

**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, January 26, 2011.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Wayne Horsley - Chairman  
Legislator Steve Stern - Vice-Chair  
Legislator Thomas Cilmi  
Legislator Ricardo Montano  
Legislator Lynne Nowick

**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  
Paul Perillie - Aide to Majority Caucus  
Dot Kerrigan - AME  
All other interested parties

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Donna Catalano - Court Stenographer

**MINUTES TRANSCRIBE BY:**

Denise Weaver - Legislative Aide

***[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:01 P.M.]***

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Welcome to the Economic Development, Higher Education and Energy Committee. May we all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

***(\*Salutation\*)***

Please stand for a moment of silence for all the men and women who protect our freedoms both home and abroad.

***(\*Moment of Silence\*)***

I see I'm speaking to a small audience here. Welcome. Let me just -- before -- so I can put this on the record -- I just wanted to advise the committee that I invited National Grid here today in which they accepted, and in the last day or two, decided to rescind -- they're coming before us. And what we were going to talk about was the manufactured gas plants and the fact that National Grid has raised their rates, because the cleanups of national (sic) gas plants -- manufactured gas plants across Long Island, both 1.5% and now they have in before the PSC another rate increase again to clean up these gas plants.

Suffolk County took the position initially that these cleanups should be done by the corporation itself and not to be placed on the ratepayers. The Public Service Commission, when it ruled against Suffolk County as well as others who felt that it was just unfair -- and I got to tell you I am just disgusted with National Grid for not being here. It seems to me that they are playing politics with an issue that I think that should be before the public. And the fact that they're afraid to talk to this Legislature or whatever reason they decided to not come here today, they claim that it was because they have a hearing in front of the PSC that they couldn't be here. I just thought that was bogus.

So I just wanted to comment and show my displeasure. But, with that notwithstanding, we have one resolution before us today.

***INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTION***

**IR 2242 - To reappoint Maria Loreta Celitan as a member of the Suffolk County Citizens Advisory Board for the Arts. (Nowick)**

**LEG. NOWICK:**

I make a motion.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

She's a reappointment, right?

**LEG. NOWICK:**

Yes.

**LEG. MONTANO:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

Right. Motion by Legislator Nowick, seconded by Legislator Montano. All those in favor? Opposed? So moved. **APPROVED (VOTE: 5-0)** That is --

**LEG. NOWICK:**

I make a motion to adjourn.

**CHAIRMAN HORSLEY:**

That's it. Motion to adjourn.

*[THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:04 P.M.]*