman of the Trust for this year 2022.

Move by Mr. Romano
Seconded by Ms. Payne
Approved 6-0

Nominations for Vice Chair of the Board

Ben Spinelli nominated Gregory Romano as Vice Chair

Moved by Mr. Spinelli
Seconded by Ms. Payne
Approved 6-0

The third position is for Secretary of the Board. Chairman Spinelli indicated that traditionally the trust has had the Executive Director act as Secretary to the Board for very practical reasons. The Executive Director position remains vacant. Chairman Spinelli would like to put off the nomination of the Board Secretary until the next meeting, which hopefully an Executive Director will be in place. Chairman Spinelli indicated that the next meeting would be in October 2022 when they are reviewing the funding request.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #22-001 FOR THE FORMATION OF A SUB-COMMITTEE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH AND HIRE.

Chairman Spinelli said that the new Executive Director should be hired by October 2022. The Board discussed whether the position should be full-time or part-time and to expand the Executive Director's responsibilities? There was further discussion on the source for the members of the sub-committee and who would authorize it. Mr. Rivera volunteered to be a member of the sub-committee. Ms. Payne volunteered Mr. Romano. It was decided that Chairman Spinelli, Mr. Romano, and Mr. Rivera would be the members of the sub-committee. The members of the Trust reviewed the Resolution.

Moved by Ms. Sapp
Seconded by Ms. Payne

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #22-002 FOR THE APPROVAL OF GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ROWAN UNIVERSITY AND APPOINTING OF A SIGNATORY TO SIGN THE GRANT AGREEMENT.

Chairman Spinelli stated that on the May 25, 2021 meeting, resolution #21-001 for the Blueprint Program grant at the Geospatial Research Lab at Rowan University for the fiscal year 2022 was approved. Dr. John Hasse from Rowan University provided an update on the usage of the program and increasing operational program costs. There was a subsequent discussion about the funding period of the grant and the possibility of increasing the amount in the future.

Mr. Romano moved the motion to amend the last sentence in the resolution to reflect Chairman Ben Spinelli and remove his (Romano's) name. The last sentence would then read "Now, therefore, be it resolved the Trust approves the Grant Agreement substantially in the form attached and authorizes Ben Spinelli, Chair, to make nonmaterial changes as needed in the Grant Agreement and to execute the Grant Agreement."

Moved as amended by Ms. Sapp
Seconded by Ms. Payne

**DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #22-003 FOR THE CREATION OF A TELEWORK POLICY
SUBSEQUENT TO HIRING OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Chairman Spinelli asked Ms. Povia if the Trust could use the State of New Jersey's telework policy. Ms. Povia stated that the telework policy and alternate work program were both pilots subject to annual review and were approved by the Civil Service Commission. There was a discussion about the Executive Director's eligibility for telework.

Ms. Sapp motioned a move to amend the last sentence in resolution #22-003 to read "Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Trust hereby adopts the Civil Service Commission approved Telework Program policies and guidelines as implemented by Treasury for the hiring of the Trust's Executive Director."

Moved as amended by Ms. Sapp
Seconded by Ms. Payne

Phil Murphy
Governor

TRUSTEES

Benjamin Spinelli, Chair
Gregory Romano, Vice Chair

Elizabeth Maher Muoio, State Treasurer
Department of the Treasury
Shawn LaTourette, Acting Commissioner
Dept of Environmental Protection
Douglas H. Fisher, Secretary
Dept of Agriculture
Lt. Gov. Sheila Y. Oliver, Commissioner
Dept of Community Affairs

Garden State Preservation Trust



Saving New Jersey's Open Spaces, Historic Places and Farmland

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June 15, 2022

CERTIFICATION OF CHAIRMAN OF GARDEN STATE PRESERVATION TRUST

I, Benjamin Spinelli, Chair, certify that the attached copy of the minutes of the Garden State Preservation Trust is a true and correct copy of the substantial minutes of the June 15, 2022, meeting of the Trust.

Sincerely,

Ben Spinelli

Benjamin Spinelli
Chair