

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Human Development and Personnel Committee

DATE: August 24, 2009

TIME: 4:45 P.M.

PLACE: C.O.B. Legislative Library, 6th Floor

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Donald J. Gregorius, Peter Loughran, Jeanette Provenzano, Philip Terpening, Glenn Noonan and Catherine Terrizzi

LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Paul Hansut

OTHERS ATTENDING: Deputy Co. Exec. Marshall Beckman, UCCC Representatives; President Donald Katt, Dean of Continuing Education Marianne Collins, Director of Continuing Ed Chris Marx, Rise Program Counselor Kathy Keyser, Rise Program Specialist Todd Zeff, Lee Cane LWV, Nettie Tomshaw Legislative Employee

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregorius at 4:45 PM.

A motion to approve July 20, 2009 Minutes was offered by Legislator Provenzano, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, All in Favor, Carried.

Resolution 251 – SUNY Ulster:

Marianne Collins, Dean of Continuing Education UCCC, addressed the committee requesting exemptions from criminal background checks for a select number of SUNY Ulster Continuing Education Presenters and Part-Time Instructors. (Note, a Public Hearing has been set for September 2, 2009) IRS strict standards state you are either an employee or a business, thus an independent contractor who lectures for an hour – a one time course, is deemed an employee. The way the law is currently written they are required to have a background check. Another example is an instructor located in Connecticut providing a 3 hour online computer class.

The college has 92 one-day courses that fall in this category (see attachment).

Requested Exemptions:

- Traditional enrolled work study student - working for the college as part of their financial aid package.
- Instructor that has less than 15 contact hours.

Ms. Collins wanted to make very clear they are not talking about any instructors that teach traditional studies day in and day out or summer camp programs or anyone involved in security.

Ms. Collins also added the logistics of providing fingerprints in a timely fashion for those who reside out of state or out of the region would necessitate additional travel to Ulster County in advance of their actual assignment. President Katt and the College Trustees are concerned that the requirement would have both a limiting and negative impact in regard to the quality of programs the college offers.

Rise Program: Kathy Keyser, Chris Marx, and Todd Zeff of the UCCC Rise Program spoke about how the program has been restructured, how it has progressed and flourished to where the OTDA now recognizes the Ulster County Rise program as the “State Model”, successful education / program - seen as a shining star for Ulster County. (see attachment) The program provides education and training to individuals predominantly single moms who receive public assistance - TANF. The program is designed to break the dependency of public assistance through education. Ms. Collins compared ones journey as leaving a crisis and entering a culture of opportunity.

Legislator Provenzano asked if county agencies as a rule make clients aware of how to go about getting their GED and asked Marshall Beckman to provide further information.

Legislator Loughran asked if the county tracks high school dropout rates - potential clients for social services down the road.

Many thanks went out to all parties for their efforts over the years - including Lee Cane, Tom Roach, Don Katt, Pam Horn, Jim Davis, Bob Brown, UCCC faculty and the UC Legislature for their support and investment in the program.

Legislator Noonan invited the college to speak about the program and its success at the next NYSAC meeting he chairs.

Draft Resolution, September 9, 2009: Adopting a Whistleblower Employee/Agent Protection Program as Policy for Ulster County Employees/Agents

Chairman Gregorius thanked Legislator Provenzano for moving this forward and helping both committees understand the modifications as they developed. Legislator Provenzano gave an overview of the updates from last months meeting - revision #2 vs. most current revision #3. Both the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel participated in the process. Revision #3 was adopted last week by the Administrative Services Committee. Discussion ensued. Legislator Terrizzi was pleased with the changes made. Laws and Rules Committee will review at their September meeting to bring forward at the September Session.

Motion offered to move Resolution (noted as #3) forward by Legislator Noonan, Seconded by Legislator Terrizzi, Unanimously in Favor, Carried.

Draft Resolution, September 9, 2009: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Renew An Agreement With The New York State Department of Health For The Early Intervention Program For The 2009-2010 Program Year – Amending The 2009 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Social Services

Motion offered to move Resolution forward by Legislator Terpening, Seconded by Legislator Noonan, Unanimously in Favor, Carried

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion offered to adjourn meeting @ 6:00 PM by Legislator Noonan, Seconded by Legislator Loughran. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Donald J. Gregorius, Chairman /nt
Human Development & Personnel Committee**