

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HIGHER ENERGY AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OF THE

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Economic Development, Higher Energy and Education Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 12:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Wayne Horsley, Chairman
Legislator Steven Stern, Vice Chairman
Legislator Tom Cilmi
Legislator Ricardo Montano
Legislator Lynne Nowick

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Barbara LoMoriello, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Bob Martinez, Legislative Aide to Legislator Montano
Maria Barbara, Legislative Aide to Legislator Cilmi
Bryan Galgano, Legislative Aide to Legislator Horsley
Greg Moran, Legislative Aide to Legislator Nowick
Deborah Harris, Legislative Aide to Legislator Stern
Justin Littell, Legislative Aide to Legislator D'Amaro
All other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Alison Mahoney, Court Stenographer

MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY:

Kim Castiglione, Legislative Secretary

(THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:36 P.M.)

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

All right. Good afternoon everybody for the emergency meeting of the Economic Development, Energy and Higher Education Committee. We just have one resolution to address, which is resolution ***1157, Appointing Patricia McMahon to the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees.***

We have discharged it from the committee without recommendation, but we wanted to afford the committee the opportunity to meet Ms. McMahon, who I have known for many, many years and am a fan of Ms. McMahon. So with that, I've handed out a resume to each of the members here today. And let me just ask Ms. McMahon to say hello and tell us why you'd like to be on the Suffolk Community College Board of Trustees.

MS. McMAHON:

Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Patricia McMahon. I am currently a Vice-President at Northrop Grumman. I'm responsible for the 2,000 employees that are on Long Island in our Bethpage facility, as well as deputy for the business that we have in this division.

Also extremely active in anything that has to do with education, especially in the area of getting students to study science and math, what we call our STEM Program starting in the high school and going further into college. So when I was asked to consider this as a volunteer opportunity, it just goes with what I have been trying to do, which is be active in organizations that either provide scholarships for children, students or help higher education.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Thank you very much. And may I just ask add that, you know, when she just gave that brief saying of what her background is, I mean, that is a really condensed version. Pat has been -- I think when we first met you were the First Vice President of Hazeltine and the Woman of Distinction, you know, it goes on and on and on. We've kind of grown up together --

MS. McMAHON:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

-- as community people. So that was a condensed version. So let me pass this to my fellow Legislators and see if there's any questions that we can ask.

LEG. NOWICK:

I'm so impressed I'm speechless.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Ms. Nowick is speechless.

LEG. MONTANO:

I'm not speechless. I'm impressed, but not speechless.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Always chatty, Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Just one question. May I call you Pat?

MS. McMAHON:

Sure.

LEG. MONTANO:

It says here you're the Chairman -- it says Chairman. You are the Chairperson of the Town of Babylon Planning Board. Are you also on any other boards in addition to that presently?

MS. McMAHON:

Yes. Some of them are on my resume. I'm Chairman of the Planning Board in the Town of Babylon.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay.

MS. McMAHON:

I also represent, as part of my civic duties as part of Northrop Grumman, I also am on the Long Island Software Technology Network LISTnet Board. I'm on the Farmingdale College Foundation Board, which is actually the fund-raising part of the college.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay.

MS. McMAHON:

And I'm missing one that I know I'm on. And the Long Island Philharmonic.

LEG. MONTANO:

All right. Very good. I'm very impressed. Do you have time for this board, though?

MS. McMAHON:

I plan to make time. I already have the meetings on my calendar.

LEG. MONTANO:

Sounds good. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Yes, Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just to what you said. My Dad used to say ask a busy person to do something and they will get it done.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. Absolutely.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:

Are there any further questions? Legislator Cilmi, you look like you want to say something.

LEG. CILMI:

I do.

LEG. MONTANO:

He's speechless.

LEG. CILMI:

No, I'm not speechless either. I just wanted to -- refresh my memory. Why was it that we tabled the other fellow who was here for the same, not for this specific position, but for the other position

that's available.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
Attorney?

MR. NOLAN:
I don't believe -- I don't think I can speak for everybody, but there was a second candidate that came in for the other seat, and I believe that might have been a rationale for tabling the other gentleman.

LEG. CILMI:
Are we going to hear from that second candidate today or at some other time?

MR. NOLAN:
Probably at the next committee meeting I would think.

LEG. CILMI:
Okay. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
Okay? Is there any other further questions of Ms. McMahon?

LEG. STERN:
Mr. Chairman, have we made the motion yet?

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
We already discharged it without recommendation at the committee hearing, so what this was to do, just afford us the opportunity of meeting Pat and being able to ask her questions, because she unfortunately was not able to make it during the EEE meeting that day.

LEG. STERN:
Very good. Well then, if I may -- I don't have any questions but if I can. Mr. Chairman, you were right to refer to Pat's resume and certainly one of the things that she is well-known for in the community in addition to her widespread outstanding accomplishments is her professionalism and modesty for having achieved so much. And fortunately there are so many organizations that have recognized her contributions to our community over many, many years as one of the outstanding leaders, not just in her neighborhood, but our entire community. And as we have heard over and over again that given extremely difficult economic challenges that our community colleges across our country are going to be, one of our most important ways out, as we invest in our young adults and our future professionals, than certainly Pat would be an outstanding leader to help in that regard. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
Thank you, Legislator Stern. Well put. Okay. Anything else? All right, Pat. Thank you very much for coming down today. It's not easy coming down to, but --

MS. McMAHON:
Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:
-- we're always glad to see you here in Riverhead. Meeting adjourned. Have a good lunch.

(THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:43 P.M.)