

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

MINUTES: March 16, 2009

MEMBERS (E&E): Chair: Abinanti; Legislators: Harckham, Kaplowitz, Maisano, Myers, Nonna, Oros, Rogowsky

IN ATTENDANCE: STAFF: C. Crane, R. Pezzullo; GUESTS: Comm'r. J. Stout, J. Main, J. Baker (Parks Dep't.); W. Harding (NYSDOS); Hon. E. Manley (Dobbs Ferry); Hon. J. Powers, Hon. R. Lyman (Pound Ridge); W. Greenawalt (Deer Task Force); R. Christie (Mianus River Gorge Preserve); L. Simon (HSUS) [list of other attendees is on file]

Meeting called to order at 3:45 pm.

Item(s) Discussed: **Update by Westchester Citizens' Deer Task Force**

Chair Abinanti commenced discussion on the activities of the Westchester Citizen's Deer Task Force that was convened by County Executive Spano. Mr. Greenawalt, chair of the Task Force, summarized the Task Force findings and recommendations. Mr. Christie described the deer population and impacts in the Mianus River Gorge Preserve. Mr. Main explained the impacts upon forest regeneration by deer, including the Task Force study at Ward Pound Ridge park.

Deputy Mayor Powers described the deer hunting program presently implemented in the Town of Pound Ridge. Commissioner Stout stated that unauthorized hunting does occur in County parks. Ms. Simon presented a minority report and disagreed with Task Force recommendation to allow recreational bow-hunting in County parks. Several interested members from communities also provided comment to the Committee.

Upon the motion of Leg. Myers, seconded by Leg. Nonna, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting (all in favor). The meeting ended at approximately 5:35 pm. [audio recording of the meeting is on file]