

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
  
**HIGHER EDUCATION**  
  
and  
  
**ENERGY COMMITTEE**  
  
of the  
  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
  
**Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Economic Development, Higher Education & Energy Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on Wednesday, October 3, 2007.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Wayne Horsley - Chairman  
Legislator Ed Romaine  
Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Legislator Steve Stern - Vice-Chair  
Legislator Tom Barraga

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature  
Joe Schroeder - Budget Review Office  
Joe Muncey - Budget Review Office  
Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature  
Ben Zwirn - County Executive's Office.  
Brendan Stanton - Aide to Legislator Horsley  
Carolyn Fahey - Economic Development  
Charles Stein - Suffolk Community College  
George Gatta - Suffolk Community College  
James Morgo - Commissioner - Economic Development  
Lori Taggart - Suffolk Community College  
Dr. Shaun McKay - Suffolk Community college  
Debra Alloncius - AME  
Gail Lolis - County Attorney's Office  
All other interested parties

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Donna Catalano - Court Stenographer

**MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY:**

Denise Weaver - Legislative Aide

(\*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:11 PM.\*)

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

All right. May we please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SALUTATION**

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

May we please stand for a moment of silence for all those men and women who are protecting our freedoms across the sea.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much. Please be seated. All right. This should prove to be a fairly short meeting, I believe. Welcome to the Economic Development, Higher Education and Energy Committee of -- dated October 3rd -- and that's not him yet. We're looking for Steve Stern, because we told him we'd wait for him, but we couldn't wait.

All right. Well the first -- I have one card and you guys together I gather, that's kind of cute. Lori Taggart and Shaun McKay, Dean Shaun McKay, concerning topic IR 1962, Suffolk County Community College. You guys want to --

**MS. TAGGART:**

Good afternoon, Chairman Horsley, members of the committee. My name is Lori Taggart, I'm Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator for Suffolk County Community College.

I am pleased to address you today in support of IR 1962, which provides County capital funding for the renovation of existing space on the college's Brentwood campus into an anatomy and physiology laboratory. This new lab will assist the college in further encouraging scientific career paths for Suffolk County youth, help address the needs of a growing enrollment at the Brentwood campus, especially within the Biological Science and Nursing Programs and ensure that students have access to appropriate learning resources.

Our Science Programs at Grant are currently oversubscribed. In fact, we have had scheduled lab time at 6:30 in the morning for required courses that demand lab work and even those are at capacity. The college was able to secure additional state funding of \$150,000, which has been earmarked for this new lab. On behalf of Dr. Pippins, Executive Vice-President Gatta and the entire college community I respectfully request this committee's support in funding the 50% match required for development of the lab and your approval of this resolution and Shaun will supplement that information more specifically.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much. Dean McKay, welcome.

**DR. McKAY:**

Welcome again and thank you members of the committee. I believe we spoke at the last session in regards to significance of this initiative. And it was not a surprise but I stopped by the Clerk's Office a few minutes ago to sign the yellow card to find out that Lisa Schulman, who's a Clerk on the other side is in the Pre-Nursing Program and she indicated to me that she's currently attending the college three days a week because of the capacity that we have in order to get access to the labs. So go bringing it close to home. Our students are all over the County, as Lori indicated in the talk a few minutes ago, it's a time for us to look at lab, signs, nursing, art and health, those areas are critical to the County.

The state has already submitted their fundings match for this initiative and we're asking that you also put forward your votes in support of this initiative. I'm here to answer any questions that you may have but I believe that you're well aware from the last statements we've made the significance of this project.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Legislator Vilorio-Fisher.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. McKay, you're aware that we were in full support of the project and that the one concern we had was the funding source and I believe that there has been an amended copy of the resolution. Counsel? Legislator Montano had said to me that --

**MS. TAGGART:**

It's a brand new resolution that was submitted. A new IR number.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Can you come to the podium?

**MS. TAGGART:**

It was a new IR number assigned. So the previous resolution was withdrawn, that did not have the offset. And this 1962 does identify an offset.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Oh, it's a completely new resolution.

**MS. TAGGART:**

Yes.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER**

Not an amended resolution.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

1962 is the new number.

**MS. TAGGART:**

The new number, 1962.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Okay. George, does that have an offset?

**MS. TAGGART:**

It was 1866, the previous resolution.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Well maybe BRO can --

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER**

Yeah.

**MR. MUNCEY:**

Yes. Budget Review is able to identify two capital projects that funds can be taken from in support of this new resolution, I mean, this new capital program.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

And if recall with a conversation I had with the sponsor, was there a concern regarding Legislator Barraga and the offset and was that straightened out do you know?

**MR. MUNCEY:**

Yeah, I'm not familiar with that conversation.

**MS. TAGGART:**

Yes it -- Vivian it was. The offset that is represented in 1962 is different than the original offset that was put forth.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Okay. I just wanted to make sure we had --

**MS. TAGGART:**

Yes.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

-- before us all of the correct changes. Thank you.

**MS. TAGGART:**

And we've spoken with Legislator Barraga and --

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

He was okay with it?

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Okay.

**MS. TAGGART:**

-- he's fine with the resolution, yes.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Yeah, I don't know where Tom is today. He's away?

**MS. TAGGART:**

I believe he's out of town.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

He's out of town.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

All right. Thank you very much.

**MS. TAGGART:**

Okay.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

All right. Is there anything else you'd like to add?

**DR. McKAY:**

Yeah, we just want to thank you again for your continued support of the college and our President and Executive Vice-President as well send their best wishes and continued appreciation for your support. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much. Are there any other questions? Mr. Romaine, you're all right over there?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

I'm fine.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay. All right. There's no sense even pulling it out of order because it's such a small agenda.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Right.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

All right. Is there anything else? Anyone else like to be heard before this committee today? All right. Lets go to the agenda.

#### **TABLED PRIME RESOLUTION**

**Tabled prime, 1658, Adopting a no tax increase fiscal responsible Suffolk County Community College Affordable Education Operating Budget for 2007-2008.** Has it been withdrawn? Or do I --

**MR. STANTON:**

It's been withdrawn.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

It has been withdrawn.

**MR. STANTON:**

It's been withdrawn and it was listed as an incorrect number. It's not on the agenda.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Well, that certainly kills it. Doesn't it? Twice, nailed them twice on that one. Okay. So I guess that's -- that's only way to deal with. Okay.

**1828, Amending Adopted Resolution No. 703-2007, to appropriate General Funds for Capital Project 5739. (Co. Exec.)** Does anyone from -- anyone want to be heard on this? Do you remember what this is, George, offhand.

**MR. NOLAN:**

This was -- goes back maybe a month or six weeks where we were at General Meeting, the Legislature raised questions why a \$4500 amount was being bonded.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Yeah, I remember.

**MR. NOLAN:**

And then it was amended to take the money from the County Legislature budget as the offset. So it's been tabled ever since.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Good plan. Continue to table it.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Continue to table? So I have a motion from Ms. Viloría Fisher to --

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Well, actually I'd like to table it subject to call because we're not going to have the money taken out of the Legislature.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay. Is there any comments from the County Executive on this issue? Okay.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Do I have a second?

**LEG. ROMAINE:**

Second.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Thank you. I was waiting.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

I guess I must go with the majority then? There's only three of us here. Okay. All in favor? Opposed? So moved. It's been -- **(VOTE: Tabled Subject to Call 3-0-0-2 Not Present: Legislators Stern and Barraga)** All right. There are no tabled memorializing resolutions, no home rule messages, obviously. Okay.

#### **INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

**1962, Amending the 2007 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with retrofitting a section in the Health, Sports, Exhibition Complex as an Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory (for the) Grant Campus (CP 2193) (Montano)**

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Motion to approve by Ms. Viloría-Fisher, I'll second the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. It has been approved. **(VOTE: 3-0-0-2 Not Present: Legislators Stern and Barraga)** And that concludes the agenda. Wow, I think that's a record. Motion to close.

**LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:**

Second.

**(\*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 2:20 P.M. \*)  
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**