

**Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: November 30, 2021 – 5:17 PM
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom / Dial in by phone: (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 836 5881 2237
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair James Delaune
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Thomas Corcoran, Peter Criswell, John Parete, Mary Wawro
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Dr. Roberts President SUNY Ulster, Jamie Capuano VP Administrative Services SUNY Ulster, Marc Rider Deputy County Executive, Johanna Contreras Deputy County Executive, Susan Koppenhaver Director Office for the Aging, Nina Dawson Director Youth Bureau, Mark Cozzupoli Director Veteran Services Agency, Mid-Hudson News, Jared Buono Exec. Director Cornell Cooperative Extension, Margie Menard President UC Library Assoc., Kara Lustiber & Stuart Auchincloss Library Assoc.

Chairman Delaune called the meeting to order at 5:17 PM.

Motion No 1: Motion to Approve Minutes of the November 8, 2021 Meeting
Motion By: Legislator Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Parete

Discussion: None
Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Parete, Wawro (Criswell had trouble with his connection – wasn't present at time of vote)
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes Approved

SUNY Ulster Update: President Dr. Alan Roberts provided their monthly update. Refer to transcript.

Resolutions for December 21, 2021 Session:

Resolution No. 571 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Grant Application With Required Assurances For The Medicare Improvements For Patients And Providers Act (MIPPA) With The New York State Office For The Aging – Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the UC Legislature to execute a grant application for Medicare Improvements For Patients And Providers Act (MIPPA) with the NYS Office for the Aging. Additional Revenue \$21K, Term 9/1/2021 – 8/31/2022.

Motion No. 2: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 571
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 601 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$60,349.00 Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries, Inc. D/B/A Gateway Hudson Valley – Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment #1 for \$60.3K with Gateway Community Industries, Inc. D/B/A Gateway Hudson Valley to extend the term of agreement and increase funding for case management services for the home delivered meals program. State 75%, County 25%. Amd. Term 1/1/22 – 12/31/22.

Motion No. 3: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 601
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 602 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$54,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Halwick Law, LLC – Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment #2 with Halwick Law, LLC for \$54K for legal consultation and outreach services. Federal 93%, County 7%. Amd. Term 1/1/22 – 12/31/22.

Motion No. 4: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 602
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 603 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$130,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Connect America.com, LLC – Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract for \$130K with Connect America.com, LLC for the rental, installation, maintenance, and monitoring of personal emergency response system units. State 75%, County 25%. Term 4/1/22 – 3/31/24.

Motion No. 5: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 603
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Delaune

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 555 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With Cornell Cooperative Extension Association Of Ulster County For 2022 Appropriations- Legislature

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the UC Legislature to execute an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of UC for the 2022 appropriations. \$350K County 100%

Motion No. 6: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 555
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 556 – 2022 Appropriation For The Ulster County Libraries Program

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the 2022 Appropriation for the UC Libraries Program. \$88.1K County 100%.

Motion No. 7: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 556
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 563 – Confirming Appointment Of Member To The Ulster County Community College Board Of Trustees

Resolution Summary: This resolution confirms the appointment of Rev. Dr. Gregory Simpson to the UC Community College Board of Trustees. Present thru 6/30/2027.

Motion No. 8: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 563
Motion By: Legislator Parete
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 569 – Approving An Increase In Funding For Capital Project No. 541 SUNY Ulster – Facilities Equipment - Amending The 2021 Ulster County Capital Fund Budget – Ulster County Community College

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves an increase of funding for Capital Project No. 541 with UCCC for Facilities Equipment and amending the 2021 UC Capital Fund Budget. \$100K 50% reimbursable from the NYS dormitory Authority. A Bond Resolution will be required.

Motion No. 9: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 569
Motion By: Legislator Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 572 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Resource Allocation Plan And Inter-Municipal Agreements With The Various Municipalities To Be Funded Under The Resource Allocation Plan – Youth Bureau

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the UC Legislature to execute a resource allocation plan and inter-municipal agreements with the various municipalities and funded under the Resource Allocation Plan. \$260.3K revenue

Motion No. 10: Motion to Discuss & Adopt Resolution No. 572
Motion By: Legislator Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

New/Old Business: See transcript

Chairman Delaune asked if there was any old business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion By: Legislator Parete

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: None

TIME: 6:02 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved: February 1, 2022 (by Economic Development,
Planning, Education, Employment, Arts and Agriculture Committee)

Ulster County Legislature
**Legislative Programs, Education and
Community Services Committee**

Meeting Transcript
November 30, 2021

Chairman Delaune

Alright, I'll call the meeting to order. Nettie do you want to do attendance?

Nettie Tomshaw

Sure. Okay, here comes Legislator Wawro. All right. Chairman Delaune.

Chairman Delaune

Here.

Nettie Tomshaw

Deputy Chair Corcoran.

Legislator Corcoran

Here.

Nettie Tomshaw

Legislator Criswell. Peter's having problems, I think.

Legislator Corcoran

Yeah, he's having audio issues.

Nettie Tomshaw

Yeah. He keeps coming in and out. I see them. But okay, and Legislator Wawro.

Legislator Wawro

Here.

Nettie Tomshaw

Okay. Alright.

Chairman Delaune

Alright. Can I get a motion to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting?

Legislator Wawro

I'll move it.

Chairman Delaune

Right. Second.

Legislator Parete

Yeah I'll second it.

Chairman Delaune

All right. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Great well Dr. Roberts. It's all about you ended the year last meeting of the year.

Dr. Roberts

Well, it is the end of the year. We're wrapping up the semester. This will be the last week exam start next Monday, which is hard to believe that, you know, we've gone through the semester this this quickly. But yeah, we're at the end of enrollment landed about what we expected it about seven - 8% down. Registering now for spring, and have a lot of hopes. Well, we'll see what happens. We never really know until mid-December on how it's going to shake out. Winter net right now is actually up slightly, not much. But it's more than last year so we're feeling pretty good about that. We've gone to mandatory - following Pat's requirement of everyone wearing masks all the time on campus. So Jamie sent out a note today on that. So that's one thing new, that's, you know, a little setback, but we're gonna get through this, we're gonna be fine. Good news on fund balance. We finished up with another million dollars in our fund balance. So right now we're at 5.1 million, which is unbelievable. Jamie's you know, they- incredible, you know, seven years ago, we were at 200,000. So we're at a good place. And you know, I'm certainly happy about that. And you know, you feel good Oh, you can take some hits for the next two or three years and still be fine. But we're looking at keeping our eye on the ball next fall is going to be where I really want to see things turn around. For this spring, we pretty much know what's going to happen. But the fall is where we put all our efforts. And you can see a lot of marketing a lot of different things we're doing to try to get students back on campus. We're planning right now for the actual fall for how many classes we'll have, it'll be pretty close to what we used to. But surprisingly, the number of students still wanting online is remarkable. But then again, on the other hand, online isn't like it used to be, it's actually gotten quite good. We have a new learning management system, we've upgraded all our classrooms with the CARES money. It's a different world. And students are liking that flexibility, a lot of adults really are flocking to that. And like I had said before, the number of students enroll has not decreased as much as the FTE. They're just taking less classes. So our hope is to get them back on a full time basis, which will be a game changer for us. So

again, no hopes, you know, good solid spring, but the fall is where we got to keep our eye on the ball. And knowing fund balance, we're doing well. So without him, we turn over to Jamie, she's got a few updates. And I know there's one resolution that she's gonna talk about.

Jamie Capuano

Alright, thanks. So as Dr. Oz said, we are we did end the year with a great fund balance the deposit into the fund balance. Again, a lot of that was the recouping of the state aid, we anticipate that state aid reduction. Also the federal funding coming in the federal stimulus funding. So we're in good shape going into spring, you know, we're closely tracking all of the enrollment numbers. SUNY wide is also closely tracking everybody's enrollment at this point, to really see where they'll land. We do have we went through a town hall style approach on our federal funding. So as Dr. Al said, we are upgrading classrooms, making sure there's updated as can be getting into strength semester so we can have the flexibility. If classes need to pivot to a hybrid model. We can do that and not have a disruption on the students, you know, educational platform so very hopeful going forward that way. And as Dr. Al said, when he gets resolutions, I'll give you a quick update on the resolution we have before you tonight.

Dr. Roberts

One of those Thanks, Jim, as you know, I've mentioned on quite a bit about the President's Challenge. And the number of students we've brought into the program. We actually had over 200 in the program now, when we had them all on campus last week, it was sensational. It was unbelievable to have that much life back into the college. We had showcases, they visited classrooms, they got their college ID truly remarkable. The best week I've had in two years is last week, I mean, that many fresh, really eager students who become college students in roughly ninth grade. But anyway, that was our high point for this semester. Anyway.

Chairman Delaune

That's just terrific. And, you know, this is the last as I said, the last meeting for me for Legislative Programs for the year. It's been a real pleasure dealing with you, Dr. Roberts, and Jamie, in fact, all of the sub-recipients. So with that, I'm going to move to resolutions because unless anyone has any questions for Jamie or Dr. Roberts. Okay, there's a look that way being none. Susan Koppenhaver is on the road. And she's pulled off somewhere to discuss the resolutions, so I'm going to change the order of things here and move to those Department of Aging resolutions. Susan, are you still there?

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I am still here. Can you hear me? Yes. Great. Thanks for doing that. Appreciate it.

Chairman Delaune

Good. So resolution No. 571, Authorizing the chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a grant application with required assurances for the Medicare improvement for patients and providers with the New York State Office of the Aging, Office of the Aging.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that for discussion. Great.

Legislator Wawro

Second.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you, Susan.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

Yes, so that's the MIPPA (Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers Act program. We apply for a grant for that every two years. And that is our wonderfully skilled person named Eleanor Minsky who goes out and very aggressively tries to recruit seniors who have low, pretty low incomes, obviously, eligible for Medicare, but not for Medicaid, who can qualify for the Medicare savings program and they she fills out an application, she gets them qualified. And then they save upwards of about \$145 a month on their Medicare. Well, that that's a significant savings in every single person's pocketbook. And whenever we do Medicare demonstrations, or we talk about it, we try to explain it as simply as we can to get people interested in signing up from MIPPA. And now, y'all know what that stands for. For a while, I didn't know what that stood for. And I filled it all out. And she has been really instrumental in saving. I'm going to say like hundreds of 1000s of dollars for people. So these are definitely for people on Medicare who have low incomes but do not qualify for Medicaid. And it's not a very complicated process. And she has spent the last year doing a lot of doom presentations to groups. She actually did one to a group of Japanese people and had everything translated into Japanese and had slides translated into Japanese to Japanese culture group in Kingston someplace, and tries to reach out as often as you can. Does anybody have any questions about that program?

Chairman Delaune

Alright all in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I sorry. Can you all hear me?

Committee Members

Yeah, we can here you.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I think I passed through a bad spot there on the thruway. Okay.

Chairman Delaune

Resolution passed and we'll move on to 601. Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$60,349 entered into by the county Gateway Community Industries , Inc. D/B/A Gateway Hudson Valley, Office of the Aging.

Chairman Delaune

Can I get a motion.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that for discussion.

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

Sorry about that, um, that was the original second year amount that was part of that contract for the what we call the meals manager through gateway to contracted full time position that isn't currently doesn't have anybody in it right now that the guy who came he was wonderful, he had to leave for family issues, and Gateway is trying to recruit somebody else. But that is a physician that lives in our office basically, and manages those folks on our waitlist or our future waitlist, who just need meals and don't need an any of the other types of case management or the (inaudible) units or the personal care that we have. So it's sort of a condensed version of meals, case management, of course, they asked a lot of the same questions and refer to case management if we think there's, you know, some issues there. But right now the position is vacant, but we hope that it will be filled.

Chairman Delaune

Any questions? Any questions? None. I'll call for a vote then. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? none.

Chairman Delaune

We'll move on to 602. Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$54,000 entered into by the County, Halwick Law, LLC. Office of the Aging. Susan.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that for discussion.

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

That's the legal amendment, right? So as you know, we have a lawyer embedded in our office a couple of days a week, we improve, we increased her hours. Last year's contract, this is a second year for her to be able to cover a little bit more of a breadth of information for the seniors who are looking for consultation in a lot of different areas, such as elder abuse, housing, Medicaid applications. And she still obviously does wills and powers of attorney and health care proxies and things like that, but also offers consultation on elder law basically - does not go to court does not litigate, but offers her services for consultation as well. So I think our money was very well spent. I would like to add that Erica has been a wonderfully flexible person, and went on the first van trip that we had when we resuscitated our van, our office for aging van and she met with several people at Aloha acres a couple of weeks ago who couldn't get out to the office and is willing to go on our van trips to spend a day either in a senior housing complex or a place where the seniors can be when they can't when it's difficult for them to get to Kingston. Questions?

Chairman Delaune

Call for a vote. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed?

Chairman Delaune

And the last resolution for you, Susan is Resolution 603. Approving the execution of a contract for \$130,000 entered into by the county and Connect America LLC., Office of the Aging.

Legislator Criswell

I'll will move the discussion.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

So thank you. Connect America. This was a result of an RFP that we sent out a couple of months ago and they so far have been really wonderful to work with. We are switching our vendor for a PERS unit. We've had some difficulties. Not that's why we're switching because we did have an RFP but our current company didn't even submit a proposal. But this one along with two others had submitted and it was pretty much the most reasonable and most responsive, we felt and got great reviews from other offices for aging who are using them currently. So we decided to go with them. And they - it appears as if they know what they're doing and they have very much more reasonable rates and Best Buy this. I don't know if you know that our last PERS vendor got bought by Best Buy and as a result they haven't billed us for about eight months. I don't know where the I don't know where the snafu is, but they haven't been paid. And that, yeah, I don't know what's going on with them.

Chairman Delaune

What exactly is the service that they're providing?

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

So they're installing the medical alert buttons - are pendants in the home. And most folks get or are interested in something that hooks up with their cell phone, because not a lot of people, I would say maybe a third of the people who install still have landlines, but a lot of people don't anymore. So most of the companies are able to install a unit that is mobile, and also has fall detection in and outside the home. And it's just a medical alert. And a PERS stands for Personal Emergency Response System. So it's the button I've fallen and I can't get up.

Chairman Delaune

All right, very good. I'll move it for a vote. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? No. All right, Susan, enjoy your night.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

Thank you so much. I appreciate you all putting me at the beginning of the meeting. And thanks, everybody for your support.

Nettie Tomshaw

Good night Sue.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

All right, good night.

Chairman Delaune

Resolution 555. Authorizing the chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Ulster County for 2022 appropriations. Jared, welcome.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that for discussion.

Chairman Delaune

Thanks.

Nettie Tomshaw

Second - Mary.

Legislator Criswell

Hi, everybody, good to see the committee and some of my community partners. We're busy over at CCE, I'll echo what's going on at SUNY Ulster, we're doing a similar thing. We've invested in a lot of IT infrastructure to really do things in different ways. Now, besides all of the in person work we used to do. And of course, all the virtual work we did. Now we're looking at hybrid programming where some people are calling in and some people are in person. So we think we've come up with some good solutions. And it seems to be working. It's keeping everybody busy. We're in the middle of year end reporting. So I have some interesting numbers to share from the year. Our Ag team this year, and this is just out of our office, not in any of the regional teams that we buy into did 350 site visits to farms this year in person. There's been a lot of interest renewed interest in farming. I'm sure as you've seen, there's been a whole bunch of change to food systems. And that's been a big area for growth for us in this year. And we'll continue to expand that in the coming year. Spotted lantern fly showed up this year. So we've been busy working on that in Ulster County and coming up with a plan we're going to hit the ground running in the spring to keep that at bay. And in terms of 4-H as we're rebuilding this year, you know, I think volunteerism across the board is down. We've got about 125 enrolled youth looking at Ag education now. And we're hoping to double that. And this year our challenge is not youth, our challenge is finding adult volunteers and club leaders. So we're trying to tap the new market of all of the folks who have moved up from Brooklyn, and are interested in having their kids learn how to raise chickens. And there are a lot of them. That's where a lot of the interest is. But yeah, I could report on a whole bunch of other things. I'm not sure what you're interested in. I just want to express my appreciation to this committee. For your support and to the legislative members who are leaving. Thank you very much. Mary Wawro has been our liaison on our board for many years, and is a great friend and supporter of CCE so thank you Legislator Wawro for all you've done and appreciate it

Legislator Wawro

You're welcome thank you.

Legislator Wawro

Mary's not going away right?

Legislator Wawro

Yep. No I won't I'm retired.

Chairman Delaune

Great. Alright, do I have any questions?

Legislator Parete

Yeah, might I.

Chairman Delaune

Sure.

Legislator Parete

I've always- I felt for years that Cornell Cooperative shouldn't be coming to our committee should be under the county executives budget. I'm very familiar with it. They do a great job you know, all the all the stuff. I'm gonna say the right things my friend but. This was brought up at a Ways and Means meeting a little while ago. And somebody said, well, by New York State law, they have to come to us for some parts of what they're doing this funding. And I said, Well, please send me a, you know, a plain language opinion of that and send me a copy of the law. If I heard it right now, I get it. Sometimes I might not have heard it correctly over this loop. But I don't quite understand why they have to - with the work that they do, and the broad brush that they paint, why aren't they under the auspices of the county executive for funding? And their approvals in that regard? And if somebody can tell me what the state law says, or get me a copy of it, I'd appreciate that.

Chairman Delaune

Jared, are you familiar with this at all?

Legislator Criswell

Yes, it's County State Law 224. And I will send you the link, Legislator Parete. Unfortunately, it's not that clear. It's an interpretation. It falls under actually. What it states is that the legislature shall put forth an extension and support and extension service. I think the challenge with going to the execs budget, and this has been faced by other counties around the Hudson Valley, we just because I have an independent board. I can't report to a county agency. That's where the chant that's where Cornell has the challenge in that they

- my local board is meant to not only have fiduciary responsibility, but also to, to really tell us what the needs in the county are. And that's who that's where we get our direction. I like coming to the legislature, and I think a lot of CCS come to the legislature to report on what they're doing with taxpayer's money. So even wherever we end up, I'm happy to continue to do that. Whether it's this committee, the legislature or some other committee. But for example, Orange County is in the county execs budget, and they, during budget season, go with the rest of the departments and make their budget request and still report to the legislature. So maybe that's something we could consider to do. Because I think for us, it would be easier to have that. That direct line of planning. For me, it's difficult to hire somebody say like a grape, or berry specialist, that's a national hire. I, that's not something I that can come up every year, I need a little bit longer term planning to really recruit and retain those types of people. So it would be great to consider something like that after this year. But like I said, I will send you the law. And maybe we can actually have somebody from Cornell, attend one of these to discuss it further. If that would be of interest?

Legislator Criswell

Can I ask you to send that to the whole committee?

Jared Buono

Yes I will.

Legislator Criswell

Thank you.

Nettie Tomshaw

Jared you can send it to Nettie to my email, and I'll forward it to the entire committee.

Chairman Delaune

Okay. Marc, did you have something?

Deputy Executive Rider

Yeah, I just wanted to point out that this is a conversation that Jared and I had over the summer. Because Legislator Parete, I agree with your sentiment and so does the county executive, and we believe it would make more sense to put it in the executive's budget. It was the request of Cornell that we kept it as is this year, because of didn't want to muddy funding sources. There was concern that if we put it in the executive's budget, they wouldn't be eligible for other funding and other things so.

Chairman Delaune

Terrific. We'll get that to us Jared. And we appreciate it.

Legislator Parete

Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Delaune

Yes.

Legislator Parete

And I thank that. And to the good folks at the honorable Cornell Cooperative people, mine wasn't a criticism. It may be procedural, and Marc thank you for your kind words and down the road you guys have to figure it out. But it's not a question of what you're doing. It's just a question of this. Thank you. I appreciate that.

Chairman Delaune

It's a valid point. I'll call for a vote. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Well, very good. Thank you, Jared.

Jared Buono

Thank you I appreciate it.

Chairman Delaune

Yes. Move on to Resolution No. 556. 2022 appropriation for the Ulster County Libraries Program. Believe we have a representative here this evening.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that for discussion.

Legislator Wawro

Second.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you.

Margie Menard Pres. UC Library Assoc.

All right. I'm Margie Menard. I serve as the president of the Ulster County Library Association. I want to thank you all for the invitation to join you tonight. And thank you also for your ongoing support. It's always a pleasure to be able to share what we do with you and have you hear us. With me tonight also is Kara Lustiber. She's the director of the West Hurley library and the Ulster County Library Association,

treasurer and Stuart Auchincloss who is a longtime advocate, supporter and trustee of libraries in Ulster County. He is currently one of the Mid-Hudson library trustees representing Ulster County at the system level, and formerly a Woodstock library trustee so he's, he's been supporting us and helping us for a very long time. I just want to share with you and remind you all that the legislative funding that the libraries receive supports, what we call the Ulster County info portal that has provides digital resources for all of the library or all of the residents, frankly, of the 21 libraries in Ulster County. We in 2005, pivoted to mine resources in discussion with both our communities and the legislature. When there were, you know, questions and information requested about the services that we can provide county wide. And those 21 Libraries range from Cragmoor to Kingston. And you can imagine the difference in those libraries, those communities, and we all kind of put our heads together and said, how do we sort of create a base level of services that are accessible for everyone throughout the county. And I'm going to brag a little bit and say that libraries tend to be sort of at the forefront of digital resources and technology. We are technology hubs in our communities. And we try to stay abreast of all that. So that was at the time, believe it or not, in 2005 was the dawn of e-books, and downloadable music and audio books and that kind of thing. And we looked around and said, you know, folks who maybe can't get to their libraries or need a little boost, we should be using these resources not to put, you know, hardcopy resources in Kingston, where people are going to have a hard time getting them, but we should make sure that they are accessible for the users of all 21 libraries. And that's when we went to these digital resources. And in the years since we've learned more, we know more we hear from our communities. The resources themselves have become more sophisticated. And so you can see, we gave you a detailed budget of all the services that we provide from, you know, youth services to senior services, and as well as education in how to use those services. You know, one of the products we provide is called Niche Academy. And it's a series of educational videos teaching people how to use the services that we provide. So it's a little bit of sort of marketing and education there. We're also looking to add something called recite me in the coming year, which is an accessibility resource. You know, when you when you know better, you do better, and we have been providing these digital resources for so long. And we realized that it's not reaching everyone, there are accessibility issues around online resources that we need to address. So we're hoping to add something called recite me which is provides accessibility for folks with various disabilities, and allows them better access to the resources we're already providing. You know, and I gave Nettie or Nettie mentioned earlier a resource, or a piece of information that's in your OneDrive, which is an infographic that Tara provided. Teaching us, you know, showing us information about the usage of those resources. And as you can imagine, in 2020, at the peak of the pandemic, people were turning to those online resources very dramatically. They were looking for e-books and audio books. And when kids were in and out of school, they were looking for those early learning resources that were online and accessible to people. And what we're finding is people love them are continuing to use them and use them even more, even as they find their way back into their local libraries to use the resources that are on the ground in their communities. So we're excited to say that we're probably on track in 2021, to use at least as much or not, if not more of those services for our, for our patrons than we did last year. So I'm happy to answer any questions. Let you know any more about what we're doing. Let me know if there's anything you'd like to know.

Chairman Delaune

Are there any questions?

Legislator Parete

Well, if I might. You know in plain language, most of the time, it's considered a terminal to and blasphemy terminal blasphemy not to wave the flag of the libraries. And I understand that. I like the programs you're doing. Here's my question. Most of the libraries are, have a taxing base, or funded that way. And let's use the town of Olive for instance. If they have 10%, of the taxable property values in Ulster County, their contribution to this would be \$8,800. I guess. Why do we come to the county for the county budget which if we pass it, and we will, it's only going to be it's going to be paid for by in Olive \$8,800 assessed to the county value. Why isn't it just put in the budgets of the libraries? Because the taxing entity is exactly the same? And I don't understand the process of coming here for this for a good cause I get it. And, you know, I'm not suicidal folks. But I think it's a legitimate question as to why isn't that your budget. Same people are going to be paying for it. I'm asking I guess you Mr. Chairman, I don't know where else I should direct it, sir.

Chairman Delaune

Yeah, well thank you Legislator Parete. I do not have a clue.

Legislator Parete

And that's more than fair, sir.

Nettie Tomshaw

Legislator Wawro has her hand up.

Legislator Wawro

I believe Marc, doesn't it fall under the same as Cornell Under that law, Soil and Water Libraries and Cornell.

Deputy Executive Rider

Yeah, there is county law. And they may be slightly different. But that allows these types of programs to be funded through this source. Now it doesn't require them to so to Legislator Paret's point it, you know, there is no requirement that they can seek this funding. But there is permissible funding allowed under one of the county laws that which is the reason why it's in this particular committee.

Margie Menard Pres. UC Library Assoc.

If I can answer a little bit, and that is, as I mentioned, the library the 21 libraries in Ulster County range from Cragmoor to Kingston. None of us independently would be able to purchase and fund these services on our own. The combined funding allows an economy of scale that we wouldn't have if say, Kingston said, Okay, our share is x. So we're gonna, you know, purchase, we wouldn't be able to if we took, you

know, let's just say 60%, if Kingston is 60%, if we took 60% of that funding, we still wouldn't be able to purchase the services that we are able to provide as a collaborative. In addition, like I said, it allows us to provide uniform services and an equity county wide. So Cragmoor would in no way shape or form be able to provide any of these services. Without this collaborative funding, where the 21 of us come together and say, you know what, we're gonna do this together and everyone regardless of where they live in the county, regardless of which library they are, quote unquote, a member of, they all have exactly the same access to the services as anyone else. So that's why we come to the county and why we request these services, or this funding rather for these services. I don't know if that answers your question Legislator Parete, but I hope a little bit it does.

Legislator Parete

Well, if I may, Mr. Chairman, I understand. I'm getting from that, that maybe some of the libraries really don't want to participate if it wasn't paid for, where then they can go to their boards or their community and say, we didn't raise any we didn't raise your taxes. We didn't. We didn't. We kept it under the inflation index, I get that. I do get that. But it seems to me and I understand what you just said, I really do. But it seems to me were taking out in one pocket or the other, which may be in the long run doesn't matter. And maybe it's nothing more than procedural. But, um, if it's a good program, it's a good program. And you know, Kingston doesn't have 60% of it. I mean, it would never be to that degree. Olive is somewhat a, in terms of assessed valuation doing well, fourth, or fifth after Kingston, and Saugerties, and Woodstock, and etc. I mean, that's really where I'm coming from. In the Olive town library budget, the 8800 bucks would be in there now. We just put it in the executives, how much is Marc \$315 million budget? And nobody notices? And I suppose I've been doing this long enough. And I understand that I do understand it. I'm just on my way out, and I'm just raising these questions.

Margie Menard Pres. UC Library Assoc.

It's a perfectly valid question. And one minor issue around this question is also that there are some areas in Ulster County that don't pay library tax to their, you know, to their municipality - there's a couple of little patches. One of them, I think, is near Olive, another is near Stone Ridge, and another is the town of Kingston, I think. So there are residents in Ulster County that don't actually pay for library services, as residents of the City of Kingston do or some of the other municipalities. And frankly, what this does is it gives them a level of service that they wouldn't have otherwise. It's a wonkiness about state law and Library Services and so on. They would still have some access to libraries. But you know, there's folks out in the town of Rochester that actually pay a fee to get access to the Stone Ridge library.

Legislator Parete

Correct, correct.

Margie Menard Pres. UC Library Assoc.

And this, this kind of county level service provides that equity and service for all, which is what libraries are all about.

Legislator Parete

Thank you.

Chairman Delaune

We've got Economic Development coming up. I'm going to call for vote.

Legislator Parete

Go away John, I got it.

Margie Menard Pres. UC Library Assoc.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Chairman Delaune

All right. All in favor

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? Resolution No. 563. Confirming appointment of member to the Ulster County Community College Board of Trustees. I believe his resume was forwarded to all of you very impressive. Dr. Roberts, do you want to speak to this?

Dr. Roberts

But quite honestly, we just got word of it too. I did talk to Pat and he was excited about the recommendation and we're looking forward to meeting him. So it's good. It's gonna add some diversity to our board, which is something we're looking forward to.

Chairman Delaune

Great. Alright, someone want to move this.

Legislator Parete

Yeah, I'll move it.

Legislator Criswell

I'll second.

Chairman Delaune

All right. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? carries. Thank you.

Chairman Delaune

Resolution No. 569. Approving an increase in funding for the Capital Project No. 541. SUNY Ulster facilities equipment amending the 2021 Ulster County Capital Fund budget, Ulster County Community College. Someone want to move it?

Legislator Wawro

I'll move it.

Legislator Corcoran

Move it.

Chairman Delaune

Alright. Dr. Roberts.

Dr. Roberts

Well, Jamie, you want to take it over. You're spending the money now.

Jamie Capuano

So this one thank you for taking this resolution. This resolution will replace a very old vehicle we've had -essential service vehicle mainly does our mail runs and kind of commutes around campus. We've been working with him on this vehicle for some time now. However, the vehicle has passed its useful life and can no longer pass inspection. So we're looking to purchase a hybrid minivan, for use for this purpose. We do have charging stations on campus too. So we'll evaluate a hybrid verse electrical vehicle for use for this one. And then the other vehicle included here is a replacement of our Kubota. It's a device that we use to lift salt and sand and other things into trucks and also for brush removal that also has passed its useful life. So it's a replacement of those old pieces of equipment. And again, it'll be 50% state funded through the Dormitory Authority.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you. Now call for a vote. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right. Well, thank you both.

Dr. Roberts

And thank you, Jim, for the it's been a good couple of years. Really appreciate all your support. And to the entire committee. You guys are great. Thanks. Have a good evening.

Chairman Delaune

Great to get together with you and Jamie and the work that you're doing and very enthusiastic about it.

Jamie Capuano

Thanks Jim.

Chairman Delaune

So our last resolution is Resolution 572. Authorizing the chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a resource allocation plan and inter municipal agreements with the various municipalities to be funded under the Resource Allocation Plan. Youth Bureau.

Legislator Wawro

I'll move it.

Chairman Delaune

Alright.

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Chairman Delaune

Do we have a representative here I believe we do.

Nettie Tomshaw

That's Nina.

Chairman Delaune

Nina. Okay.

Nina Dawson Dir. Youth Bureau

Hi, everyone. Thank you for having me at this meeting, and once again supporting the Ulster County Youth board, sorry, Youth Bureau. The resource allocation, I apologize, I have a horrible cold. The resource allocation plan is the next step in the state requirements to allow in funding to actually process from the state to the county. Excuse me. Um, so last month, thank you very much for approving the two contracts that were over 50,000. The resource allocation plan is the final piece to the puzzle, so to speak. I did send backup documents Nettie - I don't know if they have. I'm sorry. I apologize. My dog's been good the whole time. And of course now hope work, I apologize. So if you don't have them, I can resend them again. I have documents that show the breakdown of the one and two, which are family house transitional living. I think you guys are gonna remember it from last month. And then also there's a YDP portion, which is the youth development programs, which are the breakdown of the county programs that we provide funding from the state to our different community, municipalities and other programs. And I'm open for any questions that you guys may have. And I appreciate you guys.

Chairman Delaune

Well, thank you. Any questions? No, I'll call for a vote.

Chairman Delaune

All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right. Any new business? Any old business? I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Criswell

I just want to thank you for your leadership in this committee.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you, Peter.

Legislator Criswell

Welcome.

Chairman Delaune

It's been fun. It's the best committee to be on.

Legislator Corcoran

I agree.

Deputy Executive Rider

On the Executives office, I'll say that it has been a pleasure working with this committee. I'm sad to see both Jim, John and Mary that you all are heading out the majority of this committee actually maybe one of the only committees where that's the case. But I look forward to seeing you all around.

Legislator Parete

By and large all huggy feely.

Chairman Delaune

Yeah. All right.

Deputy Executive Rider

At least this time around right John?

Legislator Parete

Yeah.

Chairman Delaune

Well, hopefully Tom and Peter will be back and

Legislator Corcoran

Hope so.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Well, see you at the next meeting.

Legislator Corcoran

See you at the next meeting. Have a good night.

Nettie Tomshaw

Motion to adjourn?

Legislator Parete

Move to adjourn.

Legislator Criswell

Second, yeah.

Committee Members

All right. Take care. Good night.