

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS, EDUCATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES, HELD IN THE LIBRARY  
CONFERENCE ROOM, COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, KINGSTON, NEW YORK, ON  
JANUARY 11, 2011

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

WAYNE HARRIS, Chairman  
DAVID B. DONALDSON, Deputy Chairman  
CARL BELFIGLIO  
DONALD J. GREGORIUS  
JACK HAYES  
CATHERINE TERRIZZI  
MICHAEL MADSEN

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

MARK KOMDAT, Dean of Administration, Ulster County Community College  
MARIANNE COLLINS, Dean of Advancement & Continuing Education, UCCC  
KATHLEEN KEYSER, RISE Counselor, Ulster County Community College  
BENJAMIN KREVOLIN, Director, Dutchess County Arts Council  
EVE MADALENGOITIA, Director of Programs, Dutchess County Arts Council  
VICTOR MELVILLE, League of Women Voters  
LEE REIDY, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension  
JANET SALANITRI, Recorder

At 5:00pm Chairman Harris advised those present that there was a press conference at which the Legislators on the Committee should be present on the turbidity in the lower Esopus and requested their indulgence in the delay of the meeting.

The Legislators thereafter returned and a quorum being present, Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2011 meeting. Such motion was made by Leg. Hayes and seconded by Leg. Belfiglio and upon Chairman Harris calling for a voice vote the minutes of the January 11, 2011 meeting of this Committee as presented were unanimously approved.

Chairman Harris advised that the meeting would have to break at approximately 6:00pm for a Special Meeting of the full Legislature. At this time he recognized Benjamin Krevolin and Eve Madalengoitia of the Dutchess County Arts Council.

Dutchess County Arts Council:

Mr. Krevolin introduced Eve Madalengoitia, the new Director of Programs to the Committee and gave a brief description of her background, including her success as a grantsperson.

Ms. Madalengoitia gave a run-down of the schedule of the grant application process. She said the deadline for the applications is May 3<sup>rd</sup> with decisions being made by the end of June and checks going out in July. She said she will e-mail the exact schedule. There will be two seminars on grant writing for this program at the end of March; one will be held in Kingston and the other possibly in the Ellenville area. Mr. Madalengoitia said her office has already had some interest in these programs.

Leg. Belfiglio asked how many grant applications had been received and was told by Mr. Krevolin that about twelve to eighteen were average and last year seven were funded. Mr. Krevolin also said, in reply to a question from Leg. Gregorius, that during the last few years, different groups were working together on a grant so that they could do a combined project. He said organizations that collaborated on grant applications get extra points and there have been collaborations between profit and non-profit alike.

The report of Dutchess County Arts Council being concluded, Chairman Harris recognized Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration, Marianne Collins, Dean of Advancement and Continuing Education and Kathleen Keyser, Counselor in the PACE Program, all of Ulster County Community College.

Ulster County Community College:

Dean Komdat distributed his January 2011 Update Report and referred the committee to the Enrollment Summary Report. On enrollment, the Dean said we are at approximately 78% of budget projections for the spring semester as of the end of December. We were at 88% as of yesterday. Which was the last day of registration for the spring semester; however, we still have the Collegian program to figure in which should help enrollment. We have been trying to find reasons as to why spring enrollment has been struggling. Some feel health care is one of the reasons. Now that students can still stay on their parents health insurance until they are twenty-six there isn't the need to come to college full time. We are looking to boost summer enrollment by implementing a head start collegian program for recent high school graduates.

Leg. Terrizzi asked if he thought the college would pick up a few more students between now and the start of classes. Dean Komdat said we should, in which case we could possibly end up at 95% of the spring goal.

Dean Komdat then introduced Marianne Collins, Dean of Advancement and Continuing Education and Kathleen Keyser of the RISE Program. Dean Collins said she is not involved with RISE on a day-to-day basis at this time; however, she has been associated with this program for a long period of time under its various names and is very familiar with it and would be happy to clarify any questions.

Ms. Keyser gave a brief overview of the history of the RISE Program and how it has existed for more than twenty years under different names. It has served more than five hundred students with children who are on temporary assistance and has enabled them to earn a degree, a certificate or a diploma in select areas and to become self-sufficient.

She said all participants referred to the program have to attend a program entitled "Essential Skills", the purpose of which is to show them how to succeed in college. She also reviewed the RISE fall2010 "Participation Summary" which shows the students' engagement in a designated number of hours each month in an activity assigned by the Department of Social Services. She also reviewed the "Statistical Summary" which shows fall 2010 starting and, after some changes, ending with eighteen students. Ms. Keyser said spring 2011 will start with nineteen students, as one fall 2010 student has left to attend an LPN program while two new students are joining the program.

Ms. Keyser advised the Committee that while Dean Collins will continue to have an on-going presence in the RISE program, it is now considered to be part of Student Services and under the auspices of Ann Marrott, Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management.

Chairman Harris asked if the participants were mostly women and Ms. Keyser said that while they have had a few men over the years, students were predominantly female. In response to a question from Leg. Gregorius regarding students obtaining necessary help, Ms. Keyser said the next "Essential Skills" class will start in June for students entering in September.

Dean Collins advised that over the years fewer than 2% of graduates continue to receive any kind of public assistance. Out of five hundred students she said, there may be eight or ten who are still getting any public services such as food stamps, HEAP or Medicaid. She did say we lose some because they become self-sufficient while they are attending college and accordingly are still considered a success. In reply to a question from Leg. Terrizzi regarding the participation summary, Ms. Keyser said the numbers are sometimes down a few points, as is the case for December, when there is a holiday.

The report of Ulster County Community College being concluded, Chairman Harris recognized Lee Reidy, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension:

Cornell Cooperative Extension:

Ms. Reidy advised that her office had started the new year getting ready to work with a grant "Creating Healthy Places" which is an Open City program with the Health Department and is a part of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant- A Healthy Kingston for Kids project. We will be coupling with other grants to do the same kind of work which will compliment each other in Ellenville and Phoenicia and we are looking for a Coordinator for that program.

Ms. Reidy also advised that she is waiting to hear from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services regarding a grant for children of incarcerated parents being raised by relatives to make sure they graduate from high school. There are 15 children in that program.

Her office has already started discussion on sharing services with five surrounding counties under \$300,00 received from Cornell over the next four years to look at sharing services. Ms. Reidy said the best thing to come out of that is some help with contract management, which is almost impossible to keep up with. The counties involved are Ulster, Dutchess, Columbia, Greene and Sullivan. Leg. Belfiglio said a lot of school districts are looking at shared services and Chairman Harris said the Governor's message last week involved a lot of that also. Ms. Reidy said they are not setting up a financial section. They will still individually hire people but they will work for an association.

The report of Cornell Cooperative Extension being concluded, Chairman Harris turned the Committee to new business.

New Business:

Resolutions:

Chairman Harris offered the following Resolutions:

- 1) Authorizing the Chairman of the U.C. Legislature to enter into an Agreement with Ulster County Community Action Committee, Inc., having a financial impact of \$11,250.00 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget;
- 2) Appropriation for The Cooperative Extension Association of Ulster County and Authorizing the Chairman of the U.C. Legislature to Execute the Agreement related thereto, having a financial impact of \$266,475 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget;

- 3) Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to Execute an Agreement with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for the 2011 Appropriation – Legislature, having a financial impact of \$15,000 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget;
- 4) Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to Execute an Agreement with the Dutchess County Arts Council for the 2011 Appropriation – Legislature, having a financial impact of \$41,250 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget;
- 5) Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to Execute an Agreement with Family of Woodstock, Inc. for the Supervised Visitation Program for the 2011 Appropriation – Legislature – having a financial impact of \$15,000 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget; and
- 6) Authorizing the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature to Execute an Agreement for the Maintenance of Facilities for the Ulster Performing Arts Center for the 2011 Appropriation – Legislature – having a financial impact of \$18,750 as allocated in the 2011 Ulster County Budget.

A motion to approve all of the foregoing six (6) resolutions as presented was made by Deputy Chairman Donaldson and seconded by Leg. Hayes and upon Chairman Harris calling for a voice vote on all resolutions, said resolutions were unanimously approved.

Appointment of Sub-Committee:

Chairman Harris said that this committee having just been charged with the overseeing of The Office for the Aging needs a sub-committee to look into the on-going matter of the “Meals on Wheels” Program and accordingly, he appointed said sub-committee as follows:

Chairman: Leg. Terrizzi  
Members: Leg. Belfiglio and Leg. Madsen

Chairman Harris charged the sub-committee to work with Office of the Aging and with the Office of the County Executive, Deputy County Executive Bob Sudlow.

Appointment of Liaisons to Departments:

Chairman Harris then appointed liaisons to several departments as follows:

Leg. Terrizzi: Office for the Aging  
Deputy Chairman Donaldson: CASA & Community Action  
Leg. Gregorius: The Arts  
Leg. Madsen: County Historian and Libraries  
Leg. Belfiglio: Ulster County Youth Bureau  
Leg. Hayes: Ulster County Veterans Service Agency

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Leg. Madsen and seconded by Leg. Gregorius and Chairman Harris declared the meeting duly adjourned at 6:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Salanitri, Recorder  
Administrative Assistant  
SUNY Ulster