



State of New Jersey

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Highlands Council statement on the passing of former Council Member Jack Schrier

CHESTER, N.J. — The Highlands Council today expressed deepest condolences to the family and friends of former Highlands Council Member Jack Schrier, who passed last Thursday. Mr. Schrier was one of the original 15 Highlands Council members appointed by then Governor Jim McGreevey in 2004.

Jack served as Vice Chairman of the Council from 2004 through 2009, and Acting Chairman from 2009 through May 2011. During his tenure on the Council, Jack was instrumental in the preparation, drafting and adoption of the Highlands Regional Master Plan, serving on numerous committees.

Prior to his appointment to the Council, Jack served on the Highlands Task Force, the body charged with making recommendations related to natural resource protection and quality of life enhancements in the New Jersey Highlands. The work of the Task Force served as the foundation to the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act.

“Jack’s strong commitment to preservation was clearly reflected in his time on the Council,” says current Highlands Council Chairman Jim Rilee. “We are certainly grateful for his contributions.”

Current Vice Chairman, Kurt Alstede and Council Member Tracy Carluccio were among the first 15 Council Members who served with Jack. “I had the pleasure of serving with Jack since the inception of the Highlands Council,” Alstede recalled. “He was passionate, energetic, and dedicated towards the protection of natural resources in the region. His service to the people of Morris County will certainly be missed.”

Although their tenure with the Highlands Council did not overlap, Executive Director Margaret Nordstrom reflected on working with Jack over the years. “Having served with Jack for many years as a Morris County Freeholder, I can speak directly to his integrity and dedication to the region,” said Nordstrom. “He will be remembered for many good things, but especially for his commitment to open space and historic preservation.”

Jack is remembered fondly by long-time Council staff members who recall his commitment to the mission of the Highlands Council, along with his professionalism, outspokenness and sense of humor. He will be missed.

The Highlands Council is a regional planning entity, established in 2004 with the passing of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act and charged with implementation of the Act. More information is available at www.nj.gov/njhighlands.

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