

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

A regular meeting of the Economic Development, Higher Education & Energy Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Wayne Horsley - Chairman
Legislator Steven Stern - Vice-Chair
Legislator Tom Cilmi
Legislator Rick Montano
Legislator Lynne Nowick

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson - Assistant Counsel
Gail Vizzini - Director Budget Review Office
Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Barbara LoMoriello - Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Ben Zwirn - County Executive's Office
Joe Muncey - Budget Review Office
Benny Pernice - Budget Review Office
Bryan Galgano - Aide to Legislator Horsley
Bob Martinez - Aide to Legislator Montano
Greg Moran - Aide to Legislator Nowick
Paul Perillie - Aide to Majority Caucus
Yves Michel - Commissioner of Economic Development
Gail Lolis - Deputy County Attorney
Carolyn Fahey - Economic Development
James Frost - Associate Dean/Suffolk Community College
Steve Ficner - Student/Suffolk Community College
Evon Walters - Executive Dean/Eastern Campus/Suffolk Community College
Robert Beodeker - Associate Dean of Students Eastern Campus/Suffolk Community College
Therese Dereme - Counselor/Eastern Campus/Suffolk Community College
James Sherwood - Executive Dean & Campus CEO/Ammerman Campus Suffolk Community College
Tom Breeden - Chair Physical Sciences Department/Suffolk Community College
Denny Teason - Recreation & Wellness Coordinator/Eastern Campus/Suffolk Community College
Erin Young - Peer Mentor/Eastern Campus/Suffolk Community College
Jean Anastasia - Assistant Chair Biology Department/Ammerman Campus/Suffolk Community College

Chigozie Onyinanya - Student/Suffolk Community College
Jessica Jow - Student/Suffolk Community College
Danielle Mitchell
Donna Dixon - Student/Suffolk Community College
Josmara Nunez - Student/Suffolk Community College
Rosa Gambier - Biology Department Chairperson/Ammerman Campus/Suffolk Community College
Jennifer Carlson - Biology Department/Ammerman Campus/Suffolk Community College
Carol Mauro - Coordinator Center for Academic Excellence/Grant Campus/ Suffolk Community College
Kathleen Duffy - Student/Suffolk Community College
Richard Bliss - Student/Suffolk Community College
Dave Quinn - Head Librarian/Suffolk Community College
Kathleen Menikos - Bren-Tronics - Vice President Finance
Barbara Durkin - Bren-Tronics - Executive Assistant
William Goggins
Moke McGowan - LICVB
And all other interested parties

VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT TAKEN BY:

Lucia Braaten - Court Reporter

[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:11 P.M.]

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Good afternoon, everybody, and welcome to the Economic Development, Higher Education and Energy Committee of February 24, 2010. May we all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance?

(*Salutation*)

And may we please stand for a moment of silence for all those men and women who protect our freedoms across the seas.

(*Moment of Silence*)

Please be seated. Yes, I've been told to move over to the big chair. All right. Again after -- good afternoon, everybody. And we do have some cards, in fact, it looks like quite a number, and most of them appear to be from the Suffolk County Community College and those that are interested in talking about the Capital Budget, which I didn't realize we were going to get into today, but it certainly is good a day as any.

I'd like to call up Evon Walters, the Executive Dean of the East Campus. Good afternoon and welcome.

MR. WALTERS:

Good afternoon. Am I on?

MS. ORTIZ:

You have to hold the mic.

MR. WALTERS:

Okay. Chairman Horsley, Members of the Committee, good morning, or good afternoon. I'd like to take this opportunity to first thank you all for the ongoing support to the College and to the campus. Obviously, we have reaped many benefits from the leadership and the support, and I think evidence of this is expected construction of the Montaukett Learning Resource Center, our first building in over 30 years. So I've come to you today representing the Eastern Campus students, faculty and staff, extremely appreciative, and also equally excited.

Resolution 1179, the partial renovation of the Peconic Building, comes at a critical, yet strategic, point in the time for the Eastern Campus. We continue to experience record enrollment growth to the tune of growing over 60% since the Academic Year 2000. That's an additional fourteen hundred students.

As you know, with any significant growth comes the challenge related to infrastructure capacity and service quality. In this particular case, it's a direct reference to providing the necessary support and resources in terms of effectively managing the day-to-day transactional and academic support needs of our students in the Admissions, Financial Aid, Counseling and Business Offices. We recognize that challenging fiscal times such as these require us to become more self-reflective, cost efficient and innovative in our approach to conducting business and maintaining quality services. It's with this premise of self-reflection, cost efficiency and innovation that I request your support for Resolution 1179.

This resolution represents much more than a renovation project for us. It presents an opportunity to leverage existing resources that ultimately will expand our capacity to better meet the growing demands for increasing enrollment. It, in essence, reflects a comprehensive cross training centralization realignment effort that is -- as an envisioned goal, will enhance our ability to positively impact student engagement and retention. Much work have already been accomplished.

In the spirit of entrepreneurship, anchored by a clear sensitivity towards stewardship, the campus is well positioned and ready to implement this transformative structure and delivery system, that as a mission will speak very directly to the old adage "doing more with less".

I thank you for this opportunity and appreciate your consideration for this resolution.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Dean Walters. It's -- thank you for coming down and expressing your opinion on this.

MR. WALTERS:

Thank you so much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right. Mr. Robert Beodeker, Beodeker, Capital Budget, again, the Peconic Building.

MR. BEODEKER:

Thank you very much. I am the Associate Dean of Students at the Eastern Campus, and as such, it'd my responsibility to oversee admissions, financial aid, counseling, testing, advisement, registration, all those areas. This proposed money that has been set aside to renovate the Peconic Building in the second floor would relocate and realign those services into one service center. And I want to speak predominantly as my role as overseeing those operations, but also as the primary student advocate on campus. Many times, when students come to my office or parents contact my office, it's because they've hit a logjam in the system. You know, we like it to be smooth and seamless, but it's not always, and many times it requires the efforts and support of all of those offices together by moving them into one space, aligning their services and working more collaboratively within those areas. We'll be able to streamline support and make it easier for students to get to things they need in terms of registration advisement, both students and parents. So it is a critical operation. And as Dean Walters has already pointed out, not only a realignment of relocating office operations, but also realigning those services in a different way to better support students in a more one-stop centralized location, so it's critically important. And again, thank you for your ongoing support for the campus and the College and for this initiative.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Dean Beodeker. Mr. James Frost, I believe it is, funding for Peconic renovations.

MR. FROST:

There's an expression that I'm sure most of you -- oh, there it is. Sorry. There's an expression that most of the you have probably heard and used, "Be careful what you wish for." Back in 1977, the very wise Legislators at the time and the very wise college personnel at the time decided to establish the Eastern Campus for Suffolk County Community College. At that time, those folks I'm sure had great expectations and hopes for the service that that facility would be for the folks on the East End of Long Island, and one of those expectations and hopes was that we would grow, and I'm here to tell you we have grown and we continue to grow and grow and grow. And let me assure you that the Learning Resource Facility, which is about to be begun in construction and for which we are very, very grateful to all of you for your support to get that project going. I have to tell you now that the space that will be vacated when that new building is put up we desperately need to realign and rework our Student Service services, because right now there's just no room. And if there's more than a handful of students seeking Registrar, Student Services, advisement, there just -- there's just no room for them at all. So we are in desperate need that the Legislature once again support us, support us with this very important program, this renovation to the Peconic Building, and I assure you we will always be in your debt for that, we really will. You know, when it comes to our students, there's nothing we won't ask for. We must keep asking for these students because they deserve only the very best. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Mr. Frost. And may you always grow also, because that's --

MR. FROST:

I am.

*(*Laughter*)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No comment, I'm just --

*(*Laughter*)*

Mr. Steve Ficner? Ficner. Steve, come on up.

MR. FICNER:

I'm Steve Ficner, I live in Mattituck. Right now I'm in my second year at Suffolk at the Eastern Campus. Within the short time that I've been in Suffolk I've seen a large increase in students. Because there are so many students, the place for advisement and where the students need to go for financial aid and other accommodations is very small. All of us students are very grateful for your help with new the Learning Resource Center that's being built. Once it's built, the empty space where the library is now in the Peconic building would be a perfect place to accommodate where all of the offices are. It's very tight down there. This renovation is going to cost money, as you know. That is why I'm asking you to support the campus again and approve the funding for this project. I can assure you that we'll all be very grateful. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Mr. Ficner. Theresa Dereme. Did I screw that up, Theresa?

MS. DEREME:

No. My name is Therese Dereme, very good. Good afternoon, Suffolk County Legislators. Nice to see you. Like yourselves, I am an advocate and a servant of Suffolk County. I am a Counselor on the Eastern Campus of Suffolk County Community College, very proudly. I run a developmental studies program called College Success, and I'm here to advocate for my students because right now, as Steven, who is one of my students, who started in my program, and I'm very, very proud of him, as you can see, we do very good work, as he stated, the space is very tight. We are expanding in leaps and bounds. And to serve the students and to make the transition into college as seamless as possible, and to make their process go very smoothly, we need, we really need this Peconic Building upgrade, we really do. So I'm asking you as a citizen of Suffolk County and as a servant of the people, like yourselves, to please help us with this. Thank you so much for your time and thank you for you supporting us.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Dereme, appreciate your comments. Mr. Tom Breeden.

MR. BREEDEN:

Good afternoon. It's always a pleasure to address the sponsor of Suffolk County Community College, the people who make us possible, who have done wonderful things. I come here to speak to you about troubled times. Unemployment is high. Americans are out of work. A new Democratic President is in office, and I'm not talking about now, I'm talking about 1934 when the Marshall Building was built, which is the building we're looking to replace right now with a new building on the campus at Selden, the Ammerman Campus. Right -- I could bore you with statistics. I was going to speak for three hours, but Paul suggested that wasn't my best possible strategy. There are over seven --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

The clock is on.

MR. BREEDEN:

Over 700 students taking Chemistry at the Ammerman Campus. There are three laboratories. The Marshall Building, actually has a bit of ignominious history that probably most people don't know. It is unusual for faculty members to die in the line of duty, but a chemist was killed there doing a demonstration with sodium many, many years ago, so we need new space for safety purposes. We have three labs right now. We have a specialized organic lab, but most students can't use that, so we have over 700 students crammed into three laboratories. We've had over 40% growth in students taking Chemistry at the Selden Campus. And I just want to tell you how very important it is for students to be able to take Chemistry, because if they can't take Chemistry, they can't take Anatomy and Physiology. And if they can't take Anatomy and Physiology, they can't become nurses, and I'm getting old and I need some nurses. So thank you very much.

*(*Laughter*)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Tom, I didn't -- I hadn't heard that someone actually died in the line of duty.

MR. BREEDEN:

Yes. It was an adjunct, a part-timer many years ago, member of the Faculty Association, not the Guild.

*(*Laughter*)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

As an Adjunct Professor, I could understand his fall. Mr. James Sherwood.

MR. SHERWOOD:

Good afternoon. My name is James Sherwood. I am the Executive Dean and campus CEO of the Ammerman Campus of Suffolk County Community College, and I'd like to thank you for the opportunity this afternoon to share with you my excitement over the construction of the first new building on our campus in almost 40 years.

You're all aware of the great history of education and service of Suffolk County Community College, which in large part is due to the support this body has shown for the College over the years, and for that I thank you. The new Science Building is another step forward in that history. There's great excitement on campus over the building. The Campus community has seen the design plans and is anticipating how this building will change the atmosphere on campus for the study of Biology, Marine Biology and Chemistry. I wish that I had been able to bring some students to this hearing today and let them tell you how excited they are, but a majority of our science students have labs on Wednesday afternoon and, thus, were unable to attend. I do, however, have some faculty members. You've met Tom Breeden, the Chair of our Physical Sciences Department. And we have others with us who can speak more specifically about the benefits of the new building and the shortcomings of the existing facilities. So just let me touch on a couple of the highlights of the new building.

There is a national emphasis, as I'm sure you're aware, on the number of graduates, increasing the number of graduates in the so-called stem fields, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This new building will enable us to serve more students in the science area, and because of its state-of-the-art facilities, better prepare them for careers in the stem areas. It should also be mentioned that the Anatomy and Physiology courses offered by the Biology Department serve not only that department's students, but students in the EMT, Nursing and Physical Therapy programs.

Just one more fact to illustrate the need for this new building. Of the 21 existing classrooms or lab spaces in Kreiling Hall where Biology and Marine Biology programs are currently housed, 16 of them fall short of the space requirements for such rooms as outlined in the State University of New York guidelines. This isn't necessarily surprising since Kreiling Hall or, as Tom Breeden referred to it, Marshall Hall, is one of the original buildings on campus and was not originally designed as a science building. Finally, once the new science building is open, we will close Kreiling Hall for a year and renovate that structure, creating more general classroom space, which is desperately needed on our campus.

So you can see why we're all so excited. As long time supporters of the College, I hope you're excited, too. So, in conclusion, I hope the excitement means that we can count on your support for the resolution, which is before you today. Thank you for your time and your support.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Sherwood. Denny Teason.

MR. TEASON:

Honorable Committee Members. I'm going to go back to discussion with the renovation of the Peconic Building on the Eastern Campus. My name is Denny Teason and I am the Recreation and Wellness Coordinator for the Eastern Campus. Again, thank you for having us here today and allowing us to express our support for the renovation and redesign of the Peconic Building on the Eastern Campus.

Having been at the institution for only a short period of time, I'm still acclimating myself to the processes by which the students are counseled, registered and oriented. Those who aid in processing these new students should be commended for their efforts, as they have designed a process that exemplifies the creative spirit that lives on the Eastern Campus. With the influx of students enrolled at the College, the current setup for student services seems to be challenged and strained by the students' needs. With the generosity of Suffolk County about to manifest itself in the creation of our new library, we have the opportunity to build upon positive momentum and good will by continuing to demonstrate commitment to higher education for students on the eastern part of Long Island. With the redesign and renovation of the Peconic Building, we will rediscover space that will allow us to better serve the student body in a more efficient and operational manner. Your efforts and consideration in regards to this item are certainly appreciated, and I thank you for your time.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much. Erin Young.

MS. YOUNG:

Hi.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ms. Young.

MS. YOUNG:

How are you all today? My name is Erin Young. I'm a Peer Mentor on the Eastern Campus, Suffolk. I'd like to thank you for approving the funds for our new library, it's desperately needed.

As a Peer Mentor, I assist students in orientation. We go through tours, and when they get to the process of filling out paperwork and things, they're all over, upstairs, downstairs, back and forth. So, with the redesign of the upstairs, it would make, like, everything easy, everything is going to be in the same place for all these students to find. I guess I just want to labor, I guess, the fact that we would really need the renovation of the upstairs Peconic Building. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Young. Looks like Kwanza Cox.

MS. COX:

Hello.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hello.

MS. COX:

I'm also here for the Suffolk Community College East for the renovation of the Peconic Building, and I'm just here to, you know, thank you guys for, you know, supporting us so far, and just to keep the money in the --

MR. MC GOWAN:

Budget.

MS. COX:

-- budget.

*(*Laughter*)*

And, you know, helping us out --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you, Commissioner.

MS. COX:

-- with re-renovating it. I don't know how to say that word, but, yeah. I'm a student and I've been at Suffolk for two -- this is my second semester there, so I applied last semester and it was a big hassle for me to keep going up and downstairs. You know, if it was in one place, I think it would be a quicker and easier way for students to get in and out, which is like what lot of students want is to be in and out of a process, you don't want to be up there all day. So, you know, re-renovating the upstairs of Peconic Building would be, you know, the best thing that happened at Suffolk for students. So thank you for your time. And, okay, bye.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay, bye. Thank you, Ms. Cox. Jean Anastasia.

MS. ANASTASIA:

Hello. How are you?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Good, thank you.

DR. ANASTASIA:

My name is Dr. Anastasia. I'm the Assistant Chair of the Biology Department back at the Ammerman Campus. Now we keep going back and forth. I'm here to talk about the new Science Building. Since I basically live in Kreiling Hall, I can bore you with some of the details of the shortcomings of the building that we're currently housed in. Several years --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Should I put the timer on?

DR. ANASTASIA:

I'll be brief, I promise.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay.

DR. ANASTASIA:

I'll bore you briefly. Several years ago they renovated a room in the basement for a Marine Science laboratory, so that currently houses Marine Biology, Oceanography, and a Marine Habitat course. It looks nice and new and pretty, but the problem with that room is that because of existing structure, the plumbing was all along one wall, so all of the water and sinks are along one wall of the building. Any time students need to use water, which you can imagine is quite often in Marine Science, they're very crowded along one edge of the building. We have very little space in that laboratory to house aquaria that we really need to house all the animals that are necessary to really properly run those laboratories.

The overcrowding is even more apparent in another lab upstairs that houses Modern Biology, Embryology, Field Biology and Ecology. It's extremely small, the laboratory room up there. There's very little space for setup, much less the space we really need to grow things. It's a Biology lab, so we need living organisms, living plants, and that's very limited there. We don't have access to the greenhouse in that building, because it's across the street. So we really are desperate for better space and more labs. The sinks are extremely small, hard to wash things. The climate is very variable. It's very cold in that room sometimes. Students have actually had to do labs in their coats at times, and you can imagine what that does to the living organisms in the lab.

So, most importantly, though, I think science is a very exciting current field, and we're living in a building that's extremely outdated and run-down, and it does nothing to inspire the students in their passion for science. So we have exceptional faculty, outstanding staff, really motivated students. All we need are the facilities to match. So I really implore you to vote favorably on the proposal for the funds for that new building. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Anastasia. Chigozie Onyinanya.

MR. ONYINANYA:

Good afternoon.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Good afternoon.

MR. ONYINANYA:

Good afternoon. Could you hear me? All right. That's better. First, I'd like to appreciate you for allowing us to speak before you. We -- I stand before you today as a Grant Campus student. We are asking that and pleading with you to let you know that the library facility is in dire need of expansion. Over the course of the year, we've had a record growth of student enrollment and we have -- I have witnessed this from the first time I was -- entered the library my first semester. There was a time I was able to find a compartment to study and get all my assignments completed. Now I find that entering the Grant Campus library is very difficult to find a compartment, seeing that there's so many students who occupy the place, occupy the facility to get their own assignments done. So I plead with you all today and ask you to try and expand this, and I thank you so much for allowing us to speak before you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you, Chigozie. Jessica Jow.

MS. JOW:

Hi.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hi.

MS. JOW:

My name is Jessica Jow. I was previously enrolled in Suffolk Grant Campus two years ago, and I'm currently enrolled there again on my second degree. And I've actually noticed a large amount of students using the library nowadays. Beforehand, I could always go in there and find a table without any question, like there's always tables in the back, there's always a room available, especially the computers. There was always at least one or two spaces available, but nowadays, when I go in and try to work on paper, you can't find a computer open at all, and you can't find a table to sit at. So I'm just hoping that you guys will help us further build the new library and so we can have more space to work on, maybe get a better computer lab for everybody to use as well. So thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You're welcome, Jessica. Danielle Mitchell.

MS. MITCHELL:

Afternoon. Building upon what Jessica had mention, the computers are actually more severe than she mentioned. We have two computer labs. One's just dedicated to research, but we cannot type or print out, and that computer lab is only for typing. So sometimes when you try to do your work, you get on one computer and they get thrown out because class is coming in, and the you have to go into the other computer lab, which has a large line, not only are students are already in there, but you have those who have already been thrown out, and sometimes students get turned away because there's not enough computers for us to do our work. With tables, you don't have the space to do our assignments. You go in, there's students there writing, typing, and we have no choice but to go outside on the benches, sit on the floors, because we have no space to do our work. So I implore you to please let us build our new library so we the opportunity to do our research that we need without wandering around all over the place. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you, Danielle. Donna Dixon.

MS. DIXON:

Hello.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hello.

MS. DIXON:

My name is Donna Dixon and I am a returning adult student to Suffolk. I have come here today with my fellow students to make a request for knowledge. It is my sincere belief that a new and improved library would greatly enhance my ability to achieve my goals at Suffolk. With having more access to more information and resources, I would not have to go to other libraries to try and complete research or reports due to a lack of information available to me here at Suffolk. It is my dream to be given every opportunity that Suffolk has to offer me in my pursuit of a quality education, and that is why I have come here today. I know the benefit that a real library can give the community and the hope it will give those of us who are returning adult students and just students there.

I do appreciate you for giving me this opportunity to voice my views, and I believe in my heart that I will be heard. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Dixon. Josmara Nunez.

MS. NUNEZ:

Hello.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hello. You've got to push the button,

MS. NUNEZ:

I think I have it pressed.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You're good.

MS. NUNEZ:

Well, the issue is now we have no space. And since I came into Suffolk probably two years ago, I used to be able to go into the library and study, and now that we have a fluctuation of students, now that there's more students, it's hard to find a table to study. And the computers, there's also a situation where there is only one certain section that you could go type up your papers and print them out. And then there's just another section that you could do research. Now, I don't believe that there should be a line for -- if there's like midterms or finals, and there are some people that are unfortunate that don't have a computer at home, which I feel that everyone should have an opportunity to do their homework. And space is the big issue right now, and if this library does go through, it would give a lot more space to everybody.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Nunez.

MS. NUNEZ:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Rosa Gambier.

MS. GAMBIER:

Good afternoon. My name is Rosa Gambier. I am the Ammerman Campus Biology Department Chairperson. It seems that space is the topic of the day. And contrary to Tom Breeden, I'm going to bore you with a little statistics in less than two minutes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I'm putting on the -- I'm putting on the clock.

MS. GAMBIER:

In less than two minutes, I promise.

MR. BREEDEN:

You need a PhD. to give us numbers.

MS. GAMBIER:

The Biology Department has many disciplines, and we have classes in three different buildings. Forty-seven percent of our classes takes place in Kreiling Hall, 41% of our classes is in Smithtown Science building, we had 7% in Sayville, and the rest, wherever we can find a room.

In the Academic Year 2009/2010, we have approximately, because we just began the second semester, 380 sections. In the Academic Year 1999/2000, we have over 104 lectures and laboratory sections. Basically, in ten years we have duplicated. The growth is exponential. The number of students has gone from 1,900 to almost 4,000 students. That means that we have approximately a circulation of 215 students per day in Kreiling Hall, 250 students that use the labs, that use the lecture and that use the restrooms, which are very, very limited.

Kreiling Hall houses the Anatomy and Physiology labs, the Microbiology lab, and the cadaver, which is our pride lab. These are for courses that mainly support the health careers, and that includes Nursing and Physical Therapy, and also Physicians Assistants and so on. In addition, we also have the Marine Biology lab that we are hoping to be able to expand into a larger program, and we also have a general Biology lab and the Ecology and Evolution labs.

About three years ago -- let me back up a little bit. The building equipment that we have goes to the late '60's, early '70's, when the building was put to work as a science building. It has not been updated or replaced. About three years ago, one of the walk-in refrigerators that we used to keep our biological specimens was condemned because of asbestos exposure. The second walk-in refrigerator, which is still functional, has a chronic mold infection, which we cannot clean because it has asbestos insulation, so we cannot put UV lights. And I could tell you tons of horror stories, which are not going to entertain anybody but the Biologists, because we have a great time talking about creepy things in refrigerators. But the bottom line is that, if we summarize, we have heat problems, we do have chronic mold infection in the building, we do have -- we cannot offer many summer classes because we don't have AC in the building, and etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.

I heard the timer. The thing I want to mention is Biology is an incredible discipline. There's new discoveries at the speed of light. We are very proud of our faculty. We have young and mature faculty that brings well trained, that brings all the newness to our department, but we have difficult time transferring that to the students because of obsolete equipment and the obsolete building. So the whole entire Biology Department wants to thank the Legislature for their support that we have had with the new building. We are very excited. We are very hopeful that we're going to be able to really expand our offerings and provide a better service to our students. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ms. Gambier, just quickly, did you say that you have asbestos problems? I mean, is that --

MS. GAMBIER:

The refrigerator units are very old. The insulation of the unit was asbestos. When the refrigerator went out of functioning, in order to fix it, they have to perforate the metal plates and there is asbestos behind, so that was condemned, that was closed and out of use. The other refrigerator is the same. It doesn't have any exposure of asbestos, so it is still functional, but we cannot fix the refrigerator as a modern refrigerator, because, if not, we have to, you know, go the asbestos abatement problem. And we couldn't find anybody who could service those refrigerators. There are no parts made for them anymore. There is -- nobody will clean the asbestos out. So, the day that that refrigerator breaks -- we're talking about these are walk-in refrigerators, they are like small rooms, like --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Right. I understand what a walk-in refrigerator is.

MS. GAMBIER:

So there is no asbestos, there is no asbestos exposure at all.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. I just --

MS. GAMBIER:

No, no, no, no, no. We wouldn't be -- I wouldn't --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You made me a little nervous there.

MS. GAMBIER:

They wouldn't be working at all, no.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Yeah, sure, Ms. Nowick, Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just quickly. Did you say that there was mold contamination in the building?

MS. GAMBIER:

Yes. We -- about three years ago, we -- the mold got tested. We -- it was just that the building has high humidity, it's very humid, and there's not much ventilation in the basement. So what happened at the time was it was a very rainy summer. The storage rooms had been closed. There are no windows in those rooms and it was very mildewy, moldy. One of the instructors complained of the smell. We called, you know, Health and so on, they tested the mold, it wasn't any kind of, you know, dangerous mold, it was just --

LEG. NOWICK:

Oh, that was my question. I know that buildings are closed down for that.

MS. GAMBIER:

Yeah. It was just mildew, but the rooms were closed.

LEG. NOWICK:

Okay. Thank you.

MS. GAMBIER:

Yeah, everything was closed.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

She makes you nervous, doesn't she? I got the same reaction.

MS. GAMBIER:

Well, but there is -- It may not be a poisonous mold, but lots of our students are allergic to mildew, so it can be just -- you know, it's just a normal allergy, so it can be just, you know, a high humidity room and I will be sneezing --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Got it.

MS. GAMBIER:

-- and complaining about it, too.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Ms. Gambier, just one more quick question. One of the other testifiers said something about that the row of sinks were just poorly set up. Does that get cured with the new plans?

MS. GAMBIER:

Oh, absolutely. We are working --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You're in part of this. We don't want you unhappy.

MS. GAMBIER:

We are a very active part in the design, yes, yes. Yes, we are very happy with that, yes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. GAMBIER:

You're welcome. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Jennifer Carlson.

MS. CARLSON:

Good afternoon. I'm Jennifer Carlson. I'd just like to say thank you for allowing me to speak to you today. I'd like to start by saying that I am a graduate of Suffolk Community College, and now I currently work at the College in the Biology Department at Ammerman. I have worked in Kreiling Hall. And I'd like to start by saying that my education at the College did change my life. As a student, I was forced to take a Biology class, which I was not excited about, and I saved it until the end of one of my last semesters, and as a result of that, I've discovered that I love Biology, and I decided to pursue that as a minor when I transferred to Stony Brook. So, having said that, and now working at the College, I would like to say that we try to provide the best academic learning environment for our students, hoping to ignite in at least one a change, that they can do something that they didn't think they could do.

And the situation in Kreiling Hall is so bad that, really, there shouldn't be labs there. Because I set up labs in the Smithtown Science Building and have worked in Kreiling Hall, I can tell that you the plumbing in Kreiling Hall doesn't adequately support the needs of the building. There are constantly plumbing problems, just because of overuse, because of the bathrooms, because sinks are too low for people to be comfortable using them, because of where they're situated in rooms, because of the water pressure, the list goes on and on. Sometimes drains are sluggish, and when they have to fix a problem in the building, they have to turn off the water to be able to do that. So then there isn't hot water available to wash dishes, or to wash your hands, or anything else.

As far as some of the electrical problems go, there aren't enough electrical outlets in the labs, and some of the ones that are there, you can't plug something into each outlet because it will trip the circuit breaker, and then you have to walk down the hall across from the nurses station and try to figure out which button to push so that you can maybe run an air conditioner and a hot water bath, or something else that you need at the time.

The basement storage is very damp behind the Marine Biology lab. There have been occasions where it looks like it's rained in there, and that contributed to the mold problem. There's really, really no storage in the building. Every nook and cranny is being utilized, every closet, every space, and there is a key for a key for a key to try to keep things locked up and secure so that they don't walk.

I would just like to say that everyone's been doing the best they can given what we have to use. We've applied as many Band Aids as we can, and, really, we need a more permanent fix. So thank you for your time, and I hope that you do continue to support the new science building. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Carlson. Carol Mauro.

MS. MAURO:

Hello.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Hello.

MS. MAURO:

Hello, everybody. Thank you for having me here. My name is Carol Mauro and I am a Coordinator

of the Center for Academic Excellence at the Grant Campus in Brentwood, and our aegis is to serve students academically. We are an academic service center. At the center, and we actually have -- we are in two buildings currently. We have Liberal Arts and Sciences, Academic Assistance, as well as business and Scientist Assistance. In my center alone, we serve Reading Lab students who are developmental students. We proctor and facilitate tests for special needs students who are guaranteed certain entitlements by the ADA. We also have tutors for special needs students. We have foreign language tutors, and with all of this tutoring also comes course-ware and web-ware that we use to increase skills. We have writing assistance, we have English grammar assistance. The center of our center serves ESL Program students who are learning the language and the culture of the United States.

In the past year alone, we've had more than a 10% increase at Grant in student enrollment. We're now more than 9,000 students on that one campus alone. As if that wasn't enough -- and it's actually in the long-term, we think a good thing. At the Center for Academic Excellence -- you really should have a shorter lectern. At the Center for Academic Excellence, in the past year alone, we've had an increase from 24,000 student visits, those are unduplicated student visits, to 27,000 student visits, a 12% increase in one year. In the past three years, we have gone from 53 reading lab sections for developmental students in the past Fall to 70 reading lab sections. If we don't get more space soon, we're going to have to run lab sections all day on Sundays.

I can also tell you that we've had a 10% increase in students coming for tutoring in English and Writing, a 219% increase in our foreign language visits from students learning French, Italian and Spanish, 219%; okay? And as a result -- we had one-on-one tutoring. As a result, we're not serving as many students as need our services. I can tell you that we -- if we had more space, I would definitely incorporate special English grammar for pre-level and very basic level ESL students who want to learn our language, that we need another reading lab. I would not increase the size of the lab, these are developmental students, and have another lab so that we can serve more students.

Finally, there are so many things we could do, and every year we have more and more students, and this despite the fact that in the ESL Program, several of the courses have gone online for their labs, so rather than having to come to our center to practice their skills on courseware and webware, students can work online; okay? They're still coming to see us. We desperately need more space, and I thank you very much for your consideration.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Mauro.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Kathleen Duffy.

MS. DUFFY:

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to come and speak about this. I'm a student, my name is Kathleen Duffy, at the Eastern Campus, Suffolk Community College. Thank you for funding the new library, it's really important. Our library was very cramped. And I may not be here, because I am graduating, but the students of the future are going to have a lot more space.

Regarding the renovations for the Peconic Building, it's really important to have all of those offices centralized. Over the winter break, I had the opportunity to work with the administration and the peer mentors assisting students, new returning students, and some of them were from high school, some are returning after decades of not being in college, some have disabilities, and many are international. It's very confusing bouncing back from place to place. The new design will help it be more of a seamless process. I know for myself, the administration was very helpful to me when I registered, and the registration day is the first day that you're at school, so a really positive experience.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You're good.

MS. DUFFY:

Okay.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Keep going.

MS. DUFFY:

Oh.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No, you're doing fine, it just went off.

MS. DUFFY:

A positive experience that day can change the attitude of a student for the rest of the semester, like, "I did this, that was easy," you know, it's a reference point. If it's very confusing, a person can become let down or nervous about their college experience. So I'm really excited that they're trying to make this a new process, and I hope that you guys will consider funding the new design. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Ms. Duffy. And congratulations on your impending graduation.

MS. DUFFY:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Richard Bliss.

MR. BLISS:

Honorable Committee Members, I'd like to thank you for not only hearing me speak today, but for all the students and faculty at Suffolk County Community College. I'm here to bring up the issue of the offices at the Peconic Building at the Eastern Campus. This is my second semester enrolled as a Criminal Justice major with Suffolk County Community College and I still remember my first day walking in the door going to make my schedule, being completely confused. My first stop was at Administration, then I ran over to Nurses Station, over to Registrar, and somehow in between there, I ended up over by Dean Beodeker's office, which is nowhere near any of those things. So I -- even though I've been to Suffolk County Community College before as a Jump Start student back in 7th Grade, almost six years ago, I still found it confusing. And, granted, when we walk in, we see the library, you go upstairs and we have the small library, and I'd like to really thank you, and I really appreciate the new library that we're going to have, because I was just in there with my volleyball class, and needless to say, there wasn't much space for the almost 30 students we had. Other than that, I'd like to just thank you for your time to this matter.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Mr. Bliss. And I wish I could join you in your volleyball class, that sounds like fun.

*(*Laughter*)*

David Quinn, and last, but not least.

MR. QUINN:

Good afternoon. I'm Dave Quinn. I'm the Head Librarian.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Dave, are you pushing the button down?

MR. QUINN:

Got it. Got it now?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

That's good.

MR. QUINN:

Oh, good. I'm Dave Quinn and I've been the Head Librarian at the Grant Campus for 25 years, so I guess they trot me out when they want a historical perspective.

College libraries today need more space than ever due to advances in technology, how faculty teach and how students learn. In 1990, we moved into the first wing of the Sagtikos Arts and Science Center from the basement of Caumsett Hall. We built the best library we could at the time from a program developed in the late 1980's. At this time, this facility, based on enrollment of 5600 students, was 25% below SUNY standards. By the late 1990's, the library began to show its inadequacies due to growth in enrollment, the explosion of PCs and the internet and a very strong push for collaborative learning in multimedia technology. The students from the Grant Campus have testified or provided testimony about the shortage of space. We have heard over the years, "I couldn't find my book." "Where is the rest of the collection?" "I can't find a place to study." "I can't study at home, I have to study in my car." Also, "I like going into the academic computing lab, but there's no place to spread out my books or my coat, so I have to put them on the floor."

What would a new permanent free-standing library provide? It would provide adequate space for multimedia technology and information commons where students could do research and then turn and do the word processing in a seamless fashion. It would also provide an electronic classroom with work stations so students could be taught information literacy in a better environment.

So I'd just like to say that a permanent free-standing library would be terrific. In 1968, the Ammerman Campus moved into a free-standing library. I'm very glad my colleagues and the students at the Eastern Campus are breaking ground in 2010 for their free-standing library. And I would love to see a free-standing library at the Grant Campus before I retire. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much, Mr. Quinn. That's all the cards I have. Is there anyone else that would like to be heard? And I won't offer again. Okay.

*(*Laughter*)*

We're going to move on with the rest of the agenda. And, by the way, thank you very much for your participation today. Okay. The tabled prime. The first one, are we ready to go, you guys?

LEG. NOWICK:

We are.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We are.

LEG. NOWICK:

We are ready.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And you're psyched.

LEG. MONTANO:

You said we'd be out by -- within an hour.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Well, who knew.

MR. NOLAN:

Yeah, starting now.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Starting now, right.

LEG. MONTANO:

Starting now, gotcha.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. The first on the legislation is 1038 - ***Adopting Local Law, A Local Law amending the Suffolk County Empire Zone Boundaries to include Bren-tronics, Inc. (SCTM No. 0400-22.000-0100-045.000 and 0400-22.00-0100-046.00).***

(*Timer Sounded*)

LEG. MONTANO:

Time's up.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right. Mr. Quinn, you've had enough. All right. Technology, I tell you. I'll make a motion to approve. Is there a second on the motion? Mr. Stern?

LEG. STERN:

I'll second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Second on the motion. Second for the purpose of discussion. Would you like to hear a little bit about Bren-tronics? I think we have before, but, Carol, I knew you'd be here, if you'd like to say a few words.

LEG. MONTANO:

I can't hear you.

MS. FAHEY:

Is the timer now for the Legislators, is that it? I'm here again on I.R. 1038, the Local Law to amend the Empire Zone boundaries to include Bren-tronics, Incorporated.

Bren-tronics is located at 8 and 10 Brayton Court in Commack, and is a worldwide leader in manufacturing renewable energy systems, including mission critical rechargeable battery systems and charging systems to the U.S. military and Ministries of Defense around the world. The two facilities that they currently house are 67,000 square feet, and employ over 210 workers. Bren-tronics currently has an annual payroll of exceeding 11 million.

The business expansion proposed as part of this Empire Zone boundary revision totals about 10 million dollars, of which nearly 7 million will be in production equipment, and furniture, and fixtures,

8. -- 1.8 million will be for a building renovation to accommodate that additional equipment. The regionally significant project designation that's in front of you today requires the commitment of Bren-tronics to create an additional 50 jobs over the next three years. Principals from Bren-tronics believe that they will exceed that number by 25.

Most of you are familiar with the Empire Zone Program and the RSP designation, but just to reiterate, this doesn't affect our zone proper of the twelve hundred and eighty acres, it's in addition to.

Here with me today from Bren-tronics is Vice President of Finance, Kathleen Menikos, if there are any questions specific for the company.

LEG. MONTANO:

Just a quick question.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Of Carolyn or Kathleen?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, of Carolyn. Carolyn, could you just refresh my recollection why this was tabled at the last meeting? Was it for Public Hearing or something?

MS. FAHEY:

Public Hearing.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay, it was that.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Is there anything else, Carolyn, you'd like to say about it at this point in time? Are there any questions? Yes, Legislator Stern.

LEG. STERN:

Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Carolyn, I think we learned, you know, about the company and what they do and what their plans are. Could you just briefly -- maybe you or the representative of the company can just talk a little bit about the ownership makeup of the company, closely held, who the owners are, you know, that kind of thing?

MS. MENIKOS:

Sure, the company is owned by Leo Brenna, individual, sole owner of 37 years. He just had his anniversary. He's a Vietnam vet. It's classified as a small business, and we're the number one supplier of all the battery systems to the U.S. Army.

LEG. STERN:

Are there any other -- are there any other locations? Are there any subsidiaries? Are there any other places around the country, or this is the singular location for the company?

MS. MENIKOS:

This is the -- we did open a satellite assembly only up in Downsville, New York, close to where Mr. Brenna has a weekend home. He wanted to hire -- there's about 12 people working Upstate, but that's it.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You know, it goes to the axiom that those of us who talk about economic development all the time is that the best thing you can have is have the CEO live near a particular location. So he's -- by his summer home he's put a -- he put a factory. Nice. I like that.

Please keep in mind that we have a very -- a very positive and reinforcing college, Suffolk Community College, that when you go out for those extra 25 people that you're going to put on that you kind of hinted about, that you take a look at our Suffolk County Community College.

MS. MENIKOS:

We actually already have interns from Stony Brook, yeah, every year.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ah, you're good.

MS. MENIKOS:

Engineering students.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

There you go. Okay. We have a motion to approve. Yes, Legislator Cilmi.

LEG. CILMI:

I guess my question is for Carolyn. First of all, thank you very much for looking to stay here in Suffolk County, we appreciate it. What -- my understanding of the way empire zones work is that the companies that are within these zones and derive the benefits that go along with them are required to, you know, meet certain requirements over the course of their term here. We're talking -- the State's talking about eliminating the Empire Zone Program. So my question to the County Executive's Office is, and maybe it's not to the County Executive's Office, is who enforces the Empire Zone requirements if, in fact, the State eliminates the program?

MS. FAHEY:

The State would continue. The State's made a commitment to those companies that have already been certified as businesses for benefits out a certain number of years. The State enforces the commitment and criteria at this point, State Department of Finance and State Department of Labor.

LEG. CILMI:

Perfect. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Are there any further questions? All righty. If not, we have a motion to approve.

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Could you please state your name for the record?

MS. MENIKOS:

Kathleen Menikos.

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. We have a motion to approve. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. It has been approved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

And good luck to you. Now, we don't need to have you come down, Carolyn, for the vote on the -- by the Legislature this Tuesday?

MS. FAHEY:

Traditionally, we've had principals at the full Legislature for those who weren't part of the committee, so they will be here.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And we're going to do the same. You never know, right?

MS. FAHEY:

I know.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We're a tricky group, but we're --

MS. FAHEY:

You said it, not me.

*(*Laughter*)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. But you're approved. Thank you very much, and good luck to you, Kathleen.

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

All right. Introductory Resolutions:

1058 - Appointing Yves R. Michel as a member of the Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) (Horsley).

Yves, you want to come on up and join us. Of course, as everyone knows, Mr. Michel is our Commissioner of Economic Development and would be here anyway. So, welcome, Yves. And is there anything you'd like to say about your impending appointment?

COMM. MICHEL:

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice Chairman, all the other Members of the Committee. Thank you very much for this opportunity to be heard, and also to be considered for the membership of the Industrial Development Agency for the County of Suffolk. As you well know, in my prior capacity, I worked with the Industrial Development Agency at the Town of Brookhaven, and I look forward to not only pulling my expertise, but working with the very, very wonderful board at the IDA here in the County.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yves, one of the questions that was asked of me, are you replacing Jimmy Morgo, and, of course, that's not the case. Maybe you might want to just answer that question.

COMM. MICHEL:

That is correct. Mr. Morgo will remain as Chair of the Suffolk County IDA. I am actually replacing Kathleen Giamo who resigned from her seat on the IDA.

LEG. MONTANO:

What does she do?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Kathleen?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Giamo?

LEG. NOWICK:

Well, she resigned.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, she resigned, but she is a real-estater.

LEG. MONTANO:

What position did she have?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

She's on the IDA.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

On the Board.

LEG. MONTANO:

But she was not a County Employee, was she?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No, no.

COMM. MICHEL:

That is correct.

LEG. NOWICK:

She was in the real estate business, so she had her own business.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, okay.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, it's Giamo Associates. I believe she's a real estate broker.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. That's what I was asking.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Industrial real estate. I'll make a motion to approve.

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Second by Legislator Stern. Is there any further discussion?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, we have some -- I have some questions.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, sure, go ahead. Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah. Commissioner, could you tell me what it is that the -- I'm not that familiar with the IDA, so

what is it that the IDA Board actually does?

COMM. MICHEL:

The IDA Board is a tool that Economic Development professionals have within their toolbox that enabled to provide low cost financing for companies that wish to enter or relocate within our County and also to expand, and they do this through two vehicles; the first one is tax exempt bonds, and the second is a straight lease financing.

LEG. MONTANO:

Now --

LEG. NOWICK:

They're able to get bonds.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, I got you. You're now the Commissioner of Economic Development. What is the relationship between the Department of Economic Development and your position as Commissioner and the IDA Board? And just bear in mind that my question goes to the issue of -- this board is not a County -- is it a County board?

COMM. MICHEL:

It is not a County board.

LEG. MONTANO:

It's an independent agency.

COMM. MICHEL:

It's an independent agency, correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

So what is the relationship between you as Commissioner and you as a member of the IDA Board? What is the interlocking relationship, if any?

COMM. MICHEL:

Sure. As we're marketing our County to companies outside of our County in different counties, let's say Southern Connecticut, Northern New Jersey, the Boroughs, what we feel is having a Board like the IDA will enable us to be more effective with the tools that we can provide to assist them to relocate within our County, number one. Having that tool within our arsenal and participating with the IDA Board, we can put together a complete package that will induce them to take a very serious long look at our County for their relocation and expansion plans.

LEG. MONTANO:

Now, you do that in your capacity as the Commissioner of Economic Development, do you not?

COMM. MICHEL:

I do that, correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

And then you would be --

COMM. MICHEL:

And that's the marketing.

LEG. MONTANO:

And then you would be pitching that, that particular proposal, to the IDA Board.

COMM. MICHEL:

Correct. And the IDA Board would be in a position to review the company's application. They have to apply to the IDA separate and apart with what --

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, but that would go through your Department.

COMM. MICHEL:

That would go directly to the IDA.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, but from your department. In other words, you would be involved in that process.

COMM. MICHEL:

I will be involved in that process, yes.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. So that's the concern that I have or the question that I have, is that you, in essence, in your role as Economic -- as Commissioner of Economic Development, and your dual role as an IDA, you would be pitching on the one hand a particular project through your office, and then you would be pitching it to yourself as a member of the IDA Board. Do you see a -- you know, I see a lack of -- not lack of, I just see an interlocking relationship there that makes me a little bit uncomfortable in terms of the IDA Board I always thought would be an independent board that would review projects. You're actually going to be reviewing a project that you put together; am I correct in that assumption?

COMM. MICHEL:

I'll be involved in putting the project together as it relates to coming into the County. The IDA Board is a seven-member board that would look on the merits of the financing for that project.

LEG. MONTANO:

And who are the other six, or are they just individuals that are appointed by the Legislature, or are there certain designated -- are they certain designated appointments, like someone from the County Exec's office, one appointment from the Presiding Officer? Do you know how the members of the IDA Board are structured?

COMM. MICHEL:

I know that we have an Executive Director who is here, and the other members, I'm not quite sure how all of those other seats are appointed. I could --

LEG. MONTANO:

Would the Executive Director know?

COMM. MICHEL:

Yes, he would, and he's not here at the moment.

LEG. MONTANO:

Oh, he's not here.

COMM. MICHEL:

No, he's not.

LEG. MONTANO:

I see.

COMM. MICHEL:

And one thing that I would like to do, since we have new members of this committee here, I would like to look forward in the very near future to not only do a debriefing of how the IDAs work with Economic Development, but also the Empire Zones as well.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. And I agree with you, but I must tell you that I have just trouble with the -- because I don't know enough about it, you know, I have some concerns about your role as Commissioner and then your role also as, you know, an IDA Board Member, because you would be reviewing, in essence, projects that you will be working on, so it gives you like an inside track over other Board Members. Do you see where I'm coming from on this?

COMM. MICHEL:

I definitely understand your concern.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah. And I'm not saying that it's necessarily, you know, a conflict in the sense that we have a conflict, but it -- you know, it really raises in my mind some issues as to the appropriateness of your being involved as a voting member when, in fact, you're putting the -- you know, sort of like I'm putting the package together and then I'm going to approve my own package. Of course you want to approve your own package, but that's not the kind of independent review that I think a board should be in a position to evaluate, because you'd be arguing your own -- the merits of your own proposal. Do you see my point on that?

COMM. MICHEL:

I do see your point.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, so --

COMM. MICHEL:

And most of the other IDA Boards --

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, I was going to ask you about other IDA, because --

COMM. MICHEL:

-- are structured similar to as we're moving forward, i.e., the individuals responsible for economic development also have a seat at the Board for the IDAs. And one of the things that I heard prior, when the College was up here, they were looking at catch phrases like "streamlining the process", "one-stop shop", "moving the application", and things along those lines. That would hold true with economic development and an IDA, very similarly to the Empire Zone Board. We have an Empire Zone Board and we have members from Economic Development who are members of the Empire Zone Board as well, so they would guide the process or a project through looking at the merits of the project; but, however, they're one of many members of the Board.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. All right. You said the Executive Director is not here.

COMM. MICHEL:

That is correct.

LEG. MONTANO:

All right. You know, that is an issue, and not knowing enough about the IDA Board and how it's chosen, I will look into that for the next meeting. But I'm going to -- you know, I'm going to abstain on this vote. I don't think that we should move forward. And I'm sure understand, you know, it's not a personal abstention. I see Counsel approached the podium, so I guess she has something to

say, Gail? Go ahead.

MS. LOLIS:

Yes, thank you.

LEG. MONTANO:

If I may, Mr. Chair. I don't want to be presumptuous --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

No, no, that's --

LEG. MONTANO:

-- but she was there already.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Be presumptuous, it's okay.

LEG. MONTANO:

Go ahead.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We always --

MS. LOLIS:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to address a concern, we had look at it, and you had mentioned you didn't see it necessarily as a conflict, we didn't see it as that. But we just wanted to let the Committee know that the past Commissioners of Economic Development, and I think at least the last four, have been --

LEG. MONTANO:

And I believe Jim Morgo was on that, that's why he was on the Board.

MS. LOLIS:

Yeah, had been on the IDA, and that was something that we looked at also.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, and I understand that. And, you know -- but we're looking at it fresh now in terms of the situation. Don't go, don't go. You've never -- you said you looked at it. What does that mean? Does that mean that you sought an opinion from the Ethics Committee, or you simply looked at it and dismissed it out of -- that's it's not something that concerns you or what?

MS. LOLIS:

We just took a look to make sure that --

LEG. MONTANO:

Who's "we"?

MS. LOLIS:

Our -- the Department of Law had taken a look at it just with other appointments to make sure that there would not be a problem as far as the Commissioner sitting on that Board as far as qualifications and things.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right, not this Commissioner, previous Commissioners.

MS. LOLIS:

Just the individual, just we look at qualifications and things like that. And for any appointed, we'll always look at appointees to see if they -- if they have the qualifications that this Legislature may have in laws that they're required to have, that's what we look at.

LEG. MONTANO:

Just so I'm clear, Gail, there is no question about his qualifications. I mean, he's eminently qualified for that position and any other position, and I recognize that. What I'm addressing is the interlocking. And, you know, as lawyers, we use that interlocking directorship terminology. I don't know if they still use that in law school, but, you know, I guess it's the same. But it really is the appropriateness of, you know, the relationship, irrespective of the person. I have no problems with the qualifications and with the individual, it's just the practice of having the Director of Economic Development who was, you know, packaging these proposals, then voting on his own package. I have a concern with that, and that's not something that you've addressed.

MS. LOLIS:

No, and that's not something that I would address. I mean, that --

LEG. MONTANO:

Unless you were asked.

MS. LOLIS:

Absolutely.

LEG. MONTANO:

Gotcha.

MS. LOLIS:

And, actually, I think that's -- if there are ethical concerns and there's a request for an opinion from the Ethics Committee, that's separate and apart from us.

LEG. MONTANO:

Exactly, that would be different.

MS. LOLIS:

We just looked at it in terms of was this something different, is this something consistent with past practices.

LEG. MONTANO:

Gotcha.

MS. LOLIS:

That's what we looked at.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. Well -- but that wasn't -- that really is not the issue before us. He's eminently qualified on many levels, we understand, but that doesn't change my position on this.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ms. Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

You know, I just -- I was going to mention that I did believe that Jim Morgo served a dual role. And I understand where you're coming from, Legislator, but then the other side of me says, "Hey, what's better than having somebody already know what's going on being able to represent the County in another capacity," when seven people are voting, so it's not like one person is deciding. So maybe it's not such a bad thing. It seems like a precedent has already been set, too. So that was just a

thought.

LEG. MONTANO:

Not to get into a protracted debate, but if it were a three-three tie, you would cast the deciding vote, and you would not be able in a position to recuse yourself because you wouldn't have to, because you're a member of the IDA Board. So those are the kinds of things that come up. And, you know, I've got to be honest, this is more lawyer speak than it is, you know, political speak, but it does raise some concerns. And, you know, I just feel that I would be more comfortable looking into the relationship, not of you, sir, of any Commissioner serving in that role, and not only with respect to the IDA Board, but with other boards as well.

COMM. MICHEL:

Thank you, Legislator, and I definitely appreciate that, and thank you for those kind words as well. The IDA boards are a public company through the State, PAAA, Public Authorities, and there's a high level of transparency, number one, and everything that the Board does is FOILable, so you can FOIL it. And I felt the boards that had insight from the economic developers for that municipality have been the most successful ones.

And some of the comments that Legislator Nowick raised, those are the reasons why, but, more importantly, if you have knowledge on how the IDA works and you have knowledge of economic development, when you're speaking in front of the executives, the CEOs, the CFOs of these companies that you're trying to attract to your county, there's a tremendous amount of credibility that you bring there, that they know that I have one person that I can go to and say, "Mr. Commissioner, I am about to invest "X" amount of millions of dollars in your county." I would like to some level of assurance that when I do go through the process, my application would be looked at, my permit process would be looked at, all those things that are required to bring me to your county will be in good hands. And I have a one-stop shop, if you will, one person to go to to ensure that if the application is reviewed on its merits, it would be looked at fairly, and if there's something in the application that would cause the board to say, "This is not the right company for us here in this County," those things will be addressed as well.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. And, you know, we can end it. And I don't disagree with you, but my point goes to the fact that, as you just explained it, in reality, what you do is, without intending, is that you come to the board with a weighted vote, and that's the concern that I have, because you now have been in negotiations in your other capacity as Commissioner. And, again, this doesn't speak to you, this speaks to, you know --

COMM. MICHEL:

Understood.

LEG. MONTANO:

And I know that you understand that. But, you know, you do come there with that weighted vote and that is the concern that I have as a Legislator in terms of approving an appointment where, you know, number one, I readily admit I haven't looked at the structure of the IDA Board in awhile. I really don't know who the other members are right now, I don't have my book with me, but that is a concern, and I think that's a legitimate concern. So I -- you know, I maintain my position that I will abstain on this, and, hopefully, we can have this conversation on Tuesday.

COMM. MICHEL:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Are there any further questions from the Board? Okay. Let me just -- this is what -- I was just speaking to George while the Legislator was speaking, and what we'll ask George to do is, if -- I don't want to quote you, but he has informed me that he doesn't think that there is an intrinsic

conflict of interest, or anything along that line. Gail, apparently, doesn't feel there is either. But George will look at it over the period till Tuesday, when we actually take a final vote on this. So what I would do is I would make a motion to approve it. We could do it with or without recommendation. I mean, I -- with recommendation.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just approve it.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, I'll make the motion to approve it with recommendation, that we will approve it; seconded by Legislator Stern. Are you --

LEG. STERN:

Yeah, I would second it. I would second to approve, and then --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Approve.

LEG. STERN:

-- given the, opportunity after reviewing, to see if there's any other reason to make an other kind determination. But, at this point, I would -- I would approve.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah. Okay? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. It has been approved.

LEG. MONTANO:

Note my abstention.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And Legislator Montano abstains. **(VOTE: Approved 4-0-1-0)**

COMM. MICHEL:

Thank you. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Legislator Montano and all the other members of the Board for this opportunity, thank you for your vote as well. Have a good day.

LEG. MONTANO:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All righty. **1125 - Accepting and appropriating an amendment to the College Budget for a grant award from the U. S. Department of Education for a Federal Work-Study Program 100% reimbursed by Federal funds at Suffolk County Community College (Co. Exec.)** I'll make a motion to approve and to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Seconded by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

1126 - Accepting and appropriating a grant award from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for a Green Innovation Grant Program in connection with a College-wide Water and Energy Conservation Initiative 90% reimbursed by State funds at Suffolk County Community College (Co. Exec.) Would anyone like to have the motion?
Legislator Stern.

LEG. MONTANO:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Seconded by Legislator Montano. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

1130 - Appropriating funds in connection with the Science, Technology and General Classroom Building at Ammerman Campus (CP 2174) (Pres. Officer). I'll make the motion to approve.

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Second by Legislator Stern. All those -- is there any other discussion on the motion? All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. It's been approved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

LEG. MONTANO:

Cosponsor.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And cosponsored by Legislator Montano. Would anyone else like to be cosponsor?

LEG. NOWICK:

How about the committee?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

How about the committee? How about the committee? There we go. When you bring down the forces, we line up for you there, Kevin.

(*Laughter*)

Okay. Legislation **1147 - Dedicating the revenue generated by the County's lease with Eastern Long Island Solar Project (Romaine).** That is -- Mr. Zwirn, do you want to make a comment on that?

MR. ZWIRN:

Yes. The County Executive is opposed to this bill. He believes that this money should go back to the taxpayers, offset any potential increase in property taxes. That's where the revenue should go. It's a County asset that's being used. The ratepayers have the settlement agreement that has been worked out years ago with LIPA, and this money he thinks should go into the General Fund for operating expenses, and nowhere else.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Legislator Cilmi.

LEG. CILMI:

You want to do a motion first?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You want to do a motion? Absolutely. You want to make a motion to table this, Legislator Montano?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, I would make a motion to table it.

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

And second by Legislator Stern. We have a motion on -- we have a motion to table.

LEG. CILMI:

On the motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

On the motion.

LEG. CILMI:

Ben, I'll ask you on a question on this. The LIPA settlement or the lawsuit that we owe for this, you know, for all of this money from Shoreham, and you say that you believe, or the County Executive believes that, and I'm not advocating for this one way or the other at this point, I'm just asking a question, wouldn't this, in effect, you know, be the same effect? Aren't we giving the money to the taxpayer one way or the other? Because, I mean, the County's obliged to pay the -- you know, for the lawsuit and we're obliged to pay for, you know, other operating costs as well in the County, so isn't it six or one-half dozen of the other, really?

MR. ZWIRN:

Not necessarily. I mean, you could -- I think, conceivably, you can be a taxpayer and not a ratepayer. I mean, you could own property and not have -- and not pay LIPA costs.

LEG. CILMI:

But aren't the tax -- aren't the taxpayers liable for the -- the settlement that's discussed in this resolution, is that a settlement that the ratepayers --

MR. ZWIRN:

Ratepayers.

LEG. CILMI:

Not the taxpayers.

MR. ZWIRN:

Right.

LEG. CILMI:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

That's a good answer, Ben.

LEG. NOWICK:

Is that who --

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Good question, too. Yeah, sure, Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

Is that the ratepayers just of the Shoreham area? All the ratepayers --

MR. ZWIRN:

No. That was the --

LEG. NOWICK:

-- ratepayers of Suffolk County, LIPA ratepayer.

MR. ZWIRN:

That was the agreement. The ratepayers, actually, in the Shoreham-Wading River School District got a break when they spread the payments out County-wide, because the benefit was going to the school district, and it was such an onerous burden on the taxpayers of that school district that it was agreed by the Legislature, signed on that the County would pay it on a County-wide basis. I also believe that Nassau County pays less as a result, because the benefit of Shoreham was in Suffolk County.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

We have a lawsuit over that, and that is where --

MR. ZWIRN:

I'm just saying, but that's the way the settlement was originally arrived at.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Were you a Supervisor then or --

MR. ZWIRN:

I was running for County Executive back then. I was very supportive. I would see it differently --

*(*Laughter*)*

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

It's an outrage.

MR. ZWIRN:

I would see it differently today. I agree with you. What was I thinking?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, what were you thinking?

LEG. CILMI:

Ben, are the -- is this settlement being paid directly through LIPA bills, or is it being paid --

MR. ZWIRN:

Yes.

LEG. CILMI:

-- by the County --

MR. ZWIRN:

No, it's being paid through --

LEG. CILMI:

-- by LIPA bills? Okay.

MR. ZWIRN:

By the ratepayers through their bills.

LEG. CILMI:

Okay. I just want to clarify.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay? All right. We have a motion to table. Are there any other motions from the floor? Are we good? Okay. All those in favor of the motion to table? Opposed? So moved. It's been tabled.

LEG. CILMI:

Mark me as an abstention.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Legislator Cilmi is an abstention. **(VOTE: Tabled 4-0-1-0)**

All right. **1157 - Appointing Patricia McMahon to the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees (D'Amaro)**. Okay. This is -- I just wanted to explain something. Ms. McMahon is going to be at the March 2nd meeting at the -- is it 2nd?

LEG. MONTANO:

Full Legislature.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

At the full Legislature. We're going to have a Special Meeting at lunch. It should take about five minutes. I don't know if those of you had the pleasure of meeting Ms. McMahon. She's a Vice President of Grumman, and she's got a long history in a number of different arenas. She's a Planning Board Director, and she really is something special. But I want you to meet her, and, unfortunately, she couldn't make it here today, I believe she's out of the town. Yeah, she would have had to wait, but -- so I what I wanted to do is to approve her.

MR. NOLAN:

Discharge.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Discharge without recommendation until we interview her on Tuesday. I guess that's how we've done this issue in the past. So I'll make that motion to discharge without recommendation, seconded by Legislator Stern. Are there any questions the Legislature has? If not, we are discharging without recommendation. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Discharged Without Recommendation 5-0-0-0)**

Okay. **1159 - Appointing William C. Goggins to the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees (Romaine)**. Is Mr. Goggins here?

MR. GOGGINS:

Yes, I am.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Please, why don't you come on up?

MR. GOGGINS:

Go to the podium or to the chair?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Either way. Sit down there, that would be just fine. Thank you.

MR. GOGGINS:

Thank you. Good afternoon.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Why don't you tell us a little bit about yourself.

MR. GOGGINS:

I'm William Goggins. I'm an attorney practicing law in Suffolk County. I've had my own private practice for 20 years. I'm engaged in civil, criminal litigation. I try about 15 cases a year. I have a partner and several employees.

I was asked to apply for this Board from Ed Romaine. He said that the Board could -- would appreciate some help with common sense approach toward issues. I said I would consider it, and, actually, I was honored when he'd asked me. I've been on several boards in the past. I've been on the Trustees for the Lake Grove School District, I've been the founder and chairman of an organization called Mattituck Cutchogue Fund for Students where we had raised about \$340,000 in three months to close a budget gap from the Mattituck Cutchogue School District when they didn't pass their budget, and they were going to do away with varsity and JV sports. So we were able to create a charitable organization quickly and raise money very quickly, too, where we were able to reinstate that money. I've also been involved with IGHIL. I don't know if you know that organization. They're independent group home living. They're based in Eastport, Center Moriches. They have many group home houses, and they help developmentally disabled children. I'm heavily involved in the fund-raising with that organization as well.

I've been a member of the Lions Club and a bunch of other different clubs, too. Right now, I've got five children and they're all pretty much college age now, so I've got more time to contribute. And I know there's several attorneys on the Legislature and it's my belief, engaged in the private practice of law that we should all help out with the community, and that's what I've been doing. And I think it's our responsibility as lawyers to help out, especially attorneys in private practice who make their living by representing and helping people in the community. So with that, I was honored to be asked to be a Trustee. I know there are other people that are interested in this position and I appreciate that you're giving me the opportunity to serve.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right. Thank you very much, Mr. Goggins. Are there any questions of Mr. Goggins? Just maybe one. I know that, apparently, you've had an invaluable educational background as far as working with the local high school and the local school district. Have you ever had any relationship to junior colleges, college relations -- you know, how do you feel you'd fit in?

MR. GOGGINS:

I think I'd fit in pretty well. When I graduated from high school, I enlisted in the United States military where I served for four years. I went to college at night when I was in whenever I could. When I got out, I attended Suffolk County Community College for a short period of time. I paid my own way through college, I paid my own way through law school, I had no help, no grants. I worked full-time, I went to school full-time, so I'm familiar with the process, I'm familiar with the difficulties that students have in getting funding to pay for their college, to pay for where they live, where they -- you know, the food that they need to eat. I remember working three jobs while at the same time going to school full-time. And I graduated from the University of Massachusetts, where, again, I've worked three jobs and went to school full-time, as I did when I went to Suffolk County Community College, so I'm familiar with that. I'm familiar with the budget constraints and the delicate balance between the funding, as we heard today from all these students and all the people involved in the College, and also the need -- the needs of the other students, and the future of the college.

And, frankly, I think Suffolk County Community College helps a lot of students in a lot of ways, helps a lot of families, and I think it's a great asset to our County, and that's why I was honored when I was asked to take this position. And I think I can bring, you know, a lot of common sense to the Board. I've been involved in, you know, a lot of transactional work, as I'm sure a lot of attorneys have here. I've been involved in a lot of litigation, whether it was labor law litigation, or personal injury litigation, or criminal litigation, I'm very familiar with all of that, because, as I said before, I try a lot of cases. So, you know, hopefully, that answers your questions.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

You did a fine job. Thank you very much, Mr. Goggins. Okay. Are there any questions from the Board, any further questions?

LEG. MONTANO:

One or two things, if I may.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure, Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Hi. By the way, I'm pretty familiar with Bridgeport. I graduated law school in '75. I didn't know Bridgeport had a law school. When did they -- is that a recent law school, I mean, or was --

MR. GOGGINS:

I think it's recent as of probably 1980, when I --

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah, that's what I'm saying, it was after, because I have a colleague --

LEG. NOWICK:

Boy, you date yourself.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

How hold are you, Rick?

LEG. MONTANO:

I'm ten years older than him. You put your birth date on the resume, so I know I'm older than you.

MR. GOGGINS:

When I graduated from the University of Massachusetts, I wanted to start law school, and I wanted to do it in the Spring semester, which was January. There were only four colleges at that time that offered the January admission; one was in New Hampshire, one was in Connecticut, and one was New York Law, and the other one was Saint John's. I didn't get my applications in time for the New York Law School, so I ended up going to Bridgeport. But I think Bridgeport started I believe in the early '80's, 1980 --

LEG. MONTANO:

That's what I was going to say, it started after I left, because I actually went to -- not that they need to know this, but I went to law school with a good friend from Bridgeport, who's now on the bench there.

But what I wanted to say was I know that, with respect to the resume and as a lawyer eminently qualified, but I'm going to make a motion to table the resolution. And, as you said, there are other candidates that are interested, and I would like an opportunity to see, you know, some of those resumes before we make this decision. So -- and I'm concerned about some other issues with respect to the College. So I will offer, with all due respect, a motion to table.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure. I'll second the motion. Are there any other further motions on the --

LEG. CILMI:

Can I just ask a question?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Oh, I'm sorry, Legislator.

LEG. CILMI:

No, that's okay. Counsel, can you just explain to me, being new here, how this works in terms of these appointments and how we know who's interested in them and where they come from, etcetera?

MR. NOLAN:

Well, in this particular case there were two recent resignations from the board. The preceding resolution was to fill one vacancy. This is to fill another. And it's just as the resolutions come in; the request to fill a position. I understand there has been a second resolution, second name, that's going to be laid on the table at our Tuesday meeting for this particular spot, but that's the way it happens. The resumes come in, the resolutions get introduced and the Legislature sorts it out who they want to appoint to the different slots.

LEG. CILMI:

So do the resumes come in specific to a certain slot or are they at-large kind of?

MR. NOLAN:

Well, it's up -- a Legislator will say to me, I would like a resolution to appoint, let's say Mr. Goggins, and then I'll say to them, which slot would you like to put him in for? And the Legislator will direct that.

LEG. CILMI:

Okay. So it's not as if we have this resume from Patricia McMahon and from Mr. Goggins and one other person, it's not as if the, you know, we picked two out of the three.

MR. NOLAN:

It's not an at-large system, no. We have to slot the names.

LEG. CILMI:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Are there any further questions from the Legislature? We're good? All right. We have a motion to table. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. It has been a -- and Legislator Nowick opposes. So it passes for tabling. *(VOTE: Tabled 4-0-1-0 Opposed: Leg. Nowick)*

MR. GOGGINS:

Thank you for your time. Nice meeting you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

1170 - Adopting Local Law No. -2010, A Local Law amending the Suffolk County Empire Zone Boundaries to include Amneal Pharmaceuticals of New York, LLC., (SCTM Nos. 0800-182.00-01.00-027.014 and 0800-182.00-01.00-027.006). (Co. Exec.) This needs a public hearing. So, Carolyn, we're going to have them address it at the public hearing? Yeah. Come on up.

MS. FAHEY:

As agreed as what we do with Bren-Tronics, they're not going to come to the first committee meeting because it needs to be tabled.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Right.

MS. FAHEY:

They will be present to hear any comments at public hearing, then they will do a presentation when it comes back to the committee for full consideration. And then they will be at the full Legislature when it's considered.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much for re-reminding how that -- what we decided on these issues. So we have a motion to table for purposes of a Public Hearing. I'll make that motion, second by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Tabled for Public Hearing 5-0-0-0)**

1171 - Adopting Local Law No. -2010, A Local Law amending the Suffolk County Empire Zone Boundaries to include A & Z Pharmaceuticals Inc. (SCTM No. 0100-068.00-01.00-011.001). (Co. Exec.) That would be the same?

MS. FAHEY:

Same.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

So I'll make a motion again to table it for a Public Hearing, second by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Tabled for Public Hearing 5-0-0-0)**

1178 - Appropriating funds in connection with installation of cooling systems - College wide (CP 2138). (Co. Exec.) Do I have a motion on this? I'll make a motion if hearing none. I'll make a motion to approve. Is there a second on the motion?

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Second on the motion by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved? **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

1179 - Appropriating funds in connection with the partial renovation of the Peconic Building (CP 2181). (Co. Exec.) Do I hear a motion on this?

LEG. NOWICK:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Motion by Legislator Nowick, second by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **(VOTE: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

1181 - Appropriating funds in connection with the Learning Resource Center - Grant Campus (CP 2159). (Kennedy) Do I have a motion on this?

LEG. STERN:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Motion to approve by Legislator Stern, seconded by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor?

LEG. CILMI:

Question on the motion.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Sure. On the motion, Legislator Cilmi.

LEG. CILMI:

Just from the County Executive's Office, I notice most of these other resolutions to appropriate funds for the College, the County Executive's Office came across with and this one it's -- who is it, Legislator Kennedy. Any comment from you?

MR. ZWIRN:

It is curious as to usually the County Executive does control the capital projects moving forward.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I don't know either.

MR. ZWIRN:

I don't know the answer, I'll have to ask Legislator Kennedy. But normally we like to have control so we can, you know, put the projects forth as they can get done because DPW usually moves the projects forward to the County Exec's Office and that's how it's happens. I don't have an -- it's a good question.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Is there any objection from the County Executive?

MR. ZWIRN:

This is money that I think that was in the budget.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, that's what I thought too.

MR. ZWIRN:

The only question we have is is DPW's saying that we're ready to go. I mean, so, if they aren't they'll just hold it up for a while, but that's the downside. Usually we like to try to do it in some sort of progressive order.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

It never stopped him before.

MR. ZWIRN:

But certainly not worth the argument on the floor today.

LEG. NOWICK:

Wayne, I think his priority ranking of 50 so, you know, that's not going to go to fast. Right?

MR. ZWIRN:

It depends. I mean, if the -- you know, as I said this is money that was in the budget. So it's in the Capital Budget for the College. And I just don't know where it stands if DPW's ready to go with -- flood out the contracts or whatever. So usually we do it in an order when they're ready to move forward. I don't know what the case is in this particular matter, but if -- the worst case scenario is that it will be -- it just won't go as fast as you would think having it go before the Legislature today.

LEG. NOWICK:

I think that Legislator Kennedy has been doing some research on the Learning Resource Center and has been -- has a number of reasons why he thought this should go sooner. So I'm going to support this.

I can tell you all the reasons, but I guess it's going to go there on Tuesday anyway, so it's -- if we have the time I'll go through them, but otherwise we'll do it Tuesday.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I can wait.

LEG. NOWICK:

I bet you could.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

But, Ben, you might want to take a quick look at it, you know, and just, you know, formally or informally. You know, just let me -- just let us know --

MR. ZWIRN:

Yeah, I'll let the Legislature know.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

-- if there's something that we're missing here.

MR. ZWIRN:

You know, the College may have gone to Legislator Kennedy and said they'd like to move -- I mean, as I said, usually the County Exec likes to have, you know, a handle on this.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah.

MR. ZWIRN:

Sometimes, you know, some of the different parts of the, you know, the government in the County think they don't move fast enough. So sometimes a Legislator gets a call, tries to, you know, move it along a little quicker. Bottom line is that -- I'm not being critical and I'm not saying we're opposed to it, I'm just saying that I don't want anybody's expectations to be higher than what they are and we'll talk to the Public Works Department and find out.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. So we have a motion to approve 1181. All those in favor? Opposed? **(VOTE: *Approved 5-0-0-0*)**.

LEG. MONTANO:

I'm back.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. How are you on that vote? You okay?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yeah.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. We're good, that's a -- we're good.

LEG. MONTANO:

Wait, I want to be a cosponsor, I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Okay. Legislator Montano cosponsors.

1190 - Adopting Local Law No. -2010, A Local Law to strengthen tourism promotion in Suffolk County, (Schneiderman) I understand we have a public hearing for this. Moke, I see you're here, is there a reason? Did you want to address this or this is this --

MR. MC GOWAN:

I would be more than happy to address any questions you may have.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

I don't have any specifically at the moment. Does anyone like to ask?

LEG. NOWICK:

I'd like to table for Public Hearing.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yeah, we're going to be hearing it on the Public Hearing. So we'll wait. It's always pleasure to see you though.

MR. MC GOWAN:

It's always a pleasure to observe democracy in action.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

There you go. I'll make a motion to table this for a Public Hearing, seconded by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved.

It is been tabled. *(VOTE: Tabled for Public Hearing 5-0-0-0)* And I think that is --

LEG. MONTANO:

Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yes.

LEG. MONTANO:

Before you adjourn could you give me the courtesy of reconsidering 1179? I don't think my vote was recorded and I simply would like to have my vote recorded in the affirmative. Did you record me on that?

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Yes.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. So make me a cosponsor and we're out of the here.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Please. Okay. Make a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Stern. Let's move.

LEG. MONTANO:

Thank you.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:51 PM

{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY