

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME : August 6, 2014 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION : College Lounge, Room 203, Vanderlyn Hall, SUNY Ulster, Stone Ridge, NY
CHAIRMAN : David B. Donaldson, Present
RECORDER : Janet Salanitri, Adm. Assistant, SUNY Ulster County Community College
LEGISLATORS
PRESENT : Legs. Craig Lopez, Mary Wawro, Lynn Archer and Donald Gregorius
ABSENT : None
OTHERS
PRESENT : Mark P. Komdat, Dean of Administration, SUNY Ulster County Community College; Lee Reidy, Executive Director and Mary Marsters, Program Director, both of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County; Teresa Brundage, Assistant to Leg. Lopez; Tom Kadgen, as Observer for The League of Women Voters; Tom Sloan, Director of Mid-Hudson Library System; Jim Cosgrove, Margie Mernard and Julie Dempsey, all of the Ulster County Library Association; Fawn Tantillo of the Ulster County Legislative Office; and Joseph Ereole of the U.C. Comptroller's Office.
QUORUM : Yes

A QUORUM BEING PRESENT CHAIRMAN DONALDSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:05 PM. (Note: Leg. Lopez entered the meeting at 5:20p.m.)

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Text of Motion : Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of this Committee of July 2, 2014.
Motion Made : Leg. Archer
Seconded : Leg. Wawro
Voice Vote : Yes
In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Legs. Gregorius, Lopez, Wawro and Archer.
Opposed : None
No.in favor : 5
No. Opposed : 0
Disposition : Motion passed – Minutes of the July 2nd, 2014 meeting of this committee were unanimously approved.

ULSTER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE – 1ST PORTION:

Chairman Donaldson brought forth two (2) proposed resolutions involving the Community College, and these resolutions were dealt with separately from the Community College's report. They are:

Resolution #225 for the August 19th, 2014 session of the Legislature; and
Resolution #294 for the August 19th, 2014 session of the Legislature.

RESOLUTION #225:

Discussion : Chairman Donaldson referred the committee to the attachments to the resolution including the opinion of Cappy Weiner, Ulster County Legislative Counsel. Mr. Weiner's memorandum dated August 5, 2014 is attached to the original resolution #225. There was a discussion of what information should be asked for in the survey and Dean Komdat said that it was important that the student's town of residence be one of the survey questions so the college could track geographically. It was also suggested that in conformity with Mr. Weiner's opinion, that the survey be handed out separately from the certificate of residence and that it be returned to a separate place. It was also agreed that the survey should be on a separate sheet and not on the back of the certificate, and that the Resolution be amended to provide for this and for anonymity. The committee decided that all other matters relating to form and content and the procedure for delivery were to be left to the community college and the Office of the Commissioner of Finance.

MOTION #2: - TO AMEND RESOLUTION #225:

Text of Motion : To eliminate the first "RESOLVED" clause on page 2 and replace it with the following: "RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Finance be authorized and directed to include with the application for a certificate of residency, a separate survey excluding any requirement for personal identification; and, be it further"

Motion Made : Leg. Gregorius
Seconded by : Leg. Wawro
Voice Vote : Yes
In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Leg. Archer, Leg. Gregorius, Leg. Wawro, Leg. Lopez
Opposed : None
No.in Favor : 5
No.Opposed : 0
Disposition : Motion to amend Resolution #225 unanimously approved.

MOTION #3 – TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #225:

Text of Motion : To establish a policy to survey Ulster County residents who attend community colleges outside of Ulster County.

Motion Made : Leg. Archer
Seconded by : Leg. Wawro
Voice Vote : Yes
In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Leg. Archer, Leg. Gregorius, Leg. Wawro, Leg. Lopez
Opposed : None
No.in Favor : 5
No.Opposed : 0
Disposition : Motion to establish a policy to survey Ulster County residents who attend community colleges outside of Ulster County, was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #294:

Discussion : Chairman Donaldson said this resolution was to amend the Capital Project regarding the STRIVE project at Sophie Finn School and asked Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration to speak on behalf of the college and the resolution. Dean Komdat said this was a refinement to Capital Project #370 for additional architectural services and construction management costs caused by more extensive hazardous material abatement. He said these costs become part of the Capital Program and are paid for by the issuance

of serial bonds. When asked, Dean Komdat said he was not sure of the exact figure but believed the total project to be about a little over \$7 million, excluding the green infrastructure elements. He also said bids would be opened shortly and it was expected that abatement would begin about Sept. 1st and construction about Nov. 1st. Chair Donaldson asked what the original estimated price was and the Dean said he believed Patterns for Progress had originally estimated \$4.5 million for repairs as an elementary school, not as a college with parking and other adjustments. At this time Chairman Donaldson asked if there was any further discussion. There being none, the motion was brought forward.

MOTION #4 – TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #294:

Text of Motion : Amending Capital Project No. 370, STRIVE – SUNY Ulster Satellite Campus, to include the costs of additional architectural services and construction management related to hazardous material abatement and green infrastructure elements.

Motion Made : Leg. Wawro

Seconded : Leg. Archer

Voice Vote : Yes

In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Legs. Gregorius, Archer, Lopez and Wawro

Opposed : None

No.in Favor : 5

No.Opposed : 0

Disposition : Motion to approve Resolution #294 was unanimously approved.

Recorder's Note:

At this time Leg. Lopez entered the meeting. He reviewed the text of the foregoing resolutions and there was a brief discussion regarding the same. Leg. Lopez indicated to this recorder that he wanted his vote shown as in the affirmative on all four (4) of the prior motions and he voted in favor of both Resolution #225 and #294.

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ULSTER COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:

Report by : Jim Cosgrove, President and Tom Sloan, New Director of Mid-Hudson Library System.

Report : Mr. Cosgrove discussed the budget and introduced Tom Sloan, a new Director of the Mid-Hudson Library System. Mr. Cosgrove said Ulster County is one of five counties which belong to the Mid-Hudson Library System and explained its structure. Mr. Sloan said the Mid-Hudson Library System is an organization of 66 independent libraries in the 5 counties of the mid-Hudson region which work cooperatively to be cost effective, and have a shared catalog of 2.3 million items which are available to all residents. He said the money Ulster County provides is used to purchase database which are available to every resident of Ulster County. As an example he said, "Chilton Auto Repair, at a cost to Ulster County as a shared service of \$500 includes every manual for every car in the country.

Leg. Archer said she has been looking into broadband service and there are some portions of her area that do not have it. Mr. Sloan said Kingston has the best situation while areas like Woodstock have a harder time. Leg. Archer wanted to know if there is anything being done to help alleviate this problem. Mr. Cosgrove said he had looked into this a few years ago. A discussion ensued regarding broadband and what role the area libraries could have in helping to deliver this important service.

Chairman Donaldson said \$500 was very cheap for the auto repair database, and he was told it was because the Ulster County Library Association was part of the Mid-Hudson Library System. A list of databases funded by Ulster County is as follows:

Ancestry Library	\$6,400	Boopsie Mobile Information	\$13,000
Brain Pop	\$2,000	Chilton Auto Repair	\$ 500
Hobbies & Crafts Ref.	\$8,000	Foundation Center	\$ 1,000
Gale Testing & Education	\$5,000	IndieFlix	\$ 8,000
HeritageQuest/NY Times	\$7,700	Mango Languages	\$ 3,400
OverDrive audiobooks	\$15,000	Tumblebooks	\$ 2,300
Training & Publicity	\$ 1,950	Total:	\$74,250

Chairman Donaldson asked if the new funding request was the same as last year and Mr. Cosgrove said it was. The Chairman then asked if the committee would support such a funding request and if so would entertain a motion. Such motion was made, seconded and carried as set forth hereafter and Chairman Donaldson said he would have a letter sent to Ways & Means Committee indicating this committee's support.

Resolution : To support the Ulster County Library Association Funding Request of \$74,250 for the 2015 Ulster County budget.

MOTION #5 – ULSTER COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FUNDING REQUEST:

Text of Motion : To support the Ulster County Library Association Funding Request for the 2015 Ulster County Budget in the sum of \$74,250.00.

Motion Made : Leg. Gregorius

Seconded by : Leg. Lopez

Voice Vote : Yes

In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Leg. Lopez, Leg. Gregorius, Leg. Archer, Leg. Wawro

Opposed : None

No. in Favor : 5

No. Opposed : 0

Disposition : The motion to support the Ulster County Library Association Funding Request for the 2015 Ulster County Budget in the sum of \$74,250.00 was unanimously approved.

SUNY, ULSTER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE – 2nd PORTION:

Report by : Mark P. Komdat, Dean of Administration

Report : The Dean advised that fall classes begin on August 25th. Enrollment for the 2013-14 academic year was 6.5% over budget and so far the fall 2014 enrollment is keeping pace with last year. He also said he has just concluded contract negotiations with the full time faculty; however, he could not discuss the details as it has not yet been ratified by the faculty membership. He believes the terms are good and he will most likely be bringing an approval resolution before this committee next month.

In other matters, the bids are out on the Kelder renovations and should be opened next week. In an up-date on the water project, Dean Komdat said both the Towns of Marbletown and Rosendale endorse this project as does the DEP, although the DEP has also been unresponsive to many of our needs. In response to a question, he said that the completion date for Sophie Finn is now set for August 1, 2015.

Resolutions : As previously noted.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF ULSTER COUNTY

Report by : Lee Reidy, Executive Director and Mary Marsters, Program Director

Report : Ms. Reidy distributed the 2013 Annual Report and Cooperative Extension's 2015 County Appropriation Request which requests an increase of \$38,000 over last year. She said CCE now has the most diverse programming in the 25 years she has been there, all of which are tied together with practical based education activities. Chairman Donaldson said he knows CCE uses the county money to leverage money from both the state and the federal agencies and he asked about current staffing. Ms. Reidy said they currently employ 35 full time people but hope to hire 2 more full time and maybe a few part-time. She said some of these people work for the County and explained the employment/civil service structure.

Ms. Reidy said their biggest struggle is with housing, especially the cost of heat and electric, and most grants and contracts make no provision for housing costs, although some of the newer grants are more flexible. Leg. Archer asked about the cost of the old housing and Ms. Reidy explained CCE's housing history from its days in the former Persen House to the present, including the cost of moving. She also said that for every dollar the county provides, CCE brings in more than \$11 and every dollar of that goes to programming. She explained some of their programming, such as with the DEP, the Noble Foundation, etc. Ms. Reidy, in reply to a question from Chairman Donaldson, said the \$315,000 annual funding has been the same since 2012. Prior to that CCE had been able to manage as long as the county covered the housing, but without that the only place to cut is major programs and once programs are cut you don't get them back and you don't get the people back.

Chairman Donaldson asked the committee if they would move to support Cornell Cooperative Extension's request to increase its funding for the 2015 budget year an additional \$38,000 and made such motion. The motion was seconded and carried as set forth hereafter. Chairman Donaldson said he would have a letter sent to the Ways & Means Committee indicating this Committee's support of Cornell Cooperative Extension's requested increase. Ms. Reidy asked what her next step would be and Chairman Donaldson said it would be to go before the Ways & Means Committee.

Resolutions : To support Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County's funding request for the 2015 Ulster County budget in the sum of \$350,000 which includes \$38,000 additional funding to alleviate housing costs

MOTION #6 – CORNELL COOPERATIVE EDUCATION OF U.C., FUNDING REQUEST:

Text of Motion : To support the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County's funding request for the 2015 Ulster County Budget in the sum of \$350,00 which includes \$38,000 in additional funding to alleviate housing costs.

Motion Made : Chairman Donaldson

Seconded by : Leg. Wawro

Voice Vote : Yes

In Favor : Chairman Donaldson, Leg. Lopez, Leg. Gregorius, Leg. Archer, Leg. Wawro

Opposed : None

No. in Favor : 5

No. Opposed : 0

Disposition : The motion to support the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County's funding request for the 2015 Ulster County Budget in the sum of \$350,000 which includes \$38,000 in additional funding to alleviate housing costs, was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT MOTION #7:

There being no further business before this committee, on motion duly made by Leg. Lopez and seconded by Leg. Gregorius and carried, Chairman Donaldson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:02pm.

Dated the 12th day of August, 2014

Janet Salanitri, Recorder

Minutes Approved on September 10, 2014