

Stony Brook University
University Senate
Campus Environment Committee
November 13, 2006
V.P. Administration Conference Room,
221 Administration Bldg.
3:00 – 4:15 pm

Attending: Gil Hanson, Chair; Ramona Walls, Recording Secretary ; Ketty Dautruche, Bill Dethlefs, Catherine Horgan, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Matthew Maiorella, Kristen Nyitray, John Robinson, Fred Walter, Mary Woodward.

Excused: Bob Aller, Malcolm Bowman, Wendy Fidaio, Mary Hotaling, John Murray, Dorothy Shannon Schiff, Paul Siegel, Catherine Vetter, Kathleen Weber, and Muriel Weyl.

Staff: Barbara Chernow, John Fogarty, Amy Provanzano, Terry Hulse.

Guests: Tasha Angelet (Environmental Club)

Minutes

I. Introductions – Gil Hanson

Introductions were made of all attendees. Guests Tasha Angelet (Environmental Club) and Terry Hulse (Environmental Health and Safety) were welcomed.

II. Review of the Minutes – Gil Hanson

The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Chernow requested that in the future revisions to the minutes be highlighted when sent out for review.

III. Status Report

a. Environmental Master Plan – B. Chernow

Two projects are underway, paralleling active campus construction and related activities – Research and Development Park and Southampton Campus. Negotiations are going well.

b. Old Roadway Historical Marker – J. Fogarty

The cost of the marker is about \$1000, including pole, plus up to \$1000 for installation. Final text for the marker is still needed. Vanderbilt Museum Direct, Lance Mallamo has verified the accuracy of the route, which he says was the original route of North Country Road. What is now a trail was once an old roadbed, the original route between Setauket and Smithtown (Attachment A, copy of letter from L. Mallamo). Mount Road is actually an easement on private property, and the pebbled lane the historical road from Stony Brook property to

Mount Road is on private property. This means that the sign might actually be about 200 feet from the paved road.

- c. Brookhaven Town Kettle Hole Park – G. Hanson
Water is running into the kettle hole from hospital loop road. There is a culvert from the road that drains into the kettle hole. B. Chernow said that the engineering firm H2M was asked to resize the recharge basin to deal with extra runoff. Chris Brennan is managing the project.
- d. Review committee charge from the University Senate – M. Bowman
 - M. Bowman was absent, so G. Hanson led the discussion. Presented new wording that was submitted by M. Bowman.
 - B. Chernow requested that the wording be changed so that the committee would continue to report only to the Assistant VP for Facilities and Services, as in the existing wording. This would eliminate confusion over reporting and be more efficient.
 - B. Dethlefs pointed out that all University Senate standing committees act in an advisory capacity to a single designated administrator.
 - A motion to accept the new wording for the Campus Environment Committee charge, with changes, was approved by unanimous consent. (See attachment B). The new charge will be brought before the Senate for approval.

IV. New Business

- a. Effluent from County Sewage Treatment Plant on campus – B. Chernow.
 - J. Fogarty: The county treatment plant on campus has a capacity of about 2.5 million gallons per day, about 2 million from Stony Brook University and 0.5 million from the surrounding community. The Department of Environmental Conservation has mandated a reduction in the discharge of nitrogen from this plant into Long Island Sound. Suffolk County Department of Public Works (SCDPW, who owns the plant), proposed a recharge basins on campus, to percolate the water into the ground. Size of ponds is not known. The campus is considering re-use of wastewater, but there is resistance to using it on athletic fields because of the close human contact with the ground. The infrastructure to deliver wastewater for irrigation of ornamental plantings may be prohibitive, irrigation could not be used in the winter, and irrigation needs may not be sufficient for the volume of water generated.
 - G. Hanson asked if it was possible to reduce the amount of nitrogen (N) in the water, instead of reducing the volume. The N is already very low, and it may not be feasible to reduce it more.
 - There was general concern that recharge basins would not eliminate the problem of excess N going into L.I. Sound, because the wastewater would simply go into the ground water, which eventually flows into L.I. Sound.
 - R. Walls suggested the use of constructed wetlands and presented some information from the EPA website. A properly constructed wetland could not only eliminate excess nitrogen from the wastewater, but could also provide

environmental benefits to the University. It would provide wildlife habitat and be much more aesthetically pleasing than a recharge basin, which is basically a bare, flat field, with little vegetation.

- B. Chernow pointed out that the University does not have jurisdiction over the construction of wastewater treatment facilities on campus, but that she would mention the idea of constructed wetlands to the SCDPW.
- b. Prometheus Report
G. Hason distributed copies of the Project Prometheus report, which were supplied by P. Siegel. This report was discussed during last month's meeting. Only hard copies are available, so it is not attached to these minutes.

V. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Smoking Policy Sub-committee – B. Dethlefs
 - i. B. Dethlefs now has a complete list of members. Committee will meet three times.
 - ii. University Senate (U.S.) executive committee has specified committee's charges as:
 - 1. amend proposal to address smoking cessation
 - 2. consider promotional campaign to make public aware of new policy
 - 3. draft new smoking policy
 - iii. U.S. will withhold vote on policy until after committee gives its report
 - iv. B. Dethlefs also indicated that in cities with smoking ban, there has been a 30-40% decrease in hospital admission for heart attacks. Several studies have indicated that second hand smoke may trigger heart attacks.
 - v. The Great American Smoke Out will take place this week – 30th anniversary. There will be information tables in the SAC on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- b. Friends of Ashley Schiff Park Preserve – M. Woodward
 - i. Have a new application for a grant in with the Ghetty Foundation
- c. Little Acre Woods – All
 - i. Report that was prepared by P. Siegel and was presented to committee (Attachment C).
 - ii. The committee met and came up with a list of plants.
 - iii. A. Provenzano secured funding to buy plants. Environmental Club may help with planting.

VI. Other

- a. Campus sustainability task force – T. Hulse, Manager of Environmental Protection
 - i. Would like to see campus task force on environmental sustainability, similar to what other universities are doing. The task force would compile information on what is already being done on campus – not just focus on waste reduction. Prepared handout on potential goals of task force, as well as list of websites with useful information (Attachment D).

- ii. B. Chernow: A. Provenzano is already working on many of these issues. Has a group of people who are working on a task force, but need to appoint someone for outreach. CEC could help spread the word. Looking into buying recycled furniture products.
- iii. A. Provenzano: Has a report in draft form of the SUNY Task Force on Energy.
- b. Environmental Club – T. Angelet
 - i. Club will meet with university president and other to present their ideas on sustainability.
 - ii. They want to apply for EPA grant for sustainability. Grant is for \$75,000 to \$1.25 million. Anyone in the university could apply.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2006, at 1:00 PM, in the Administration conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35.

Attachment A

October 22, 2006

Mr. John Fogarty
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, New York 11794

Thank you for your patience while I completed my analysis of the historic roadway on the campus of Stony Brook University. My research is now complete and I am confident that the segment of unpaved trail in the northwest corner of the campus of a is a very rare surviving section of the original "North Country Road," officially laid out as one of three east-west roadways, the others being Middle and South Country Roads, on Long Island by the colonial legislature in the mid 18th century. However, these colonial transportation routes were largely based on earlier Native American trails or roadways already in popular use.

My research indicates that the original North Country Road traversed eastward through Head of the Harbor in the Town of Smithtown, crossing the Brookhaven Town line to the vicinity of what is now Stony Brook Road. Instead of turning to the north as is the current configuration, the earlier roadbed continued eastward just north of the Hawkins-Mount House (the current driveway to that house appears to be the original roadbed) rejoining the original alignment at a point near where Whitford Road currently intersects with Route 25A. This configuration was apparently rerouted with construction of the Long Island Rail Road bridge over Stony Brook Road in 1873, which resulted in massive embankments across the earlier route of North Country Road, particularly that area just north of what is now the Stony Brook Road elevated crossing. It is interesting to note that in 1873 the decision was made to reroute North Country Road to the north and then making a sharp turn east, rather than extending the Stony Brook Road bridge to cross the earlier roadbed. Once this route change was made, the earlier roadbed between the two east railroad track crossings was renamed "Mount Road." This may have been done due to topographical issues associated with the limits of engineering and construction associated with the large LIRR bridge near the Hawkins-Mount House, which was a quite an innovative cast iron bridge design when it was built.

Following is information on various historic maps that I have reviewed for your request, as well as my findings:

1. 1796- Hulse "Map of Suffolk County"- The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road. An east-west trail or road is also indicated to the north along what is today the current route of Route 25A.
2. 1829- David Burr "Map of the County of Suffolk"- The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road.
3. 1836- J. Calvin Smith "Map of Long Island"- The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road.

4. 1837- F.R. Hassler, Supt. "United States Coastal Survey"- The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road. An east-west trail or road is also indicated to the north along what is today the current route of Route 25A.
5. 1842- William Mather "Geological Map of Long Island" The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road.
6. 1852- J.H. Colton "Travellers Map of Long Island"- The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road.
7. 1858- Chase- "Map of Suffolk County, Town of Brookhaven" The original North Country Road is indicated as an unpaved straight roadway through what became Mount Road, "W. Mount" identifies house on southeast corner.
8. 1858- Chase- "Map of Suffolk County, Stony Brook" (p. 565)- No roadway is indicated between buildings identified as "Stony Brook Hotel" and house of "W. Hadaway," route where the current North Country Road turns at the LI museum complex, indicating that this segment (though identified as early as 1796) was of secondary importance.
9. 1873- Beers, Comstock and Cline- "Map of Suffolk County" (Plate 4)- Primary route of North Country Road appears re-routed to north, turning east on "Rail Road Street" indicating rerouting associated with rail road construction occurring that year. Earlier roadway/Stony Brook Road intersection labeled as "Tony Avenue."
10. 1896- E. Belcher Hyde "Map of Suffolk County"- Earlier North Country/Mount Road segment not shown, although current route of North Country/Route 25A is.
11. 1909- E. Belcher Hyde "Map of Suffolk County- North Shore"- Earlier segment of North Country Road alignment is indicated as Mount Road, current route of North Country/Route 25A is also indicated.
12. 1929- Dolph & Stewart "Map of Long Island"- Current alignment of North Country Road is indicated in bold type. Mount Road identified as unpaved trail.
13. 1940's- unidentified map, SBU Map Library, Drawer 2, Folder 19- " Current alignment of North Country Road is indicated, Mount Road identified as unpaved trail. Area at end of Cedar Drive and Mount Rd. (university apartments) labeled as "Camp Wun Wan."
14. 1944- Hagstrom, "Atlas of Suffolk County" (Plate 4), Mount Road indicated, North Country Road east turn at museum complex indicated as "State Highway 25A."
15. 1952- Hagstrom, "Atlas of Suffolk County" (Plate 6, p. 27) - Mount Road indicated as unpaved roadway.

16. 1958- Hagstrom, "Atlas of Suffolk County" (Plate 12, p. 8) - Mount Road indicated as unpaved roadway.

From 1958 to the current time, various maps and atlases often show what is left of the early North Country/Mount Road, although only as a link between Dogwood and Cedar Drives. However, I not aware of any other unpaved sections of the original North Country Road (established about 1754) on the North Shore of Long Island. It is my opinion that this segment of roadway on the campus is eligible for the New York State and National Register of Historic Places. I urge that steps should be taken to preserve and identify what remains of this very early cultural resource relating to historic transportation routes and community development.

Thank you for the opportunity of providing these comments to you.

Very truly yours,

J. Lance Mallamo
Suffolk County Historian

cc: Assemblyman Steven Englebright
Professor Malcolm Bowman

Attachment B

Modified charge for the Campus Environment Committee, as accepted by the committee by unanimous consent:

To promote conservation of natural areas, ecological preserves and historical artifacts, examine transportation and parking issues, infrastructure and human health issues, energy efficiency, recycling and waste management on all campuses. It will consult with and advise the Vice-president for Facilities and Services.

Attachment C

Report by the Little Acre Woods Sub-committee

(need electronic copy of this to attach)

Attachment D

Letter to the University Senate Environmental Committee November 13, 2006 Environmental Sustainability

Background: Environmental sustainability is the ability to achieve continuing economic prosperity while protecting the natural systems of the planet and providing a high quality of life for its people and people to come.

Proposal: I suggest that the University Senate Environment Committee establish an Environmental Sustainability Task Force.

Participation - The Task force should encourage all existing campus committees, students, faculty and staff to commit to using “best practices”.

Continuous Improvement – The Task Force should use the principles of continuous improvement of Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) to establish priorities and to build on existing initiatives. The Task Force should encourage stakeholders to use the principles of continuous improvement to look for opportunities to improve campus sustainability.

Scorecard – The Task force should establish an Environmental Sustainability Scorecard to evaluate the University’s success and provide a framework for reporting its progress.

Communication – Establish a University web site to inform the community of the University’s efforts in achieving environmental sustainability.

Energy - Achieving sustainability will require that energy be produced by cleaner and more efficient technologies, be used more efficiently and with greater conservation and be developed from renewable sources. Fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas and oil provide most of the energy used by industry and consumers in the United States. These non-renewable sources of energy are directly responsible for large proportions of the emissions of CO₂, NO_x, SO₂ and CH₄ (methane) emissions. **Note:** Many Universities have committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10% in two years.

LEED - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design - is a self-assessing system designed for rating new and existing commercial, institutional, and residential buildings. It evaluates environmental performance from a “whole building” perspective over a building’s life cycle, providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a green building. How and where a building is constructed or where an area is developed can directly affect air quality and can impact unspoiled areas and disturb animal habitats by replacing natural cover with impervious concrete or asphalt. **Note:** Stony Brook University has a LEED certified Architect (Ana Topolovec)

Waste Reduction - Waste prevention, also known as source reduction, means using less material to get a job done. Waste prevention methods help create less waste in the first place. If we look at our recycling collection data, we are likely to see ways to reduce waste through waste prevention, thereby decreasing purchasing costs and the amount of material that must be managed for recycling. Purchasing “green” also helps support environmental sustainability. **Note:** Stony Brook University is complying with Executive Order #142

Water - Sustainable watershed management through pollution prevention and other strategies, enforces federal clean water laws, safe drinking water laws and water effluent regulations. Water conservation can reduce operating costs, sewage costs and the use of our drinking water supply. **Note:** Stony Brook University’s growth may require expansion of Suffolk County’s Sewage Treatment plant.

Stony Brook University is doing many things to improve its environmental sustainability. There are faculty, students and staff contributing to the University's mission and many committees that already consider environmental issues when making decisions. The University Senate Environmental Committee is in the position to promote environmental sustainability and keep the University operating for future generations.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Terry D. Hulse

Manager of Environmental Protection

140 Suffolk Hall

632-6487

Babylon Town eyes 'Green' construction

BY BRANDON BAIN

Newsday Staff Writer

November 9, 2006, 11:38 PM EST

New industrial, commercial and multi-family residential dwellings in the Town of Babylon will have to be built under more environmentally stringent standards if proposed changes to the town code are adopted next month, Babylon officials said Thursday. The 180-store Tanger Outlet Mall in Deer Park, covering 800,000 square feet, would be one of the first commercial structures affected.

Bellone said the change to the code, which requires business and multi-residential structures larger than 4,000 square feet to "build green," marks the third phase of the town's initiative. New businesses that meet the standards will be fast-tracked through the permit process, he said.

Tanger and other industrial and commercial structures are expected to use solar energy panels, recyclable water systems, alternative wood materials such as bamboo and organic paints -- materials officials say will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lower energy costs.

Cities with similar codes include Arlington, Va., Austin, Texas, and Seattle according to Peter Caradonna, president of the Long Island chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Links to helpful sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/> The EPA has the responsibility to sustain and enhance our natural environment and our nation's economy for future generations.

<http://www.ulsf.org/> The Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (ULSF) is a leading international non-profit organization working to strengthen the capacity of colleges and universities to make sustainability and environmental literacy a major focus of teaching, research, service, and operations.

<http://www.usgbc.org/> The US Green Building Council - A leading non-profit organization in the dedicated to sustainable building design and construction. Developers of the LEED building rating system.

<http://www.aashe.org/> Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), a membership-based association of colleges and universities working to advance sustainability in higher education.

<http://www.njheps.org/> The New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability (NJHEPS) is a consortium of 40+ higher education institutions in New Jersey.

<http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/> The University of New Hampshire Sustainability Office.

<http://www.secondnature.org/> Second Nature (SN) has worked with over 4,000 faculty and administrators at more than 500 colleges and universities to help make the principles of sustainability the foundation of all learning.

VIII. <http://www.sustainablecampus.cornell.edu/> Cornell University Sustainable Campus - Promoting a sustainable future and advancing Cornell's mission

<http://www.sustainable.ufl.edu/> The University of Florida's Office of Sustainability

<http://sustainability.unc.edu/> Sustainability at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://www.duke.edu/web/ESC/> Environmental Sustainability at Duke University

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

2006/2007

Charge: It shall examine all aspects of the campus environment, including but not limited to safety, security, facilities planning, state of facilities, and general appearance of the campus. It will consult with and advise the Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Services.

Chair: Gilbert N. Hanson, Vice Chair: Mary Woodward, Recording Secretary: Ramona Walls

Humanities and Fine Arts:

Vacant			
Vacant			

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

John Robinson	Psychology-2-7832	Robinson@psych1.psy.sunysb.edu	9/08
Vacant			

Natural Sciences:

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Frederick Walter	Physics, 2-8232	fwalter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Library:

Kristen Nyitray	Library, 2-7119	KNyitray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
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College of Engineering:

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Paul Siegel	Tech. & Society, 2-8716	psiegel@sunysb.edu	9/08

Health Sciences Center:

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Catherine Vetter	SHTM, 4-6158	CVetter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Professionals:

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Mary Woodward	Procurement, 2-9849	MWoodward@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07

Graduate Student:

Ramona Walls		rwalls@life.bio.sunysb.edu	9/07
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Undergraduate Students:

Ketty Dautruche		ketty87@aol.com	9/07
Matthew Maiorella		mmaiorel@ic.sunysb.edu	9/07

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2006/2007

At-Large Members:

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Catherine Horgan, SHTM, chorgan@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 4-2251

Malcolm Bowman, Marine Sciences, mbowman@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8669

Muriel Weyl, (retired faculty), murielweyl@yahoo.com

Bob Aller, MSRC, raller@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8746

Ex officio members: Gary Kaczmarczyk, Director of Environmental Health & Safety

Administrative Contact:

Barbara Chernow, AVP Facilities and Services

Facilities and Services Supporting Staff: John Fogarty and Terence Harrigan