

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

### Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

**DATE & TIME** : December 3, 2014, 5:00pm  
**LOCATION** : Ulster County Community College, St. John Business Seminar Room, George Clinton Hall, Room 118, Stone Ridge, New York  
**CHAIRMAN** : David B. Donaldson, Chairman – Present  
**RECORDER** : Janet Salanitri, Adm. Assistant, SUNY, Ulster Co. Community College  
**LEGISLATORS**  
**PRESENT** : Legs. Donald Gregorius, Leg. Mary Wawro, Leg. Lynn Archer and Leg. Craig Lopez  
**OTHERS**  
**PRESENT** : Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration, SUNY Ulster Co. Community College; Lee Reidy, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension; Theresa Brundaige, Aide to Leg. Lopez and Kenneth Crannell, Deputy Ulster County Executive  
**QUORUM** : Yes

**A QUORUM BEING PRESENT CHAIRMAN DONALDSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:04 PM AND TOOK ATTENDANCE. ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE PRESENT.**

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#### **MOTION #1 – Approval of Minutes:**

**Text of Motion** : To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee of November 5, 2014.  
**Motion Made** : Leg. Lopez  
**Seconded** : Leg. Gregorius  
**Voice Vote** : Yes  
**In Favor** : Chairman Donaldson, Legs. Gregorius, Wawro, Archer and Lopez  
**Opposed** : None  
**No.in Favor** : 5  
**No.Opposed** : 0  
**Disposition** : The motion to approve the minutes of this committee meeting of November 5, 2014 were unanimously approved.

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#### **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EDUCATION OF ULSTER COUNTY**

**Report by** : Lee Reidy, Executive Director

**Report** : Chairman Donaldson said he was happy to say that the Legislature had succeeded in getting the funding to various contract agencies increased, including Cornell Cooperative Education. Ms. Reidy thanked Chairman Donaldson and all the members of the Legislature who supported this. She said the increased funds will go to helping with housing expenses. She then distributed CCE's annual calendar and said the photographers donated their agricultural photographs. She also distributed CCE's annual report which will also be presented at their annual meeting to be held the next day. Ms. Reidy advised that Liz Higgins will give a presentation on "The History of Agriculture in Ulster County" which will end the year on a high note.

Ms. Reidy advised that they had put the 4-H camp in the Town of Esopus up for sale some time ago and it has been sold. The money from that sale will be used to offset some of the cash flow problems they have when they have grants requiring matching funds.

There was a meeting today on Agricultural Economic Development and trying to increase the awareness of value added products. One of the examples of this is using cider to make alcoholic products. She said there is a lot of interest in growing barley, hops, etc. which are used by craft beer brewers. CCE is working on research for these crops.

Ms. Reidy reported they are also working on a Strategic Plan for the next three years, along with their legislative and county partners. There was a lengthy discussion, initiated by Leg. Archer, of the current status of the prison farm land and what is being done with it. Leg. Archer asked if there is any way to get that land back into agriculture. Ms. Reidy said the question has been brought up before and it has been her experience that the prison system knows prisons and that's all. They are not interested in the land. She said she will look into it again and see if she can find out anything new

**Resolutions** : None

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**SUNY, ULSTER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE:**

**Report by** : Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration

**Report** : Dean Komdat reported that enrollment is up about 5% for the fall semester and the spring is about the same as last year. He said we could potentially see an increase in enrollments of about 3% for the year.

In reply to a question from Chairman Donaldson, Dean Komdat said the college is still working with its' attorney on considering an eminent domain proceeding involving one of the adjacent property owners. We have made them one final offer and are waiting for a reply from them. One of the things they wanted us was to move the line over towards the side of their property; however, that move would add another \$80,000 to the project.

On-going projects include the Kingston Center (formerly Sophie Finn) where the groundbreaking ceremony was held early November and where occupancy is expected in August, 2015. Also on-going are the Kelder exterior renovations which are almost complete. The bids for the interior renovations to Kelder should be out by the end of January and the college hopes to have that work complete by the beginning of May, 2015. When asked about classrooms, Dean Komdat said there were three large classrooms in the modular section of Kelder, but the area in question was the older section where there will be a reception center on the first floor and SBDC offices on the second floor.

**Resolutions** : None

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**ULSTER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING:**

**Report by** : Chairman Donaldson and Kenneth Crannell, Deputy Ulster County Executive

**Report** : Chairman Donaldson said there was a Resolution before this Committee to approve an amendment of a contract to Prestige Services, Inc. for the Office for the Aging Meals on Wheels program Mr. Crannell said this contract was bid a year ago with two one-year extensions, and this is the first extension. He said that the face of Meals on Wheels is changing as the age of the seniors is decreasing. He also said there is a lot of waste and the County is looking into that. He said Prestige was the only bidder on this last contract and we are hoping to rebid this contract in January.

Mr. Crannell said that Kelly McMullen is the new Director of the Office for the Aging and he said with a new Director and some new systems in place we now have a lot of data. He asked if a subcommittee would be appropriate to see what information there was available and how things could be made better.

There was a lengthy discussion of the various problems facing the Meals on Wheels program, in the past and in the future, as well as the federal requirements that there has to be a certain number of congregant or group meals served.

Mr. Crannell also spoke on the Veterans Memorial meeting he attended this date with Contract Management. He said there are now 1400 identified names to be placed on the memorial. He said that in order to meet the Memorial Day deadline we may need to have a special meeting of the committee in January. He also said they were looking to have a bid opening by January 7<sup>th</sup>, which would be necessary in order to complete the project by Memorial Day.

At time time Chairman Donaldson asked for a motion on the resolution before this committee.

**Resolution** : No. 470 for the December 17, 2014 session of the Legislature

**MOTION #2 – RESOLUTION #470:**

**Text of Motion** : Approving the Execution of a Contract Amendment in Excess of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By the County – Prestige Services, Inc. – Office for the Aging

**Motion Made** : Leg. Archer

**Seconded** : Leg. Wawro

**Voice Vote** : Yes

**In Favor** : 5

**Opposed** : 0

**Disposition** : The motion passed. Resolution #470 unanimously approved.

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**MOTION #3 - TO ADJOURN**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Leg. Gregorius and seconded by Leg. Wawro and Chairman Donaldson declared the meeting duly adjourned at 5:50pm.

Dated the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014

Janet Salanitri, Recorder

Minutes approved on March 10, 2015

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