

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

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Wayne Horsley - Chairman  
Legislator Steve Stern - Vice-Chair  
Legislator Thomas Cilmi  
Legislator Ricardo Montano  
Legislator Lynne Nowick  
Legislator William Lindsay - Ex-Officio Member

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature  
Joe Schroeder - Budget Review Office  
Joe Muncey - Budget Review Office  
Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature  
Ben Zwirn - County Executive's Office  
Carolyn Fahey - Economic Development  
Linda Bay - Aide to Minority Caucus  
Paul Perillie - Aide to Majority Caucus  
Bob Martinez - Aide to Legislator Montano  
Bryan Galgano - Aide to Legislator Horsley  
Moke McGowan - LICVB  
Lyn Boland - SCOCA  
Dot Kerrigan - AME  
All other interested parties

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Donna Catalano - Court Stenographer

**MINUTES TRANSCRIBER BY:**

Denise Weaver - Legislative Aide

**(\*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:09 P.M.\*)**

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Good afternoon, everybody. Welcome to the very late Economic Development Higher Education and Energy meeting. All right. May we all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SALUTATION**

And please may we all stand for a moment of silence for the men and women who are protecting our freedoms.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

All right. Good afternoon again. We have two cards. But I wanted to remind the committee that immediately after our committee meeting today we will be joining in session as a working group to be looking at the Suffolk County Community College budget and that'll be in the basement. All right. Not that the College will be in the basement, but we will be in the basement.

I have two cards. May I first call up Moke McGowan concerning 1366-1531. Welcome, Moke.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Good afternoon and thank you for your welcome. I'm Moke McGowan, President of the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. I'm here today to reiterate our opposition to IR 1366 and to also advise you of our opposition to IR 1531.

You will recall that IR 1366 would cap our administrative expenses including personnel expenses to no more than 20% of our budget. Such a law will have a dramatic and negative impact on our ability to responsibly carry out not only our contractual obligations to Suffolk County, but also to the greater Long Island region. The importance of having a professional experienced staff was once again underscored just this past weekend when Coopers Beach in Southampton was named the number one beach in nation. That was by renowned coastal researcher Dr. Steve Leatherman, better known as "Dr. Beach".

It was the LICVB staff and only our staff that got the word out to a national press and a national audience. It was our marketing and communication staff that pitched the storyline, provided the video and other visuals of Coopers Beach for on-air and online use and secured interviews with Dr. Beach on MSNBC, on the Weather Channel and on the four major networks. It was our staff that also secured interviews with Southampton Village Mayor, Mark Epley, with other media who picked up on this story.

The awareness reach of Coopers Beach being the number one beach in the nation was further extended through syndicated pick up of the story both in print and online. Thus far we know it has been read in Charlotte, North Carolina, Baltimore, Orlando, Seattle and my particular favorite in Honolulu in the Star-Bulletin. Thus far the audience reach is well into the millions.

There is a mistaken belief that this type of service could be outsourced to public relations firms and thereby save on administrative expenses. Having managed secondary vendor contracts such as this, over the years of my career, I can assure you with confidence that not only will cost efficiencies not be achieved, but the level of service will greatly be diminished. The two individuals in our marketing communications department manage not only the Press Relations Program, but also manage our website and its content. They manage our Facebook page and its content, which not enjoys over 105,000 fans; our information technology and they also manage our visitor services department.

I think the bottom line is this; while the LICVB is a non-profit organization, it is not a charity service provider. It is a professional business organization with an experienced and professional staff, which

is absolutely essential in ensuring a quality return on the Counties investment in its tourism economy.

So once again, we reiterate our opposition to IR 1366 and I thank you.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much. Are there any questions of Mr. McGowan? Again, thank you.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Good afternoon.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

All right.

I have a second card from Lyn Boland from SCOCA.

**MS. BOLAND:**

I'm not exactly sure what I'm supposed to be doing here this afternoon.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

But we welcome you anyway.

**MS. BOLAND:**

I was told to appear because there was a resolution regarding my being appointed to the -- so I'm not sure whether I'm supposed to be speaking impromptu or whether I was supposed to be answering questions. But I did bring my CV if anybody wants a copy of that. And I'm here to --

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

And we found you. Really, we're so pleased that you're here.

**MS. BOLAND:**

Well, thank you. It's an exciting experience for me as well.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Well, why don't we do this while we're -- I'll make a motion to pull, while you're up at the microphone, to pull 1303 out of order.

**LEG. STERN:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

I have a second by Legislator Stern. Okay. That puts your appointment to the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts on the agenda. **(1303 - To appoint Lyn Boland as a member of the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts. (Viloria-Fisher)**

**MS. BOLAND:**

Great.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

I guess what we'll say is why should be appointing you to this board, though we think it's wonderful that you are here.

**MS. BOLAND:**

Okay. My background for the last 30 years has been in law in private practice. I retired the end of 2009, doing teaching at Queens College and matrimonial law as a private practitioner. However, I started out as a film major and worked for 12 years in film and television.

About five years ago in 2005 I started a series called the Port Jefferson Documentary Series, which has expanded by about a factor of ten and runs twice a year in Port Jefferson. That series was sponsored by the Greater Port Jefferson Arts Council. And shortly after starting the series I became a member of that board and then I became Chairman of that board and now I after -- in 2009 I'm now secretary of that board of directors.

So my interest is in bringing culture, particularly film, to the community. I think we have a terrifically successful program and this is just an expansion of that into the County level.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much. Matrimonial law. How about those Gore's, huh? I'm kidding. It sounds like your work is very important and we do appreciate and it's sounds like it's right on spot for what this committee is to bring -- to bring not only the arts to Suffolk County but the visual arts as well.

Are there any questions of Ms. Boland?

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Just a comment and I want to thank you for agreeing to be on this committee. And I wanted to tell you how important I think it is to bring film, particularly the making of a film, to Suffolk County because I think it's a wonderful economic stimulus. So anything you can do to facilitate that I think that helps our economy, it's helps the local areas that filmmaking is being held in. So if you can do that that would be great.

**MS. BOLAND:**

I agree. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Are there any further questions from the Legislature? We're good. All right. Ms. Boland, thank you very much more being here. And I'll make a motion to approve, second by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 6-0)** You are approved to move onto the Legislature. You do not have to be here next Tuesday for your appointment.

**MS. BOLAND:**

Okay.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

But we will move you onto the full Legislature and it'll be voted upon at that time.

**MS. BOLAND:**

Thank you very much.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Thank you very much, Ms. Boland, and thank you for your service.

I understand that, Ms. Fahey, you'd like to say a few words.

**MS. FAHEY:**

Good afternoon. I just wanted to let you know that at Tuesday's meeting there'll be a CN put in front of you for MITEQ. M-I-T-E-Q. They're a manufacture of microwave devices. We're asking their approval as an RSP underneath the Empire Zone Program. As you are aware, the Empire Zone Program is expiring at the end of June and in order for this company to receive its certification, which allows it to access the benefits we are asking for a CN on the 8th that'll allow the filing of the local law and then the certification by the local zone board. So that'll be in front of you on Tuesday. The company will be here for the public hearing and here for your vote.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Any there any questions from the Legislature?

**LEG. STERN:**

What was the name of the company?

**MS. FAHEY:**

MITEQ. M-I-T-E-Q. They're located over in Davids Drive. Actually there's four parcels of property that we're designating on Davids in Oser Avenue in Hauppauge.

**LEG. STERN:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Are there any further questions related to this? Carol, and anything else you'd like to bring for our attention concerning any of the other legislation? We're good? We haven't had our regular phone call so that's good. Okay. Lets move onto the legislation.

**TABLED PRIME RESOLUTIONS**

**1147 - Dedicating the revenue generated by the County's lease with Eastern Long Island Solar Project. (Romaine)** I'll make a motion to table.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Seconded by Legislator Montano. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **It has been tabled. (VOTE: 6-0)**

**1190 - Adopting Local Law No. -2010, A Local Law to strengthen tourism promotion in Suffolk County. (Schneiderman)** Anybody? Motion to table by Legislator Nowick, second on that by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Tabled (VOTE: 6-0)**

1303, we just took care of. We're good on 1303, Ms. Boland.

**1366 - Adopting Local Law No. -2010, A Local Law to maximize promotion of tourism in Suffolk County. (Schneiderman)** Motion to table by Legislator Nowick, I'll second the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Tabled (VOTE: 6-0)**

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

**1513 - Appointing member to the Local Home Energy Efficiency Task Force (Joe Schroeder). (Viloria-Fisher)** Joe, you're the appointee? And here you are. It's just like you just appeared. Joe, tell us about the Home Energy Efficiency Task Force and why you should be on it.

**MR. SCHROEDER:**

The Home Energy Efficiency Task Force as it's evolving is intended to support the local consortium of towns that have banded together to promote energy conservation and homes across the Island. They originally banded together in an application to the Federal Government for stimulus funds. They applied for \$40 million worth of stimulus grants, which they were not awarded. Instead NYSERDA secured a \$40 million grant and NYSERDA will be giving the Long Island consortium, which is remaining together, about \$5 million to seed their work.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Is this the deal that we thought we were cheated out of? I can say that, Joe.

**MR. SCHROEDER:**

You can, I can't. We felt {inaudible} in the obligations process. And this Home Energy Task Force is intended, I think, by Legislator Vilorio-Fisher to be a collection of elected officials who can affect a regional energy policy relating to home energy use as opposed to a town by town scenario, which is very fragmented and inefficient for the region.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

The membership of that is what? All supervisors? Please refresh my memory on this.

**MR. SCHROEDER:**

Well, there are local town supervisors and/or their representatives are serving on the task force as well.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay, all right. Have you had your first meeting as yet?

**MR. SCHROEDER:**

There was a first meeting last week. We did not have a quorum, but we had a very healthy discussion.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay. We always like healthy discussions. Are there any further questions of Mr. Schroeder? Okay. Anything else? Anything you'd like to add, Joe?

**MR. SCHROEDER:**

That's it.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay. Well thank you very much. I'll make a motion to approve Mr. Schroeder as a member of the local Home Energy Efficiency Task Force.

**P.O. LINDSAY:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Seconded by Legislator Lindsay. All those in favor?

**LEG. MONTANO:**

One question, please.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Yeah, sure.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

I'm looking at the list of boards and commissions. This is the Home Energy Efficiency Task Force, Renee?

**MS. ORTIZ:**

Shaking head, yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

The addendum that I have to resolution 1034, a list of boards and commissions, and I don't see this one here. Is there a reason for that? Is that the new one? It's the new one so it hasn't been added on. Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Okay? We're ready. All right. I think I was going to say all those in -- for the motion to approve? All those against? Opposed? **It's been approved. (VOTE: 6-0)** All right.

**1531 - Adopting Local Law No -2010, A Local Law improving tourism promotion in Suffolk County. (Schneiderman)** I think this needs a public hearing. Am I correct in that? Make a motion to table for public hearing, seconded by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **Tabled for Public Hearing (VOTE: 6-0)**

**1574 - Reappointing Joanna Ferraro-Levy as a member of the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts. (Schneiderman)** It's a reappointment so she doesn't have to be here. Make a motion by -- Lynne, Ms. Nowick, I'll second the motion. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **It has been approved. (VOTE: 6-0)**

And lastly we've got a tabled subject to call, which has already been done. Right? Okay. We're good. What we'll do is we'll reconvene in the basement and we'll meet there for a few minutes to talk about the Suffolk Community College budget. We are the working group.

**(\*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 3:25 P.M.\*)**

**{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**