

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HIGHER EDUCATION & 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, Smithtown, New York, on March 18, 2009.

Members Present:

Legislator Wayne Horsley - Chairman
Legislator Steve Stern - Vice-Chair
Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher
Legislator John Kennedy

Members Not Present:

Legislator Cameron Alden

Also In Attendance:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Alicia Howard - Legislative Aide/Clerk's Office
Brendan Stanton - Aide to Legislator Horsley
Jack Cafferty - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Michael Pitcher - Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Paul Perillie - Aide to Majority Leader Cooper
Tom Ryan - Aide to Legislator Vilorio-Fisher
Debbie Harris - Aide to Legislator Stern
Lance Reinheimer - Assistant Budget Director/Budget Review Office
Joe Muncey - Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office
Jill Moss - Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office
Ben Zwirn - Deputy County Executive
Steve Tricarico - County Executive Assistant
George Gatta - Acting President/Suffolk County Community College
Ilena Kreitzer - General Counsel/Suffolk County Community College
Lori Taggart - Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator/SCCC
Kate Rowe - Dean of Enrollment Management/SCCC
Tom Coleman - Assistant Academic Chair/SCCC
Jim Whitten - Vice-President of Workforce Development/SCCC.
John Lombardo - Director of Corporate Training/SCCC
Kevin Peterman - Executive Vice-President/The Faculty Association
Michelle Isabelle Stark - Economic Development/Workforce Housing
Dylan Skolnick - Nominee/SC Motion Picture, Television Film Commission
Rose Van Guilder - Alliance for Independent Long Island
Debra Alloncius - Legislative Director/AME
All other interested parties

Minutes Taken & Transcribed By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 2:20 P.M. *)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Good afternoon, everybody. And welcome to the Economic Development, Higher Education & Energy Committee meeting of March 18th, 2009. May we please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Legislator Stern, will you lead us?

Salutation

And may we please stand for a moment of silence for all those who protect our freedoms, both here and abroad.

Moment of Silence Observed

Thank you very much. Why don't you please take a seat.

All right. Good afternoon, everybody. I know my -- the rest of our committee members will be here shortly, so we don't do any of the voting at this point in time. But what we can do is we will go to the presentation, the new GI Bill and Suffolk County Community College. Lori Ann Taggart, Intergovernmental Relations; Kate Roe, College Dean of Enrollment Management; and Assistant Professor Thomas Coleman, Veterans Club Advisor would like to speak to the committee on veterans matters, which are an important matter. Hello .

MS. TAGGART:

Hello.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

It's always a pleasure and it's good to see the college, happy faces.

MS. TAGGART:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

There you go. Good to see. Why don't you tell us about the Veterans Program that you're proposing.

MS. TAGGART:

Okay, great. Good afternoon --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Proposing or is already in place?

MS. TAGGART:

The new GI Bill goes into effect August 1st.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Got it. Okay.

MS. TAGGART:

Okay? Good afternoon, Chairman Horsley, Members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today about the new GI Bill for Veterans and the efforts that Suffolk County Community College is undertaking to enhance existing services for veterans students. My name is Lori Ann Taggart, I'm the Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator for the college.

As a brief introduction to the GI Bill recently passed by congress, eligible veterans who have served the minimum of 90 days on active duty after September 10th, 2001, are eligible for enhanced

benefits beginning August 1st. Under the new bill, full-time veteran students may be eligible for up to 100% paid tuition, a monthly housing stipend and a stipend of up to a thousand dollars a year for books and supplies. The tuition payment levels are based on the rate of tuition and fees for the most expensive in-State, undergraduate, public college for the State in which the student enrolls. For New York, the rate is estimated to be about \$970 per credit hour, plus \$2,400 in fees. Because of the affordability of Suffolk Community College, a veteran attending our institution can be eligible for full tuition and fees payable by the GI Bill. Most importantly, tuition will now be paid from the Federal government directly to the institution, no longer requiring the veteran student to request tuition deferrals or use their credit card for payment while waiting for reimbursement of their education benefits.

Under the new program, veterans are generally entitled to 36 months of educational assistance, and these benefits are transferable to family members if the individual has served at least six years in the Armed Force and agrees to serve at least another four years. Eligibility expires -- excuse me, expires 15 years from the date of the last discharge.

With me today are Kate Rowe, College Dean of Enrollment Services, and Thomas Coleman, Assistant Academic Chair of our Psychology Department and Faculty Advisor of the College's Veterans Club, who will provide an overview of the additional services that the college has established in anticipation of an increased veteran student population. Kate?

MS. ROWE:

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to allow us to show you how we welcome veterans and how we serve them. I've prepared a very, very brief Power Point, largely to keep me from speaking too long, actually.

We are uniquely positioned, really, to assist veterans because we already have over 200 student veterans on our campuses now, and these are veterans who are currently receiving veterans benefits. We are a SOC school, which means we are Service-Members Opportunity College; that is a consortium of colleges that agree to transfer credits as liberally as possible among those institutions with as much ease as possible for the student. We also participate in {ConAP} which is a Concurrent Admission Program for Army enlistees and Army reservists. That means that at the point in which someone enlists in the Army, they can also apply to the college, be accepted. We hold that acceptance as current until they are separated from the service or until, in the case of a reservist, they're home and wish to come to college. So those are some of the things we are currently doing and have for quite a while.

Some of the services we think would be of great benefit to veterans and which are already offered at the college and in which many veterans are already participating are career exploration, that can be done at any point in their time at the college. It can be done at the beginning so it kind of informs what they decide to major in, or it can be done towards the end where it can help them choose to do a particular internship or it can, of course, inform the way they write their resume. All of this goes through our Career Services offices on the campus. We also have a Job Connections Website which is very helpful for a returning veteran looking for a job.

*(*Legislator Viloría-Fisher entered the meeting at 2:26 P.M. *)*

We have academic and personal counseling, and this allows the student to stay on track, both academically and if they're having some personal difficulties we can assess those and refer as appropriate. We also have disability services, and this is for both physical disabilities and learning disabilities.

Generous transfer credit policy, which we just talked about. Part of that is to examine the DD-214, we transfer credits for MOS', we transfer credits and give credits for service training. All of those are

in ACE Guide, the American Council on Education Guide which we've been using for years. We also look at {Dantes} and {CLEP} courses and use the recommended credit distribution for those where they apply to the program that the student is taking. And again, as a SOC member college, we transfer credits from other institutions as they apply.

In addition, we have the Veterans Club, which Tom will speak about in a few minutes, which gives support. It's a place to go to talk to people who have had life like experiences and who may be able to help them in some other ways.

And finally, we're really trying to help student veterans navigate the college environment. And to that end, most recently we've established service to veterans teams on each campus, and the team consists of someone from the Admission's Office, someone in the Financial Aid Office and someone in the Registrar's Office who will work as a team to help the veteran at whatever point they come into the system, to really navigate them through whole system so they can have a successful experience, both academically and as far as their benefits are concerned.

We're also looking into at the moment a Veteran Work Study Program.

We already have, of course, the Federal Work Study Program, but the Veteran Work Study Program goes through the VA. We're now producing the applications, veterans who feel they would like to apply for this can apply right through the VA, we're going to make sure those applications are in the appropriate offices on campus. Because we'd like to link those work study positions with these teams, so that a veteran coming in not only can get through the academic process, but has someone who understands the experiences they've had and who can act as an ombudsman, really, with the VA. So that's what we're doing currently.

Now, how we advertise these I can show you on our web page. This is the home page for the college, and as you can see here, we have prominently displayed at the moment, and this will -- it may not remain on the home page at all times, but it will be there at times of registration and enrollment so that veterans looking for information will have it at their finger tips, so to speak. This is the web page that we have, and what this web page does is take all of the information that we've just talked about and more and put it in one place to be viewed in one place. So, for instance, you can bring up the on-line application here, you can look at a statement on credit for military service which gives you some direction on what you need to do, you can see here, some of the services for student veterans that we have, and each of these is a live link, so that will take you right to the office and the office description. Here are the teams that we've created, and it gives the contact number of each of the members of the teams. This gives you details on the veteran's benefits and also has a link to veterans information from our Registrar's Office and also from Financial Aid.

And now I have to get back, which I think we can probably go this way. And then we have the veterans group prominently listed here and a list of other clubs, because a student might -- obviously they're not just a veteran, they're a veteran and a student at this point. So we've got lots of clubs that they might wish to participate in and which will make them feel at home and part of this group.

And then finally -- and interestingly enough, I just got a comment yesterday, the first comment from the web page, and this is the comment's form which allows anyone looking at this web page to send an e-mail directly to me and I will respond to it.

So that just is a brief overview. We also have other academic skill centers here. We have the scholarship search which you click on "new students" and you can look at all of the scholarships that you might apply for. We have the list of the program of studies for -- sorted really into business, communication and the arts, programs and computing, so they can get a basic idea of programs in a particular area rather than scroll through an alphabetic list, and then the courses are here, and these are other links. This is an area that we're looking to develop, and so if you have links that you think would be valuable for veterans, we had some suggestions the other day. When we came to

speaking, Tom Ronayne gave us some suggestions of web sites and links that we might include here. These are internal at the moment, but we're looking to expand that.

So that is the web page and we hope that that's going to help us reach out to veterans considering coming back to college or continuing college when they return from active service. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Can I just ask a quick question?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Do you have any separate little leaflets or folders that we could bring, let's say to veterans groups, you know, with the name of the website and a little information?

MS. ROWE:

We're working on that now. As a matter of fact, we talked about it the other day. The information that we've gathered here for the website is going to become a little tri-fold so it's simple to carry out, and once we have them --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

If it's possible to have it before Memorial Day? Because when I go to the parade, you know, I'm going to see a bunch of people and it would be great to give some to veterans that I see there.

MS. ROWE:

I don't think that will be a problem at all and I'll make sure that they get it to you.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay. Nice looking website.

MS. ROWE:

Thank you.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Legislator.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Mr. Chair, a quick question?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, sure.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I think we have more of the presentation coming, but --

LEG. KENNEDY:

Oh, is there?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I think Thomas is going to make a statement, is that correct?

MR. COLEMAN:

Yeah, Mr. Chairman, just some brief information on the Veterans Club, but it can wait until after the question, of course.

LEG. KENNEDY:

All I wanted to do, through the Chair, is to ask about the work study. And in particular maybe not so much to ask about it as opposed to just ask -- I do a tremendous amount of work with other student interns, Stony Brook's Masters & Public Policy Program, Touro I've had interns with, as have all of us, all of us do an extensive amount of work. So if I'm not in your work study repertoire, please add my office to it because I think it would --

MS. ROWE:

I'll give that information to our Career Services Office and they can contact you about that, I think that would be a real addition here.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I've found that veteran students in particular, I've had a couple of Marines, they do an outstanding job and they seem to be interested in the work that goes on out of Legislative offices.

MS. ROWE:

Okay. Great.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So please feel free to add it.

MS. ROWE:

Thank you.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you. Thomas?

MR. COLEMAN:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically, what we're trying to do with the Veterans Club is to advance the concept of the club per se into more of a clearing house for resources and availability for opportunities for the veterans.

Primarily we're going to be meeting once a month, and during that time we're going to have people coming in from, for example, the Northport VA. I've developed a relationship with the Northport VA where they're coming in to do a drop-in group on a monthly basis for those members of the club or any other veterans at the college. And that really is at its core an availability to them because some of them, not living around the area, are more hesitant to go out to Northport and so we're more or less bringing the services and information that the VA offers to them on campus once a month.

Also, what we're trying to do is we're trying to develop internship programs for the veterans through the club. We're trying to advance their interests into the community and varying businesses or health care opportunities. I have some contacts at, say, Pilgrim Psychiatric Center and some other hospitals in the area where I worked in the capacity as a psychologist where those vets who were interested in that career, for example, would be able to go and get a faster track to an internship

availability.

We're also doing some community outreach work, for example, with Habitat For Humanity, the group is going to be involved in that. The group is also going to be involved in going to the VA centers, for example, like Northport and Stony Brook, to do visitations with other veterans, older veterans that don't get out into the community and may have less contact with family members and things like that. So we're putting some of the younger vets together with some of the older vets just for some camaraderie and some support for both, because I feel that they could both learn from each other. And the veterans that we've talked to on both ends, both at the VA hospitals as well as those that are students, have agreed and they've benefitted from that as well.

So the concept of the club that I have and that has evolved in terms of the veterans is something that is a little wider in scope than we have typically seen in terms of clubs at the college. And its really -- the club name per se is really there in name only, because this is more of an opportunity to advance not only your education but your level of support from each other as well as the college and access to community resources, and as Kate mentioned, some of the support services that might be necessary in terms of academic advising or personal counseling as well.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right, thank you. And that's very interesting. I just had a couple of quick questions --

MS. MAHONEY:

Is your microphone on?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No. Thank you for advising me, though. Just quickly -- yeah, that is difference. Just quickly, on the requirements to get this veterans benefit, the GI Bill, you've said it was -- you had to have six years of service and then plus four? How does that work?

MS. TAGGART:

You have to have served a minimum of 90 days on active duty after September 10th, 2001. This is called the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay.

MS. TAGGART:

So that's kind of the benchmark they're using, but it's 90 days on active duty. In terms of being able to transfer your GI benefits to a family member, you will have had to have served six years with a promise of four more.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, that's what -- okay, that's what I got confused on. I was saying, "What is that?" That didn't make any sense at all to me. But okay, now I've got a --

MS. TAGGART:

Right.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thomas, you kind of touched on this a little bit, but maybe -- how does this program relate to those veterans returning that may have disabilities, stress syndrome, things like that; how does it work for that? Are we doing any special preparations, or maybe kind of enlighten me on that.

MS. ROWE:

Well, we're looking now for really professional development opportunities, and we have several in the works now. There are some webinars and some one-day conferences that will help us with

understanding the mindset, which will be helpful.

We do currently have disability services on campus, they deal with physical disabilities among the student body all the time. So we expect that veterans will be able to --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Though these may be special --

MS. ROWE:

They may be, but these are professional disability counselors who can work with them to assist them in ways that perhaps, you know, they are not being assisted elsewhere. We also do personal counseling. But in general, after the disability might be diagnosed we recommend out into the community to services that are available. And a lot of these services are available through the VA, so we usually would be working with them.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Interesting. Yeah, that's good. Thank you.

Now, let me ask you, the total number of years which the GI Bill lasts for a student. I mean, once they've completed the two years at Suffolk, can they extend that now to a four-year institution; how does that work?

MS. TAGGART:

The GI benefits cover 36 months of higher education.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thirty-six months.

MS. TAGGART:

There is a 15-year period of time that you can take advantage of the benefits after you're discharged, but they will cover 36 months.

MS. ROWE:

But they're not necessarily contiguous.

MS. TAGGART:

Right.

MS. ROWE:

In other words, if you're in the fall semester it's three months, September, October, November, or maybe it's three and a half months. That does not count, you know, the winter break. It's really actually months that you are enrolled in, so it's not 36 months in the sense of three years, it lasts three years.

MS. TAGGART:

Right.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So in other words, if you're not going to school during the summer months, you could take those three, three and three and add them on and you're getting closer to the four, four years? Did you follow me on that?

MS. ROWE:

Well, yes.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Uh-huh yeah.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You did; thanks, Vivian.

MS. ROWE:

Yeah, in any --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So you're getting close to four years.

MS. ROWE:

Most students, if they just attend in the fall and in the spring, would be six or eight months of that 36 months and that would be their year, so to speak. So it's just your period of attendance that counts into those 36 months.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

It will take you to six years.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, possibly. Okay, interesting. Well, good, that's something good. And as far as transferability of the GI Bill, there's no problems with that, the post 2001 bill?

MS. TAGGART:

Transferability to?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

To other schools, if they wanted to go to a couple of years with Suffolk and do the last year somewhere else?

MS. TAGGART:

They can go to any institution that they choose.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

They can go to any institution, right.

MS. TAGGART:

Accredited.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

But the benefit to the Suffolk Community College, because we're so inexpensive, that we actually fit within those governmental guidelines.

MS. TAGGART:

Exactly.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Which probably no one else does, or close to nobody else.

MS. TAGGART:

Well, it's rather generous, \$970 per credit hour is quite a bit.

MS. ROWE:

It would cover all of the SUNY Schools.

MS. TAGGART:

All of public schools.

MS. ROWE:

But I don't know that it would cover --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

That's good.

MS. ROWE:

It certainly wouldn't cover living expenses. Private schools is another matter.

MS. TAGGART:

Right, private schools are a different matter. They also -- private schools can also offer a yellow ribbon program where they agree to accept the GI bills in full payment, so they're working with the private institutions as well to kind of enhance --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Do any of our -- we have those relationships with St. John's; have they -- has this discussion gone into effect where you're talking about those types of issues for veterans affairs? You know, veterans that -- you know, so that they will take -- what do you call it, yellow ribbon? I like that, that's nice.

MS. ROWE:

Yeah, that's a program.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, the Yellow Ribbon Program. Have we -- because we have those partners that we -- that accept our students outside. Have we done that and extended that to the veterans and maybe some of these benefits along with it?

MS. TAGGART:

Actually, Tim Bishop is conducting a workshop later this month to talk with institutions of higher education, and particularly about -- one of the issues will be the Yellow Ribbon Program which only effects institutions that charge more than the maximum benefit in the State.

So it doesn't effect us, but he is -- that is one of the agenda items that he'll be discussing with the private institutions on Long Island.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

But, I mean, have we talked about this with our partners?

MS. ROWE:

I have not, so I couldn't say definitively that we haven't, but not that I know of.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

It sure sounds like, you know -- it sounds like a good topic of discussion.

MS. TAGGART:

The Yellow Ribbon Program is part of the GI Bill, so everybody is --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So maybe we don't need to, if they're going to -- it's going to help them anyway.

MS. TAGGART:

Every institution is aware of it, aware of the GI Bill and the benefits coming down.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay.

MS. ROWE:

Of the several that I've talked to unofficially, I know that at least two of them are applying to --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

That's cool. That's good stuff.

MS. ROWE:

I know Dowling is.

MS. TAGGART:

Dowling, I thought so.

MS. ROWE:

Yeah, I know they're applying for the Yellow Ribbon. I don't know who else is.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Nice. Okay. Any further questions? Yes, Viv.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

On behalf of one of our staff people, I know that we've had a great number of students, our numbers have gone up recently. Now with this veterans program, are we going to hit a ceiling where we have to turn people away, do you think? Are we going to get so many people who want to register that we can't accept more students?

MS. ROWE:

It's almost impossible to tell. I certainly think that with the current perception of the community college, which is -- the public media has been so, so on target and praising what we offer and with the current economic situation, I guess it is possible that that might happen, but I can't foresee that. I can't foresee that.

Certainly, we will accept students who are acceptable to us and that's, you know, anyone with a high school diploma or a GED or the ability to benefit can be accepted to the college. If at some point in August, let's say, we literally have no more classes open, I mean, I've never ever seen that happen in 25 years, but could it happen? I can't prognosticate, I don't know. I hope not.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay. What's our utilization now? What percentage of our classrooms are being utilized? I know that there's a certain level -- George, do you know where we are with that? Through the Chair? Sorry.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure, go ahead.

COMMISSIONER GATTA:

I can tell you that this past fall we had predicted a two and three quarter percent increase in enrollment, and we far surpassed that.

We were over 4.6% increase in enrollment for the fall, that's year, fall of '07 to fall of '08. For the spring, we anticipated and we had projected around the same increase, about 2.75, and for the spring the numbers, I believe, are slightly over 5%. So the increase in enrollment continues and Dr. Rowe has alluded to what's happened, and not just -- this is not just locally, but nationally there's just a tremendous surge in enrollment. It's a combination of factors; it's the economy, it's the strain that's being placed on family budgets, it's also in New York State the cutbacks that the four-year institutions have sustained as part of the deficit reduction plan at the State level. To date, the four-year institutions have absorbed over \$2 million of cuts. They are accepting fewer students, which means more and more students are applying to us.

Looking forward to next year, we know it's going to be a very tight budget. We know that at best there will be no increase from the State. And given the County's fiscal situation in the budget that the Trustees will consider next month, we will not ask for an increase from the County because we don't believe that the County is in a position to provide that increase. So that leaves only one leg of the stool to support the ship and that's tuition, so we will need some tuition increase. I know this is a long answer to your question --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Which was about utilization, about space that's being utilized.

COMMISSIONER GATTA:

Uh-huh, I'll get to that.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER GATTA:

So the challenge is great. Utilization currently is upwards of 90%, which is --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Wow.

COMMISSIONER GATTA:

-- very high when you look at spaces.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

That's very high.

MR. GATTA:

When you look at the classroom space availability. On-line classes, distance ed classes, the growth there continues to increase substantially.

We're looking at times and we're using -- we're opening at 6:30 in the morning, running very early classes, we're running late classes, weekend classes. One day that has not been ever popular with college students, regardless of age, are Friday classes. As we build the master schedule for next year, we will also look at adding classes on Friday, so times that traditionally haven't been well populated. So we are approaching -- we're approaching full utilization.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay, that's what I was concerned about. And how will that impact the availability of students to register? I mean, do you foresee having to turn people away?

MR. GATTA:

Well, we've got two issues here. You've got utilization and you have resources to put faculty in front of the classroom. Again, other strategies that we're using, we're looking at shifting classes where we can run larger sections of classes. You know, our average class size is around -- we won't even say average, it's about 22, but that includes, you know, almost a thousand students in nursing and many of those classes are in cohorts of ten, and many of our labs are only at around 20 students. So we're looking to move classroom sections and combine sections so that we can accommodate more and more students. It's going to be a challenge both on the resource side, to be able to afford all the faculty we need, and also in terms of space utilization. We know how and we will maximize the space, the question becomes do we reach a point where we just don't have the fiscal resources to put more adjuncts and to provide more overload for full-time faculty in order to teach additional sections.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Thank you, George.

MR. GATTA:

You're welcome.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

George, by the way, I enjoy your negotiating posture.

*(*Laughter From Panel & Audience*)*

MR. GATTA:

Just the facts, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You're quite a guy.

MR. GATTA:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Are there any further questions of the panel? Anything else you'd like to add? Thank you very much, this is good stuff. And we appreciate you helping our veterans, it's good cause. Thank you.

MS. TAGGART:

Thank you.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Where did that come from? Okay, John.

LEG. KENNEDY:

There you go, one more time. Not so much as to this program, and I commend the college on this program, I think it really is important that we do outreach. Every one of us has young veterans that are coming back from Iraq at this point and I have a young man in Nesconset that I know I'm going to be on the phone with to see where he's going.

I'm pleased to hear that you're making some special provisions for some of their disabilities, their physical as well as their psychiatric disabilities. As you know, it's been a very difficult deployment, I guess, that they've had and so that they need some assistance as they, I guess, like reintegrate. And many of them are still, at this point, still going through an extensive amount of treatment over there in Northport for whatever their, you know, particular physical or psychiatric matters are. Now, you're a psychologist by trade?

MR. COLEMAN:

Yes, I am.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay, good. So you must be very well in tune, then, with some of what's going on as far as them attempting to make the transition and to reengage into civilian life. From what I've seen, it does not seem to be the easiest thing to do.

MR. COLEMAN:

No, sir. There have been some difficulties. Overall, nationwide, there's approximately one professional trained in PTS treatment per VA hospital.

LEG. KENNEDY:

One?

MR. COLEMAN:

Yes, sir. And that is not to suggest that there's no one else at the centers who are aware of the necessary treatments, but formerly it is touted that every hospital has a trained PTSD professional on the grounds and that is a literal explanation; there is a trained professional.

I wanted to add to, Mr. Chairman, what you had asked before about the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder specifically, in that there are larger numbers, all the data show that there are larger numbers of soldiers coming back with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of the current conflicts. Now, we're not sure -- we being the psychology as a field -- we're not sure if those numbers are increased because of actual incidences of cases, or if it's just being more reported as a result of a more societal acceptance of the disorder; that we're not sure of.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I would imagine it's both, as a matter of fact. And there are -- as you know, there's Vietnam Vets that are still running around still undiagnosed or in the process of diagnosis.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Yeah.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Who is usually the PTSD individual, is it a psychologist, psychiatrist?

MR. COLEMAN:

To my knowledge, it's the psychologist at the hospital who has received specific training in that, in addition to the traditional training that they would receive in the natural course of their education.

With regard to Suffolk Community College's involvement in this issue. Although as a psychologist at the college, I don't act in that capacity, I act as a professor, so I do not provide treatment in any capacity to our students. However, as a result of the veterans club, as I said, that we're trying to open the offerings of, those who identify themselves as veterans and show interest in the club, we have a few different options for them. For example, we can refer them to our counseling center on campus which provides free treatment to them, to a limited degree, for PTSD. If it goes beyond the range of their capacity as a college Counselor, they will then refer them out to the community. However, as a member of the profession in the community, I also have connections in the community, for example, right now I believe I have five of my colleagues in private practice who have agreed to accept referrals from me of students and treat them either for free or on a sliding scale. Of course, you know, I do not --

LEG. KENNEDY:

Hopefully they accept Tri-Care, too, right?

MR. COLEMAN:

You know, that would be an individual decision, sir, on their behalf. In addition to that, we've also -- as I mentioned to the Chairman, we have a monthly drop-in group provided to us from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Northport. The focus of that monthly drop-in group is to provide not only information, as I explained, but also to provide them with resources for counseling through the VA should they choose to take advantage of that. So really, on the college's behalf, we're giving them three opportunities to receive treatment for that should they choose to identify themselves as needing it.

LEG. KENNEDY:

What about the students that don't necessarily choose an academic track? And I'm going to dovetail into where I wanted to go with the HVAC center. Is the HVAC Program an Associate's Program or is that vocational leading to like a journeyman's license? I know the center is there, I'm just a little unfamiliar with what the actual preparation is and what it leads to.

MS. ROWE:

It's a degree and a certificate.

LEG. KENNEDY:

It is.

MS. ROWE:

Yeah.

LEG. KENNEDY:

All right. So there's an Associate's and at the same time the individuals that go through that are going to wind up as journeyman or midway through the journeyman training?

MS. ROWE:

Well, it's a certificate and it's very heavily supported by the industry on Long Island, so there are jobs for them as they graduate from that.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Are there other alternatives that the college provides in the trades?

MS. ROWE:

In careers? In careers, yes. Yeah, we have many -- many of our programs are really career oriented. Now, there are -- we have quite a few certificates, but we also have a type of degree. You know, you have the AS Degree, you have the AAS Degree, and the AAS Degree is much more career-oriented and many of those are intended for you to have two years in college and then be ready for a job and a career.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MS. TAGGART:

Legislator Kennedy, also, too, I wanted to note before we left that the Corporate Training Center at the college received the Federal Grant for the Advanced Manufacturing Training, that allows us to provide veterans as well as incumbent workers with free training in advanced manufacturing. And I believe that John Lombardo, the Director of the program, is also intending to reach out to veterans specifically for the new welding and CNC machining programs as well and that's free training.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. Thanks, Lori. All right, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

That's terrific. Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is great to hear. When the Fighting 69th had just returned, we had Lieutenant Delipizzi come to the Chairman -- as the Chairman of the Veterans & Seniors Committee, I had invited Lieutenant Delipizzi to come and speak to us about what he saw, what he felt the needs of the returning veterans would be.

Were they social services, were they access to medical care, were they housing opportunities, and of course all those very important and applicable across the board. But what he said was that by far

the greatest need were jobs, jobs and jobs. And as we said, what can and should we be doing at the County level to assist our returning veterans. The types of programs and services that you're offering are exactly the kind of services and programs we need to offer our returning veterans and give them every opportunity, you know, to get the skills and the knowledge they need to pursue their career goals. So this is really great to see.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Nice.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Wayne, I have one more quick question. Sorry.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ms. Fisher?

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dr. Rowe, with regards to the webinars that you mentioned; are those for instructors so that they know how to work with the veterans that are coming back?

MS. ROWE:

One of the ones that's coming up, which is towards the end of April, is "Are You Really Ready?". Now, you know, as you can see from our presentation, we think we're ready, but sometimes thinking you're ready and being ready are two different things. So that really is geared across the board, but largely at student services, which would be my end. There are quite a few coming across my desk and they're on our e-mail system, so I imagine some will be also relating to faculty and academic, and I'm sure that the academic --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay. So there is support for faculty who might find that there, you know, veterans coming home with PTSD or other issues and learning how to deal with them and how to interact.

MS. ROWE:

Right. And we have faculty members who are veterans and so some of them are also interested in -- for instance, like {Lars Headstrom}, are interested in working with veterans as they come through.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

All right, thank you.

MS. ROWE:

You're welcome.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much. We appreciate you coming down here today. Good stuff. Thanks.

MS. TAGGART:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All righty. We're going to go into the public portion, and I have three cards. I'd like to call up Rose Van Guilder. Rose, can I ask you quickly? I've got three cards and they're all from you.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Yes, i was told I can fill three out. I was not aware.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So it's not that you want to speak three times; once is good, right?

MS. VAN GUILDER:

I have three subjects.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, that's what you're doing. Okay, right.

MR. NOLAN:

She still gets three minutes.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

I don't know if this --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Counsel advises me, you still get three minutes. Why don't you -- why don't you start.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Whatever you say, Wayne.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Well, I've got to tell everyone that this committee is feeling very special towards Rose today, she brought us cookies.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Oh, is that where those cookies came from.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yes, they're from Rose.

MR. NOLAN:

Now she gets six minutes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So you may get six.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, all. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Rose, could you pull the mike down, please?

MS. VAN GUILDER:

I'm not that tall. I am a shrimp.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Well, Brendan, could you help her yank it down? You got it?

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Is this on?

MS. MAHONEY:

That's fine,

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Thank you. Thank you very much. I'm Rose Van Guilder, I am President of the Alliance for Independent Long Island and I am a watchdog committee member. And I would like to -- I have a dream of making Long Island the safest place in the world to live and I, therefore, have a huge job ahead of me.

I am here to let -- today to let you know that the Covanta Incinerator Plant at Northport was found smuggling in garbage that had radioactive trash and they were burning it with municipal waste. I have in front of me a petition that has gone before Judge Lynch and I am going to read to you the first paragraph of this petition and I am going to present this to the distinguished members of the board, and I will let you have this and you can read it and do whatever.

Formal petition for injunctive relief pending rehearing of both orders stamped, issued and effective January 16th, 2009 in cases '06 and 087806G1185. "Honorable Judge Lynch, upon new evidence discussed below, discovered after my letter, radioactive water was published in the January 29, 2009 edition of the Southampton Press," and then it has all e-mail addresses. "One, please issue a temporary restraining order and permanent injunction, if there's no opposing papers to protect the public by prohibiting National Grid from distributing electricity on the LILCO, d/b/a LIPA, TND System it manages under its present MSA that's generated by Ogden, Martin, Covanta, OMC Incinerators that burn radioactive trash smuggled in garbage trucks into the Northport OMC trash-fired power plant. See admissions in these article, "Garbage Plant Stirs Fears of Radiation" by David Winsberg, New York Times, 119103." And I'm going to submit this to you, it's got a million and one other pages to it, and I'm going to let you follow through with this.

I have in my computer additional documents that would verify that DEC knew about this and Waste Management. However, they were quite surprised when I -- when I called them and asked them about it and they played very dumb and I, therefore, had to fax to them the petition. They have been, I should say, very arrogant with me.

Upon learning that Covanta is -- this word is now out, because I have made lawyers and many other people aware of it. Covanta is no longer burning radioactive material. The radioactive material has been moved to another site.

I have further documents which have bills of {latings} which show that individuals were informed that this material should not have been burned at this location and they were told not to bring it there, however, they still did so. I have signatures of State agencies who signed off on this; this is all in my computer. I will make it available to anyone who wants it when you gentlemen decide you want to have a meeting with me. I did not bring it with me today.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. You're going to have to start to wrap up, Rose.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Okay, I will do so. The next plant where they're burning radioactive material is in Caithness, in Brookhaven; I just found out this yesterday. So we need to find a way of stopping these culprits who are going from one location to another location. I don't know how you're going to do this, but I have eye witnesses who have seen them do this, okay? You tell me what you need, I will provide it for you. I have the proof.

The other thing is my meeting that was on 3/12 will bring forth to Long Island an ethanol plant which will provide electricity and green energy. We have the ability to become the first in New York State to provide this and clean up contamination and pollution in Long Island. I have -- I videotaped the meeting because so many people were not able to make it, the main speaker had to fly back a day early, I apologize for that, he had a death in the family. He also has a slide presentation. If we go with this, we will no longer be dependent on foreign nations for oil, we will increase our Federal and State income tax base, we will decrease our local tax base. We will employ 350 people during

the construction process.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

This is an ethanol plant?

MS. VAN GUILDER:

On a regular base we will employ 150 people. It will create ethanol, we will make our own gasoline and we will also have our own electricity. LIPA has already given me a letter of commitment and they will buy all the electricity I can produce. I intend to put five plants into place; one in the Hamptons, Suffolk, Nassau, Staten Island and Upstate, New York. What else can I tell you? Any questions?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No, that's quite a lot.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

How fast can I be?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Very good. Thank you, Rose.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Did I get in under the belt?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

There you go. All righty.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Did you like my cookies?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

The cookies are excellent, by the way; yes, absolutely. We have fat and happy committee members and that's what we like to have.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Oh, did you need my name and address and phone number?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We have it in the cards.

MS. VAN GUILDER:

Wayne has it.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. We'll now move to the agenda. And I understand that I have several appointments that we're going to -- of people that are here in the audience today and they will take them out of order.

Introductory Resolutions

The first one is ***1149-09 - Approving the appointment of Dylan Skolnick to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission (County Executive)***. Dennis, I -- Dylan, I understand you're in the audience? I'm sorry. Why don't you come up to the microphone and see if there are any questions.

MR. SKOLNICK:

Do I go here?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, that would be great. Thank you, Dylan, and welcome. Why don't you tell us a little bit about yourself.

MR. SKOLNICK:

Sure. I'm Dylan Skolnick, I'm Co-Director at the Cinema Arts Center in Huntington. We're Long Island's leading venue for movies, new, old, American, Foreign. Independent, Hollywood, including many made here, many on Long Island. I've been with the Cinema for over 20 years and for a number of years now I've been one of the Co-Directors. Before that, I've also been involved in film production and film distribution at various times over the past 20 years, and so I feel I have a lot to bring to the commission.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

It sounds like you're eminently qualified. Is there anyone else who would like to ask Mister --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

I'd like to make a motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

-- Skolnick -- okay? I've got motion to --

LEG. STERN:

I'd like to -- I'll make a motion and please list me as a cosponsor.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And seconded by Legislator Fisher. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. Welcome aboard. ***Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).***

MR. SKOLNICK:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you for your service.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Thank you. Oh, and he doesn't need to be here Tuesday.

LEG. STERN:

Right, yes. Let Mr. Skolnick know he does not need to come to the --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay, I apparently have a list of reappointments.

LEG. STERN:

One second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, I'm sorry.

LEG. STERN:

Just so you know, because you were here today, there's no need for you to come back --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, thank you.

LEG. STERN:

-- to the general session.

MR. SKOLNICK:

Okay. Thank you.

LEG. STERN:

Thank you.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

And good job at the Cinema.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right, I have a list of reappointments. Is anyone here that is to be reappointed, just in case? We're good, okay.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Excuse me, Wayne?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yes.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

I'm sorry. Would you mind if Michele Stark comes up to the table so that we can just ask her quickly if they attend the meetings regularly before we reappoint them?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure. Michele, come on up and join us.

MS. STARK:

Good afternoon.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hi. Okay, I see we have one, two, three, four reappointments, and Ms. Fisher -- you might as well ask the question.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Yes. Thanks for coming up, Michele. We have four reappointments here and I just wanted to ask in a broad sense, are these people regular attendees at the meetings? Is there anyone who was -- whose name is here for reappointment who hasn't been coming to meetings?

MS. STARK:

No, all of these people have come to meetings. We're really fortunate to have a really active, proactive film commission. I couldn't be happier working with all of them.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay. All right. Thank you very much, Michele.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Michele, everything going well these days? I mean, I don't want to get you off talking on the subject, but anything that's imminent we should know?

MS. STARK:

Yeah, we have some exciting news. We have Katie Holmes shooting in Babylon, we have Keira Knightly coming this summer and we may have -- are you talking about film stuff?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Well, that's in Babylon. You really got my attention. Whereabouts?

MS. STARK:
Gilgo Beach.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
Cool, my district.

MS. STARK:
She'll be there next week.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:
Good you put that on the record.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
You see me walking behind her like this.

*(*Laughter From Panel*)*

MS. STARK:
And we may have Naomi Watts coming here next week for Valerie -- a film about Valerie Plame called "Fair Game".

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:
Oh.

MS. STARK:
You'll be hearing about that.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
Valerie Plame, yes, the spy.

MS. STARK:
What's that?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
The spy, right?

MS. STARK:
Yes.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:
The former spy.

MS. STARK:
The former spy.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
That's right, we don't want her shot. Okay, very good. That's good news. Let me move with the agenda at this point.

1150-09 - To reappoint Lenny Stucker to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission (County Executive).

LEG. STERN:
Motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Motion to approve by Legislator Stern, seconded by Legislator Fisher. All those in approval? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).**

1151-09 - To reappoint Susan Gatti to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission (County Executive). Same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).**

1152-09 - To reappoint Lora Fox to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission (County Executive). Same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).**

1153-09 - To reappoint Robert Beuka to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission (County Executive). Same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).**

Okay, that's great.

1192-09 - Authorizing the cultural tourism funding for 2009 (County Executive). Is there anyone who would like to speak on this, or we're good?

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

It looks good to me.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay, we're all set? Any questions, anything else you'd like to talk before we go into that? All right. Legislator Stern, you want to make a motion?

LEG. STERN:

I'll make the motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Seconded by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden).**

1193-09 - Authorizing funding for Suffolk County Cultural Programming for 2009 (County Executive). That is the same related issue. Same motion, same second. All those in favor?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Mr. Chair, just one quick question on the motion there?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure. You just got me

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. My recollection, and maybe I -- I apologize, I don't have my book in front of me, maybe we can ask from Counsel. One of these resolutions authorizes funding, I think, associated with the Hotel/Motel Tax?

MR. NOLAN:

The first one.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. But there is a second resolution where we're doing authorization directly out of Operating Budget; is that correct?

MR. NOLAN:

Well, it's both Operating Budget. The first resolution, the source of the monies for the fund, comes from the Hotel/Motel Tax. The second resolution identifies a line where the funding for these cultural programs are coming from; the source of that funding I would defer to Budget Review.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And so through the Chair, then, I guess I would ask Budget Review?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure, please. Lance, you ready?

MR. REINHEIMER:

Right, 1193 is the General Fund, 1192 is from the Hotel/Motel Tax.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MR. REINHEIMER:

I think this is going -- the money is in the budget in a line that doesn't specify the contract, the agency. This is taking that -- those funds and allocating it to specific agencies.

LEG. KENNEDY:

How much is 1193, Lance?

MR. NOLAN:

Two hundred and one thousand.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Two hundred and one thousand. Mr. Chair, although I know the arts are extremely important, based on the three and a half hours that I had yesterday, I think I'm going to respectfully not be the second on this resolution and I'll probably at least abstain.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Based on, you know, the fact that I heard that we are in a \$119 million budget free-fall. That one I'm -- at least want to hear some of how we're going to remedy some of what the rest of our budget issues are before I make the commitment on this one.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Fair enough.

LEG. STERN:

If I may.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Maybe to George or BRO. What is the timing here? I mean, I have a list here of all of the various organizations with the various amounts that are going to them to implement their programs. What is the timing requirement here? Is this something that needs to be resolved today, the next session, the session after that; what are we talking about?

MR. REINHEIMER:

Once the money is appropriated, I assume that they would have to enter into a contract. So the timing -- you know, it's still early in the year, they would have until the end of the year to spend the money. So, you know, it's hard for us to say specifically for these eleven agencies how soon they're looking for the money but, you know, it's like anything, it has to go through the contract process. This is the first step.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

If I may, Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yes, please.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

In answer to that question, a couple of these programs refer to activities that occur during the summer. And if we table the 1193 today, that means that we wouldn't be voting on it until April. I certainly know with the film festival, their plans are being made now, they have to expend the money beforehand, they have to, you know, get the films, get all of the things in place. So if we don't vote on it until April and when they have to do a contract, they're going to be tight.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Which I recall reading both and I recall looking at the list, I know Smithtown Arts Council is in both of them. But I agree with you, Legislator Fisher, that the Stony Brook Film Festival, actually having had the opportunity to be there last summer, I mean, is something that draws people from all over the eastern seaboard.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

It brings a lot of money here.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Which resolution was that one on; do we recall?

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

The second one, 1193.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Oh, it was 1193?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

The one we have not voted on.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Yeah. And it brings an awful lot of money into our area our.

LEG. STERN:

It produces revenue.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Produces revenue.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

The one thing you learn about the arts is, and the first thing that I'm sure Michele would say -- in fact, I could let her say it -- is that arts are stimulating for not only your pleasure but also financially and economically. They are economic development tools within themselves.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I know that. And as a matter of fact, somebody near and dear explained that to me at length yesterday.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Would you like an invitation to Gilgo?

LEG. KENNEDY:

I was thinking about that. Yeah, no, let it go through. I withdraw my concern, I'll remain as the second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Are you still our second?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

All right.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We have a second on the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved, *it's been approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Alden)*.

1204-09 - Approving new operating agreement between Suffolk County and Suffolk County Community College (Horsley).

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I have a motion from Legislator Fisher which I will second. Is there anybody who would like to comment on this? We've done this to death at this point in time, maybe so. So we have a motion and a second. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved, it's been moved out of committee.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I would like to be a cosponsor on this one.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

As he was there during the negotiations, and so -- well placed. Okay?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yep.

LEG. STERN:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay, that being the case -- oh, subject to call, do I have to do anything on that?

MR. NOLAN:

No.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No, okay. I'll take a motion to adjourn by Legislator Kennedy, I'll second the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? We are adjourned.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 PM*)*

{ } - Denotes Spelled Phonetically.