

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

DATE & TIME: June 1, 2021 – 5:15pm
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom / Dial in by phone: (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 966 6737 9306
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair James Delaune
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Peter Criswell, John Parete, David Donaldson
ABSENT: Legislators Corcoran, Wawro
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Laura Petit, Dr. Roberts President SUNY Ulster
Jamie Capuano, VP for Administrative Services, SUNY Ulster
Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, Amber Feaster Leg.

Chairman Delaune called the meeting to order at 5:21pm

Motion No 1: Motion to Approve Minutes and Transcript of the May 4, 2021 Meeting
Motion By: Legislator Parete
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Delaune

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Deluane, Criswell, Parete
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 3
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes Approved

Motion No. 1 **Moved to approve the meeting minutes of the May 4, 2021**

SUNY Ulster Update : **President Alan Roberts SUNY Ulster**
Refer to annexed transcript

SUNY Ulster Administrative Update: **Jamie Capuano,**
Vice President for Administrative Services,
SUNY Ulster
Refer to annexed transcript

Resolutions for June 15, 2021 Session:

Resolution No. 245 – Setting A Public Hearing On Tentative Budget Of Ulster County Community College For The Year 2021-2022 To Be Held On Tuesday, July 13, 2021 At 6:05 PM

Resolution Summary: This resolution sets a public hearing on the UCCC 2021-2022 tentative budget.

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson
Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Criswell, Parete, Donaldson
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 2 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 245**

New Business

Non-County Agency Contract Matrix Draft – See Transcript

Old Business

American Rescue Plan Funding - See Transcript

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

Adjournment

Motion By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Criswell, Petit, Donaldson
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Motion approved

Motion No. 10 Moved to Adjourn

[Adjourned / 5:41 pm]

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw Ulster County Legislative Employee

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

Meeting Transcript
June 1, 2021

Jamie Capuano

Oh, I'm here. Yep.

Chairman Delaune

Okay, so we get attendance.

Nettie Tomshaw

Sure. Okay, Chairman Delaune.

Chairman Delaune

Here.

Nettie Tomshaw

Legislator Criswell. Here. Legislator Parete.

Legislator Parete

Yes.

Nettie Tomshaw

Okay, three present two absent we have a quorum.

Chairman Delaune

Very good thank you. Can I get a motion to approve the minutes and transcripts of the May 4 meeting?

Legislator Parete

I'll move it.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Second.

Legislator Parete

Somebody has to second.

Chairman Delaune

Okay. I'll second it then. Great. Thank you. Dr. Roberts it's all you.

Legislator Parete

Well approved. The minutes approved so. Yeah okay.

Dr. Roberts

Thank you. A couple updates. One is we finished the springs, the spring semester, actually, you know, we're getting close to the year end, and will come in about where we predicted that we would be, which is down 15 - 15 plus percent. But fortunately, because the Relief Act, you know, we are financially going to be fine, there won't be any issues there. Our enrollment for the fall is interesting. You know, we watch it on a daily basis, and really try to, you know, we segment the market to make sure that we know we're not missing any particular area. But we had a report this morning that we're up 11% in part time enrollment. We're down 12% in full time enrollment. So it really is really, it's coming true, what we predicted is our headcount will be about the same, but students are just taking less credits for the fall. So our challenge now is to try to turn reverse that and try to get back to them and say you need to take one or two or three more courses to round this out. We will have probably the best year for financial aid for students that I've ever seen in 30 plus years. Any student wanting to come, you know, it's virtually going to be not going to cost anything, they're going to be able to get housing expenses, clothing, expenses, food expenses, which is never been the case before. So as a community, I would appreciate it if we could spread the word to anybody interested that you know, this is the time to, to re-engage in your education, because the opportunities will be overwhelming, and it will last, it'll be one good year. And hopefully we get that enrollment turned around. And it will be where we need to be. Jamie's got some updates on finances. And, you know, we're really pleased, you know, we're gonna put together somewhat of a list of the capital projects that we've completed. We had a brought in a lot of the key players, and we have a press release going out. And now that we've completed the water project, it only took 16 years, so that's - it was expedited, I guess. So we're real pleased with that. And you know that we have the water, we have High Falls water, we have meters running. We have good clean drinking water for the first time. It's really nice. And capital projects I'll let Jamie jump on some of the other ones. But we're looking forward to a good fall. We will do the budget presentation. I think Jamie has a tentative schedule that she'll present today. I think one of the resolutions that you have, I think it's the only resolution you might have is the tentative date of July 13 for the I believe it's a public forum so

Chairman Delaune

That's correct. Yes.

Dr. Roberts

Jamie, you want to take over?

Jamie Capuano

Thanks Dr. Al. So as Dr. Al said, you know, it's a really exciting time to both be a student, but also to be an institution in higher ed. This is the only time that I can remember, and I'm sure others have said this will never happen again, where we're getting the federal stimulus funds directly from the federal government. And what's unique here is it's coming to the institution, but it's also going to be funding for

students. So we're working on some really creative ways to get the money in the hands of students to make sure that their expenses are being met. And again, this funding for the students is very open ended. So it's really for any cost of attendance, which again, is just very exciting for any students looking to come into the SUNY system to come to community college, because now you're looking at an opportunity where you can leave without debt. So it's really an exciting opportunity for us. And as Dr. Al said, we're working through on our side to prioritize projects for the institutional funding, again, to give ourselves a leg up as we go through, you know, the COVID pandemic and come out of it. So as Dr. Al said on budget, we will be before the Legislative Programs Committee in July. We'll be doing a presentation to the committee in July and then we'll also have the public hearing in July. And then at the end of July, we'll be doing an on-site public hearing at SUNY Ulster. So we are excited to go over the budget walkthrough what we're looking to do for the upcoming year. But again, really exciting times, you know, in higher ed. On the capital side, SUNY has opened up capital project requests. So we're working with SUNY to develop some new capital project requests. And we'll be working with the county to include any new projects on our capital programs. And then some of the ones were finished, sorry, running around with kids running around outside with children all the time. So just some quick updates on some of the capital projects we finished. So we're happy that the Vanderlyn, pedestrian bridge is complete. We've also completed the skylight project where we had a skylight that was leaking for many years, that one's been complete. The waterline is very exciting, and we'll also be installing some water systems as you have now at the county where you can do the refillable water stations. So we're excited to get those in as well. Any questions on those topics?

Dr. Roberts

Well, I'll add one other thing. It was kind of a surprise to us. We had about three weeks ago, we got a note from the chancellor's office that the Biden administration was looking for a list of major projects to rebuild community colleges, and it's going across the country. So the 30 of us got together and we put together a list that was over a billion dollars. But if any of that came to fruition, we would it would be a facelift that you've never seen before. The you know, if you look at our sidewalks and so many other projects could just be renovated. Algonquin was the storage area at the back of the rear of the college that's turned into classrooms, and it's been there 30 plus years, and has been put together with band aids and tape and duct tape. And it could be totally renovated. Actually, we would rip it down and build a real facility back there. So you don't know what will come with that. You know, I know he's talking about rebuilding the country, and he certainly has his eye on community colleges. So it couldn't be a better time to be involved with Community College from our perspective. So truly excited about that.

Jamie Capuano

Yeah, absolutely Dr. Al.

Chairman Delaune

That's great to hear. It's very exciting. All right. Do we have any questions from anyone? No well, then I will move on to the resolutions or resolution, which is Resolution Number 245. Setting a Public Hearing on Tentative Budget of Ulster County Community College For the Year 2021 - 2022, to be held on Tuesday, July 13 2021 at 6:05pm.

Legislator Criswell

Move that for discussion.

Chairman Delaune

Great, any questions? All right. We get a second on this and move on to a vote. All right.

Legislator Parete

Where'd you show up from?

Chairman Delaune

All in favor?

Chairman Donaldson

I'll second.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Donaldson

Just when you thought it was safe I showed up.

Legislator Parete

Just when I thought I was having a good day.

Chairman Delaune

Well, welcome, Dave, I'm glad you're here, actually. And thank you, Dr. Roberts, Jamie, certainly you're welcome to stick around if you like. But we don't have that much time. And I really want to get into new business, which is on the non-county agency contract matrix draft. And see ya.

Legislator Parete

Thank you, sir.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you. And so, you know, we kind of were tasked with coming up with a contract matrix for all the various organizations that we fund. And so we had a number of collaborative meetings between Peter and myself and Vicky and Amber. And Amber and Vicki took what was a concept and turned it into the document that's been presented tonight. And I've asked Amber to comment, this is really her baby. And I think that, you know, credit is all - credit is should be thrown her way because she did a terrific job on this. And, you know, I don't think that, you know, legislators typically fully understand the amount of work and the heart that goes into you know, putting together a document like this. So, Amber, I'm going to turn it over to you and I want to thank you for all that you've done. On this particular assignment.

Amber Feaster

Thank you very much. Um, so the there's two documents that were part of the committee meeting materials tonight. One being the application to request funding through the, obviously through the

legislative body. And the other being the matrix, which is designed to be directly correlated and built off of the application. And that would be a means of grading each application that comes in. So what I did was first start with the policy, and take exactly what the policy requires to be submitted as part of the application, what are the requirements for agencies, requesting funding, and put that directly into the application, so that we know first and foremost whether the agency is even applicable. Second, is I took a lot of the conversations that have happened throughout my time with the legislature, in various budget committee meetings, throughout the legislative program committee meetings, on these budget discussions, and put a lot of the feedback that I was hearing, a lot of the concerns that I was hearing into the matrix, which then kind of like, bolstered up the application, because in order for you to grade these the material has to be in front of you. So things like asking these organizations right off the bat, what programs they run? And what are the outputs of those programs? And how do they directly benefit the community? How much of the community are they reaching? So all of that is, um, all rolled into these two documents, really.

Chairman Delaune

If I could just interrupt for a second Amber. And it also asks the question, how does, you know what you are doing as an organization play into? What is the, you know, kind of the county's direction and needs to.

Amber Feaster

Yes. So I hope that everyone kind of like hears their own thoughts, and here's their own voices when they read through it. And I hope that it helps achieve um kind of a general direction for these discussions.

Legislator Parete

Good.

Chairman Delaune

I don't know if folks have had the opportunity to actually review this document. But it's terrific. It's really a very good, very focused and professional document that I think will serve the legislature well for a long time. But, you know with that said, we'd like information and feedback from you. If this needs to be tweaked in any way. So, you know, please take a few minutes to go through it, make some notes and send it our way. Tell us what you think.

Legislator Parete

Has it been sent out Amber or Jim today or yesterday? I forgot the meeting. But I don't remember reading that.

Amber Feaster

Only in the Legislative Programs Committee materials.

Legislator Parete

I guess I missed it then.

Amber Feaster

So just to this committee.

Legislator Parete

I guess I missed it, then.

Chairman Delaune

Yes.

Nettie Tomshaw

I can resend it to you, John.

Legislator Parete

Okay.

Chairman Donaldson

Yeah, make sure - resend that to me too Nettie.

Chairman Delaune

Yeah, actually send it to everyone. And, you know, what I like is, you know, once this is reviewed by this committee, then I'd like this committee as a whole to send it out to the rest of the legislature. I want this to be your document.

Legislator Parete

Good.

Nettie Tomshaw

And just in case, it's in your OneDrive, right now, if that's helpful, otherwise, I'll still send it out.

Legislator Parete

You talking to me? I don't know where my OneDrive even is. If I see it I open it.

Nettie Tomshaw

Gotcha. Okay. All right. No problem at all. I'll get it to you.

Chairman Donaldson

Oh, yes, send it to my email address.

Nettie Tomshaw

Okay.

Chairman Delaune

Great. Peter, do you have any comments on the process or the document?

Legislator Criswell

I just wanted to double your thanks to Amber. It's great work on it. It's been a very clear process of moving things forward step by step and really good communication back and forth with Amber and with Vicky and really, really appreciate that. So I just feel like this is going to be a game changer for assessing organizations that can be funded by Legislative Program dollars. I think it's a total game changer and I'm really excited that we're moving this forward.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you.

Amber Feaster

And hopefully at the end of the day it just kind of streamlines the process too. Whereas before we were having several in person meetings. So hopefully some of that can be achieved on paper beforehand.

Chairman Delaune

Yeah, it should be, it should be very clear cut. Folks, you know, right off the bat, whether they have the chance or not, and in making application and we will to. So, any further questions, comments, guess probably not until you actually get the document and go through it. Alright, well, thank you Amber, again, for being here. And for doing that work.

Amber Feaster

Thank you.

Chairman Delaune

Old business. American Rescue Plan funding. Peter, did you want to speak to this?

Legislator Criswell

Sure. Yeah, I'm fully moving forward with a proposal. Like I talked about last time, in coordination with Stockade Works. I had a conversation with them, and they're very excited about it. And Marc, you and I had a bit of a follow up on that. And I'm expecting that that proposal is going to be coming within the next day or two. The holiday kind of messed things up for people, you know, trying to get people in together. But I think they're going to put together a very robust proposal that I think really works within the framework of seed funding for a project that's going to be a job creation project, that then is going to be sustainable on its own as it moves forward. So I think it's gonna hit all those boxes. It also hits the box of being in the arts, which is part of the Ulster 2040, you know, long term vision, the makers vision. So I think it really does check off a lot of different things that we're looking for to spend these monies. So I look forward to presenting that to the committee and hopefully it will move forward.

Chairman Delaune

And Dave, my assignment is having to do with training programs that are out there for job creation. So I'll have something shortly to the committee.

Chairman Donaldson

Yeah, that's what I was - one day, you would chime in about, you know, because we're trying to get the information together by I think, June 18. So we can actually start the process. We are going out and having some public hearings, and they're starting, I think, actually first ones tomorrow, right, Marc? That's in Walkkill - is that Walkkill?

Deputy Executive Rider

The first one is in Shawangunk. Tomorrow I'm not sure the time it's in the afternoon I believe.

Chairman Donaldson

Alright yeah, I have to take a look at that again. Um, so anyway, yeah, that's basically what I wanted to chime in on. I'm really glad that, you know, you were putting - going to put forth some good, solid proposals, because we really want that. We want to make sure that this money is spent the best way we spend this money. And so we're never ever had this kind of opportunity again.

Legislator Criswell

Great.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Any other old business?

Chairman Donaldson

Just Parete.

Legislator Parete

What'd you say?

Chairman Donaldson

John Parete, talking about old business - I figured you're looking at John Parete.

Legislator Parete

Yes catching my breath.

Chairman Delaune

Yeah. Well, can I get a motion to adjourn then. Move on to the next. Yep, motion to adjourn.

Legislator Criswell

I'll second that.

Chairman Delaune

Great. Thank you all for being here.

Committee Members

Okay, thank you. Good night everyone.