

Proposed Local Law Number XX Of 2023

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter, (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006), And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008), To Create A Preamble And Ensure More Diverse Advisory Boards

BE IT ENACTED, by the Legislature of the County of Ulster, as follows:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

The Ulster County Legislature finds that the Ulster County Charter and the Administrative Code should be amended to provide a meaningful preamble and to ensure representation from all geographic areas of the County on advisory boards and commissions.

SECTION 2. Article I Ulster County and Its Government, of the Ulster County Charter and Article I Government of Ulster County, of the Administrative Code are hereby amended to include the following language at the beginning of each Article:

“We the people of Ulster County - so named by European settler colonists since 1683, but also and previously known by the Esopus Lenape Munsee people and other regionally descended first nations including but not limited to the Stockbridge-Munsee and Ramapough Munsee Lenape among Algonquian peoples as a part of Lenapehoking, 'homelands of the Lenape'; Atharhacton, or uptown Kingston; bordered to the east by earlier as the Mahicannituck, “river that flows both ways,” later as the Hudson River – do hereby ordain and establish this Charter for Ulster County with the following intentions:

- to take indigenous action to decolonize our minds and beings with acknowledgment of our unity with Earth;
- to defeat human conceit about our occupying the apex of existence by respecting all beings including other animals, plants, land, water and air, mountains and forests;
- to acknowledge and repair the shame and horror of centuries of enslavement of certain African-descended peoples by certain European-descended peoples upon these lands, and the continuing legacy pertaining thereunto;
- to defeat legal State and social violence, tyranny and oppression once and for all and to hold each other accountable through love;

Proposed Local Law Number XX Of 2023

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter, (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006), And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008), To Create A Preamble And Ensure More Diverse Advisory Boards

- to reject the assumption that technology leads to inevitable progress, ever-upward;
- to ensure just mobility for all bodies on streets, and within and between the city, towns and villages;
- to establish respect for scientific methods of collective discovery and invention; to recognize and observe the Limits to Growth;
- to promote music, dance, and the performing and fine arts;
- to support self-organizing workers and self-actualizing work;
- to re-establish and defend a Commons that is shared not a commodity;
- to foster the emergence of Nurturance Culture; to prescribe rest and self-care;
- to reunite and get acquainted with Mother Earth;
- to recommend and to provide for and with each other basic necessities for survival and thriving;
- and to secure for ourselves our our posterity the blessings of liberation.”

SECTION 3. Section C-16 Advisory committees, commissions and boards. of the Ulster County Charter and Section A2- 11 of the Administrative Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

“Members of all citizens' committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to § C-11K of this Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Legislature. **All such appointments shall collectively include representation from all geographic areas of County.** ~~They~~ **Appointees** shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise

Proposed Local Law Number XX Of 2023

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter, (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006), And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008), To Create A Preamble And Ensure More Diverse Advisory Boards

provided by resolution of the County Legislature. The Chairman of the County Legislature shall be a member ex officio of all such committees, commissions and boards.”

SECTION 4. Section C-28 Advisory committees, commissions and boards. of the Ulster County Charter and Section A3- 7 of the Administrative Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

“Members of all committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to § C-25H of this Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Executive without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise provided by resolution of the County Legislature; provided, however, that in the case of individuals appointed hereunder for definite terms, no removal shall be made until the person to be removed has been served with notice of the reasons for such removal and given an opportunity to be heard publicly if he or she desires thereon by the County Executive. The decision of the County Executive shall be final. **All such appointments shall collectively include representation from all geographic areas of County.**”

SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY.

In the event that any portion of this local law is found to be invalid, such finding will not have any effect on either the remaining portions or applications of this local law or any provisions of the Ulster County Charter and Ulster County Administrative Code, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall take effect upon its filing with the New York State Secretary of State.