

PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED AT HIGHLANDS
COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 16, 2017

①

My name is Hank Klumpp. I own 150 acres in the Highlands Preservation Area.

I have been standing before the Highlands Council for over 12 years now.

Something has been brought to my attention that I find really disturbing if I am understanding it correctly.

I found out that Tracy Carluccio is an employee of the Delaware River Keepers Network.

The Delaware River Keepers Network received Grant Money from five foundations between 2009 and 2015 to the tune of over five million dollars. The Delaware River

(2)

Keepers are advocates and lobbyists similar to the Highlands Coalition.

Tracy Carluccio should excuse herself from voting on any land use matters.

The seat she has on the Highlands Council is intended as a general public seat and not intended for a lobbyist.

Even Chairman Rilee excused himself from voting on the Fenamore Landfill matter because of a conflict of interest. Tracy Carluccio should do the same because she should not be voting on any land use

3

matters due to a conflict of interest.

I am totally confused as to why this conflict has not raised the eyebrows of anyone on this council if they are aware of this. I do not understand how this can be justified and not addressed in some way.

I have been looking for an answer to the question of what is the monetary value of one acre of land in the Highlands Preservation area. This land has no equity - what is the land worth? I am curious because I own 150+ ~~acres~~ of these worthless acres. I meet all requirements for farmland assessment. My property was forceably put into preservation with no money changing hands. When I am too old to farm should my property ^{taxes} be based on Tewksbury real estate tax value? No equity - unrealistic restrictions. What will my taxes be? The Lebanon and

5

Tewksbury tax offices both have no answers for me. They told me nothing has been clearly spelled out for my forced preserved property. Maybe the new Regional Master Plan should have a page answering these questions under a chapter called Highlands Act Disasters.

Thank you!

Hank Klumpp

24 Longview Road
Lebanon, NJ 08833