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Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

To: Land Owner Equity and Land Preservation Committee
From: Margaret Nordstrom, Executive Director
Subject: Committee Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2016
Date: March 8, 2016

A Land Owner Equity and Land Preservation Committee meeting was held on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at the Highlands Council office in Chester. Committee Members present: Committee Chair Walton, Chairman Rilee (via phone), Committee Members Dressler, Francis, and Visioli.

Staff Members present: Margaret Nordstrom, John Maher, Chris Danis, Jim Hutzelmann, James Humphries, and Annette Tagliareni

Also present: Lisa LeBoeuf, Assistant Counsel, Governor's Authorities Unit, and Matt Kelly, DAG.

Committee Chair Walton opened the meeting at 2:40pm.

Update on Highlands Water Usage

Committee members discussed, in conceptual terms, several aspects of how any future water user fee might work in practice, including how funds generated from such fee might be disbursed to landowners in the Highlands Region who lost development rights; and how amounts paid to an affected landowners might follow the formula used by the Highlands TDR program to value TDR credits.

Member Dressler was present at 2:45pm.

Staff provided the committee members with information regarding Highlands water usage in the Highlands region and rough estimates of what the potential impacts might be on a single family household's yearly water bill to generate funds to address the landowner equity issue.

At the Committee's request, staff will provide some samples of properties in the Highlands region for the members to review and to see how different properties in the region are valued under the TDR program.

Report Out to Council

The Council will consider a resolution to authorize the publication of the open space program in the NJ Register.

Next HDC Bank Meeting

Highlands staff will schedule a special HDC Bank meeting the end of March to begin the open space program.

The Committee adjourned at 3:37pm.