

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Labor Relations and Negotiation Committee

DATE: February 19, 2008

TIME: 4:30 PM

PLACE: Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Honorable Philip C. Terpening (Co-Chair), Honorable David B. Donaldson (Co-Chair), Honorable Wayne Harris, Honorable Richard Gerentine (left early for Ways & Means Committee Meeting), Troy Ashdown (CSEA), Jen Fuentes (HVALF), Joe Libonati (LIUNA), John Nilsen (BSOIW and UHCLC), Brittany Turner (HVALF)

LEGISLATORS ABSENT: Legislators Decker, Kraft, Maloney and Stoeckeler

OTHERS ATTENDING: Bill Wallens, Labor Relations Attorney for Ulster County

1. Call to order -- The meeting was called to order at 4:40pm.

2. Introductions

3. Special Concerns or Suggestions, Including Contract Licensing -- Drafts on contract licensing were given to Legislator Gregorius last year. There were a number of drafts prepared. These sample resolutions and local laws are sometimes controversial and viewed as over-regulation, however they have critical consumer protection elements. There are also many examples of county-wide language as used in Rockland, Westchester and Orange, including language specific to apprenticeships and contractors. Existing contractors with ~5+ years of experience are generally grandfathered in. It is important to address this issue in order to create these benchmarks for contractor expectations. The plumbers and electricians may seek individualized legislation.

There was a desire among all participants to see this work continue. Legislator Harris suggested bringing Legislator Rodriguez into the conversation at an appropriate time, since there are also connections to his work and economic development. Legislator Donaldson also suggested getting feedback from Legislator Roberts.

Ms. Fuentes suggested considering NYS & US support resolutions in the future. However, there was nothing pressing at present.

Ms. Fuentes agreed to provide the most current copies of this information to all committee members via e-mail on or before Friday, February 22. Legislator Harris agreed to contact Legislator Roberts for feedback.

4. Labor Day Parade -- Legislators Donaldson and Terpening had discussed the possibility of creating a labor day event for Ulster County, possibly in the form of a parade. Everyone agreed that this would require substantial effort and would likely lead to the creation of a sub-committee focused solely on this effort, with representatives from the Committee and the Upper Hudson Central Labor Council (UHCLC).

Other ideas for an event included a Labor Film Festival and a Labor Day Picnic. Specific outreach was discussed with regard to teachers, the Hibernians, Volunteer Fire Departments, Hudson Valley Film Commission and the UHCLC. A possible parade location would be Rosendale and may incorporate the use of UCAT shuttles and the Rosendale Theater.

Legislator Terpening agreed to contact the Rosendale Theater and Town of Rosendale Supervisor Pat McDonough. Mr. Nilsen agreed to gauge volunteer interest at the February 25, 2008 UHCLC meeting and report back to Legislator Terpening. Legislator Donaldson agreed to circulate a memorandum or press release county-wide once it is confirmed that event planning will move forward.

5. Set Up Next Meeting -- The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 11 at 4:00pm** on the 6th floor of the Ulster County Office Building, located at 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY. At this meeting, remaining dates for 2008 will be established on either a quarterly or bi-monthly basis. A common agenda will be created and distributed prior to the meeting date.

6. Adjourn -- The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted

Brittany Turner
Coordinator
Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation
PO Box 10663
Newburgh, NY 12552
Ph. 845.567.7760

On behalf of Co-Chairman Terpening and Donaldson.