

EDUCATION & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Education & Information Technology 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 December 11, 2012.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman
Leg. Wayne R. Horsley, Vice Chair
Leg. Thomas Cilmi
Leg. Jay H. Schneiderman
Leg. Thomas Muratore (Absent)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

William J. Lindsay, Presiding Officer of the Legislature
Leg. Lynne C. Nowick, Thirteenth Legislative District
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel to the Legislature
Christopher Adams, Executive Assistant to Dr. Shaun McKay/Suffolk County Community College
Renee Ortiz, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Chris DeLuca, Aide to Leg. Cilmi
Benny Pernice, Budget Review Office
Kevin Peterman, Faculty Associate/Suffolk County Community College
Ben Zwirn, Suffolk County Community College
Paul Perillie, Aide to Leg. Gregory
Ali Nazir, Aide to Leg. Kennedy
Amy Ellis, Aide to Leg. Anker

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:03 PM

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Will the Legislators for the Information Technology Committee please come to the horseshoe.

We are going to start the Education and Information Technology Committee. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Cilmi.

SALUTATION

Please remain standing for a moment of silent meditation prayer as we think of those in need, especially in our military.

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED

You can be seated. Welcome to the Information -- Education and Information Technology Committee. We do not have cards or correspondence. We do not have resolutions. We do have a presentation. And Chris Adams --

MR. ZWIRN:

Just, Madam Chair, I didn't fill out a card but --

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Excuse me. Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead, Ben.

MR. ZWIRN:

But I know Chris is on the agenda. I was notified today that -- and we have requested a Certificate of Necessity on behalf of the College for a grant that just came through; the money will have to be spent before April of next year. So, we're going to see if the County Executive will give a CN for the last meeting of the year.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Okay. Thank you.

MR. ZWIRN:

So I just wanted to give you a heads-up. We'll have more information as we get closer to Tuesday.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Okay, we'll take the money, yes, yes. And, again, whatever we can do to help with grants is always welcome. But thank you for mentioning that.

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION

Okay. Chris Adams is here today from Suffolk Community College. And you're going to go over Transforming Lives and Empowering Communities. You're also going to be talking a little bit about -- well, it looks like specifically Hurricane Sandy and how you were able to help with the overall situation. And I got to tell you, I was so impressed. So I'm going to let you start; and then when you're done, we'll have comments or questions.

MR. ADAMS:

Chairwoman Anker, Presiding Officer Lindsay, members of the Information -- excuse me -- Education, Information Technology Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to come and share the story of what transpired as far as Suffolk County Community College is concerned and under the leadership of Shaun McKay.

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First, before I get to the formal portion of the presentation, I just want to take you back to -- leading up to the storm. Certainly we -- we know that it hit on Monday October 29th, but previous to that, we were -- we did a pretty good job at the College of preparing for the storm as best we could, cleaning out storm drains, make sure that we protected our equipment, make sure that everything that we did on all three of our Campuses to secure the Campus was taken care of.

We also worked very closely with the Office of Emergency Management under the direction of Joe Williams preparing, number one, the College for shelter that was going to take place on our Eastern Campus. So, leading up to the storm, we were very, very prepared. And I think that we did a good job. And I want to certainly commend everyone from Suffolk County for all of their help in helping us prepare.

So, one of the things that -- as we know, the storm hit the weekend preceding the storm. Again, we were on the phone constantly with Joe Williams. In particular the Eastern Campus Shelter was one of the first things that I would like to talk about. As I stated, the Eastern Campus was used as a pet-friendly Shelter for 90 families and their pets on our Eastern Campus. Saturday we made the call to open the shelter to Suffolk County residents. Certainly that needed to be prepared. One of our buildings was used. Suffolk County OEM brought out generators, cots. They prepared the shelter. That certainly was a considerable amount of work that happened on that Saturday.

As we know, the storm hit on Monday October 29th. Leading up to that, what happened? Our College, we made the decision to close the Campus for five days. We lost power on all three Campuses at different points. Communication was certainly a challenge, but we were able to under President McKay visit all three Campuses to ascertain what the damages were. Certainly there was a lot of trees that impeded the flow to the Campus. Certainly not having electrical power was a challenge and the decision was made to close the Campus, but also communicate that. That certainly -- when you have 26,000 students, 3,000 employees, communicating the closures, and, you know, certainly posed a challenge. We were able to implement our communication plan, that we were able to take care of and get the word out about the closings that we had.

We were contacted a couple of days after the storm by National Grid LIPA to provide on our Michael J. Grant -- Michael J. Grant Campus on a vacant property that is on the Campus, to provide sort of a out-of-state/town sort of, if you will. And one of the things that I think was very interesting is they converted the field -- they brought about 30 to 40 rigs that had beds and bathrooms and kitchens and food for all out-of-state workers that were on our vacant property.

Legislator Anker, I was very pleased with the fact that she -- she took time out of her busy schedule to come and visit and tour the facility during that week just so she could see and really see firsthand what was happening on the College and at the College during that time period. And, you know, certainly I think that was just amazing how they transformed that area into a mini-town for all of the out-of-state workers. So we were very pleased to be able to provide that. Certainly they left about ten or eleven days ago. And currently they're putting the field back together. Certainly the field was somewhat, you know, in disarray after they left. And one of their responsibilities per our Memorandum Of Understanding is that that they were to put the field back to its original shape. And they are doing so. If you drive by the Michael J. Grant Campus, you'll certainly see that.

Another aspect that we were able to provide was hosting EMS responders. Out-of-state and upstate ambulance crews in our Police Academy, on our Michael J. Grant Campus. And we provided that -- previous to the storm hitting and during the storm, we provided that at our Police Academy. If you drove by, you would see 50 ambulances in the parking lot and certainly the Police Academy played a very, very important role in providing that.

So we returned to almost normalcy by hosting classes on Monday November 5th. That was the first day back. One of the first things that happened is that the community came together saying *what*

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can we do as a community to help those in need? And I have to say we were very, very proud of our students, clubs and organizations that really came together in light of the tragedy and the devastation that happened on Long Island.

One of the first things that we did was have food drives, collecting for food pantries. We have two pantries: One on our Michael J. Grant Campus and one on our Ammerman Campus. And we were able to collect enough food to provide food to those that were in need. Students on our Michael J. Grant Campus as well collected coats and outerwear. As you know, as the week progressed after the storm, it started getting a little bit colder out. There was certainly a big need as far as coats and clothing that people didn't have that we were able to provide.

As you can see, you see two pictures of our student -- one of our clubs and organizations on our Michael J. Grant Campus that went out and collected food. As I said, many clubs and organizations, classes on all three campuses coordinated to collect relief supplies, our student government organization. Our Women's Basketball Team went out and collected food in the midst of the season. You can see there's a picture of the team with Coach Foley -- Head Coach Foley of our Women's Basketball Team, Chair and Dance Squad, same thing, collecting clothes and food. Students at our Colleges -- College of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center in Riverhead also collected food. As you know, about a week -- two weeks after the storm Thanksgiving took place. And we usually have a Thanksgiving Food Drive on our Michael J. Grant Campus under Sister Maryann {Borello}. This year we had an overabundance of students and their families signing up for hot meals: Turkeys, nonperishable items.

I want to commend two people from our Faculty Association, {Elashu Amock} and Kevin Peterman for going above and beyond. They donated \$300 worth of turkeys to the drive on our Michael J. Grant Food Pantry and \$300 worth of canned goods to the Ammerman Campus Food Pantry.

Other avenues of support through our student clubs and organizations, our Alpha Delta Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa on the Michael J. Grant Campus dedicated its induction ceremony on November 30th to those in our community who are suffering from the effects of the recent hurricane. The club collected necessary items, nonperishable food, personal hygiene donations, baby items such as diapers, formula. This was a campus-wide effort and certainly a college-wide effort.

Coming up, and I also have some fliers, we will be hosting a benefit -- I want to take the opportunity -- I will e-mail each of you including the entire Legislature, we'll be hosting a benefit this Tuesday on our Michael J. Grant Campus December 18th, 7:30. It's \$10 at the door. All the proceeds will be going to a relief fund that is sponsored by our foundation. I'll make sure that you have all this information. You're absolutely invited. We'd love to have all of you come out, and especially all the residents of Suffolk County as well. That will be happening December 18th at seven PM.

Through contributions, one of the first things that we did, and I'll show you in a minute after I get through the formal part of the presentation, I have a video to show you from President McKay, we were contacted throughout the Country by other colleges, institutions, just friends of the College, that really wanted to know, *hey, how are you doing? How are you getting through the storm? What is going on?* You know, certainly when people think of Long Island, they -- you know, it's one of the first things they think of, especially other colleges, colleges on Long Island. One of the first things that we did was we created a website called the Hurricane Sandy Relief website, which I'll show you in a few minutes, just to give information, not only to our faculty, staff and students but friends of the College, people around the Country, people that know Dr. McKay personally that have contacted him, just to find out information on what they could do to help our students, faculty and staff through this very trying time.

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One of the things that we first did was we created through our foundation a relief fund. And we're very happy that this relief fund, which would go to our faculty, staff and students, they would have to apply for a grant of \$500 to replace such things as textbooks, computer equipment, other electronic equipment that was lost, purchasing clothing and food; and also more importantly covering the cost of commuting back and forth. As you know, there was a challenge of gas on Long Island for many weeks. All of us were impacted certainly by that, but certainly, when you think about our students, faculty and staff and students that have lost homes, the importance of giving even \$500 so that they could fill up their gas tank or replace textbooks, and I'm very, very proud of the fact that we were able to come together as a community and provide this.

We have an enormous e-mail alumni base. And using it, we were able to e-mail our website and a message from President McKay concerning the relief efforts that were going on at Suffolk County Community College. And I'm very proud of the fact that we were able to send out that message, put it together. And people have been going onto the website and making donations to this hurricane relief fund. So I'm very proud that we were all able -- able to come together as Suffolk County Community College, work together, our computer center, our faculty, staff and students and really provide a service to the community.

Certainly we're still taking donations. Anyone who would like to contribute I'm always -- everywhere I go, far and wide, I'm always talking about this relief -- hurricane relief website that will not only be used for the Hurricane Sandy relief, but going forward for other emergencies that our faculty, staff and students will be involved with in the future, that relief fund will always be there. So, certainly we're very proud of that.

And that concludes the end of the slideshow. I want to show you, number one, the website; and, number two, I want to play a video from President McKay as well. Just give me one second, please. So you can find from our home page, there's an icon that you can click on. That will bring you to our website. You know, certainly it's updated continuously, letting people know the different efforts that are happening at the College. There's a video message which I'll play in a few minutes, Message from President McKay, talking about what happened, the significance of the impact of the College community, a link to a relief fund if people would like to donate; and any amount, \$5, \$10, 50 cents we would take, how you can help.

Also, we wanted to provide resources for students in need. Certainly I talked about our relief fund, but also it's very important, you know, to let people know faculty, staff and students that they would have to download an application and apply for the grants.

It also was very important to provide external sources of help and really tie in all the relief efforts, not only of Suffolk County Community College, but also of Suffolk County and the American Red Cross, Long Island Cares and any other information, FEMA recovery Centers, make sure that we can spread the word far and wide to our constituencies. And certainly images that were given to us -- I'll just show a couple. And these were pictures that were sent in by faculty, staff and students. And here's a couple of shots. I talked about the vacant property that we have on the Campus where we provided housing and parking spaces for the utility trucks. And certainly this is one of the bigger tents that we had where the out-of-state workers can come, get a hot meal, shower. And I also would like to show you a video message from President McKay as well. I can put that on.

VIDEO MESSAGE PLAYED

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

I just wanted to -- that was beautiful. That was wonderful. Again -- I want to mention a few things before we take some questions and comments. It's wonderful, too, to see how the Community

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College is looking ahead. You know, you just recently created this fund, but you're also preparing for the future. So, you know, again, we have to all start to do that within the government realm of things. And I had mentioned Suffolk Community College, but it's Suffolk County Community College, and how important you and your folks over at the Community College have been during these times of emergency and being an integral part of FRES, the Fire, Rescue, Emergency Services unit, which is the place where everything was happening, the central control of the emergency situation for the County.

When I went to visit the Brentwood Campus -- Grant?

MR. ADAMS:

Yes, Michael J. Grant, yep.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Grant. Okay. I know there's different names. I was amazed at the number of people from out-of-state. And you were there to support them -- both -- give them shelter and give them food. And also, you know, give them a sense of belonging. And that was both with the emergency ambulance folks from out-of-state who came from Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia -- they were from everywhere. And when I went inside the room where they were being -- I guess it's the waiting room or whatever, and there was a TV there and you had hot chocolate and you had food, they said that was the -- the Community College was one of the best places they've ever been able to have accommodations for them during emergencies. And, again, it was so heartfelt.

I know there was an issue of them voting -- I contacted -- actually went out of state to see if they could vote because it was during the -- November the 6th. But, again, what you were doing for them to make them feel so welcomed, you could see that in how they spoke. And it was just -- it was wonderful. The other part to that when we went outside to visit National Grid and LIPA's staging area, the trailers they brought in, I heard they -- I think they flew them in? Is that --

MR. ADAMS:

Yeah, that's correct.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

They flew them in on helicopters? And they dropped these great big 18 wheel trailers? Is that what they did?

MR. ADAMS:

Yep. They were rigs that were full of beds and showers, providing housing.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

You know, and, again, the mess hall, whatever, the great big tent that was feeding -- how many people were there in just that one area?

MR. ADAMS:

I believe there was about 1200 that were part of that; that vacant property.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

And, again, it was -- it was amazing to see how people worked together, you know, to come together with this situation. And, again, I just can't overstate how important it is to have you as a College support the County during emergencies. Now that was just the Grant Campus. Then you have the other campuses. How many facilities did you have available during the emergency?

MR. ADAMS:

On our Eastern Campus we provided a shelter for about approximately 90 families and their pets; a

pet-friendly shelter.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

And there were not many of those shelters available. And, again, thank you for what you've been doing.

Can I take some questions? Question, Legislator Schneiderman.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

Thanks, Chris, for coming out. I guess first question is the campus itself, did it experience much damage from the Hurricane Sandy?

MR. ADAMS:

We're still taking in a monetary amount. There is about \$150,000 worth of damage on the campus. Although that could increase as we're looking a little bit more.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

Which Campus? Was it all three Campuses? Is that spread out between the three campuses?

MR. ADAMS:

Mostly the Ammerman Campus and the Grant Campus. There was -- you saw from the video. There was a lot of trees that were down. There was certainly a lot of, you know, a lot of work that needed to be done during the week. During the week of the storm we had -- because the College was closed, we had essential personnel that were required. And that certainly was, you know, tree removal, cutting trees and really getting generally the buildings up and ready for classes to begin on that Monday.

And as I stated before, it was a little bit of a challenge getting to the Campuses. And I was driving back and forth myself. And, you know, certainly there was, you know, a lot of lights that were out and certainly was a challenge getting to the campuses. But I would say the Ammerman and Grant -- Michael J. Grant Campuses were the campuses that sustained the most damage.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

Have you had to adjust your educational calendars because of missed days?

MR. ADAMS:

That's a great question. In fact, I want to point out that we were -- we were proactive in trying to think that through as well. On that Friday evening I remember myself, President McKay calling the SUNY Chancellor's Office to find out, you know, what would happen if we had to close the College for an extended period of time? What would happen as far as, you know, making up those days, you know? We just wanted to know.

And we were told that we would have to apply for a waiver, which we have done. Most Long Island institutions have. SUNY Farmingdale, Stony Brook, Hofstra, Adelphi, you name it, every institution on Long Island was impacted by closing and cancelling classes. We've yet to hear something. We're almost on a daily basis contacting the folks of the New York State Department of Education and the SUNY System Administration to find out where we were -- where we are right now with the waiver. So, I'm hoping that, you know, at this point the waiver will be granted and that we will -- there won't be any, you know, significant impact.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

So the waiver would allow these students to get the credit or matriculate without making up that time? Is that what it does?

MR. ADAMS:

Yes.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

And is there a plan B in terms of longer -- you know, having the classes end at a -- making up hours during the day or taking away vacation time?

MR. ADAMS:

Well, we weren't -- as you know, we had a Nor'easter that hit about a week later, which I want to talk a little bit about as well. But as far as having a plan B, it really -- it's not really realistic at this point because of graduation -- people graduating. People have life circumstances that are going to happen. I know, Dr. Horsley, I know -- I see you -- you probably have experience with that, where you are also located. You know, certainly it would be a challenge for them to come back and say, you know, "your waiver has been denied". And I think, you know, it's December 11th. So for the fact that it would come back at us when we have classes that are ending in about a week would certainly be problematic for every institution on Long Island.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Let me -- let me just ask you a quick question. So basically -- there's only a week to determine if they can make up time. Because this semester's ending. So would it be appropriate for our Committee to call? Or is there any nudging that we can do to help find a secure answer?

MR. ADAMS:

I think at this point we keep contacting almost on a daily basis and we'll continue, and certainly if we need the help, we certainly will return and ask. But at this point I think, again, we have not heard from, you know, any institution that's been, you know, granted -- a waiver that is applied.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

So basically what would happen you got kids who are graduating at the end of this semester, which is a couple -- a week from now. So you wouldn't be able to issue them their diplomas until you get the waiver?

MR. ADAMS:

I'm sorry, Legislator Horsley, seems like you want to --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

There's no answer to that one.

LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:

Do you know what the institution would do? Do you have to just hold the diploma until that waiver's granted?

MR. ADAMS:

I think we would certainly come up with a different scenario. I'm not sure exactly what that would be. I mean, I can tell you my personal opinion on how to do it, but certainly, you know, with the holidays approaching and certainly, you know, contractually, it would be a challenge for every institution, not just Suffolk County Community College. We're hoping that we will learn any minute, any second, you know, that we will be able to, you know, be granted -- granted a waiver. I can't imagine under any circumstances that -- every institution on Long Island that has applied for a waiver would not be granted a waiver at this point.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Okay. Legislator Horsley has a question.

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Going back to the statement -- I know that Farmingdale, what went around was that, you were supposed to extend your classes ten minutes each day for a certain amount -- until the end of the semester. It was a statement that just went around. No comment on whether it was ever followed by anybody, but that was -- that was the remediation, I think, that the State came up with; was ten minutes in addition for each class until the end of this semester. And that would make up the difference.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Is this an official recommendation?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

I don't know.

MR. ADAMS:

I haven't done the calculations myself but I can't imagine --

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

It went around as a memo anyway.

MR. ADAMS:

And certainly how would you assess the learning in that ten minutes?

D.P.O. HORSLEY:

Particularly if you had back-to-back classes. It just seemed like an alternative.

MR. ADAMS:

Thank you. I also wanted to point out during the Nor'easter, as you know, the Nor'easter hit the Wednesday -- I believe it was November 7th. That certainly was a challenge as well. We also contacted the staging area. We were contacted about a day beforehand and we were basically told, you know, look the trailers cannot sustain winds of over 65 miles per hour. We've got these thousand people. Can you help us? And we did. We opened up our Health, Sports and Education Center to the out-of-state workers that evening to come in out of that until the nor'easter was over. But certainly that was a challenge as well and, you know, it was one of those unfortunate circumstances of back-to-back storms, you know, that we had to deal with.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

I just wanted to make the comment of what true leadership really is by looking to what, you know, you and Dr. Shaun McKay did and provide for our constituents. You know, I was calling the government LIPA line, saying, you know, look, how can I help? How can Legislators help? And what I was hearing on the ground was that, "well, there's not enough housing, there's not enough -- there's no -- you know, we find to provide food for the people coming and helping." And I did contact you guys. And you said you had the Athletic Center available. And I put that idea forward a handful of times. But then I kept hearing from the linemen, from the -- you know, the crews that they needed -- they needed housing, they needed a place to go because there were no hotel, motels whatever available. But, again, you really define what true leadership is through your efforts and through your -- the process and the organization of how you proceeded and worked with the situation. So I just wanted to thank you.

MR. ADAMS:

Thank you. I also want to commend you, Chairwoman Anker, also. You've always been -- whatever situation, you've always offered to provide a helping hand, to make a phone call, to visit. And we really appreciate that. And that's what strong leadership is as well, as the Chairwoman of this Committee.

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I also want to say that under the leadership of Shaun McKay -- President McKay, you know, we did put together a plan. Our goal was to be as organized as possible and to communicate. As you know, I mean, it's one of the previous criticisms, and I think anyone who has worked at an institution of higher education, will relay is not getting the word out in time to be able to cancel classes, where you're creating an unsafe transportation situation by asking faculty, staff and students to come onto campus. And certainly that was one of our goals. And going into the storm, was how were we going to communicate to a large constituency that we had? And President McKay was very -- very -- I don't want to say demanding, but really, you know, putting it on, saying we got to communicate and we got -- we got to show leadership here. And we have to be organized in everything that we do.

And I think that the leadership that we provided -- and it was as simple as we couldn't find any pizza places that were open in Suffolk County. I actually had to drive to Queens to an open pizzeria, get some pizzas, sodas and bring it -- drop it off at our Michael J. Grant Campus and also our Ammerman Campus. And President McKay said we need to deliver food to the people that are cutting down the trees and providing a service and doing everything we can to protect our property and to get it up and running for classes the very next day.

So these were simple things that, you know, get sort of lost in the shuffle. And I'm very happy to tell that story now, to be able to say, you know, look it was a complete team effort -- total team effort, you know, being able to not only provide a service to the Suffolk residents, but also to the people that were working on our campus during that time, our essential employees. I mean, the fact of the matter is public safety and security, they don't have off days. You know, they could be out in a hurricane or it could be in a nor'easter, they're out patrolling, securing our property. Our workers that have to come in and, you know, work under extreme circumstances cutting down trees, getting the College up and ready for classes the very next day, and we take that very serious. And certainly that has to be organized. And that really comes to the top of the leadership from President McKay and the cabinet.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

And, again, you continue to teach our residents. You continue to teach us, you know, how to respond to an emergency. And I'm hoping, you know, we can continue to learn. You think, you know, what if there was no Suffolk County Community College? What if there were no -- the Campuses weren't available? Where would we be? What would we do? I don't know, but you really provided a -- I picture a stool with, you know, three legs and you were one of those supporting legs. And, again, I just can't thank you more.

Legislator Nowick? Anybody else? Anybody? Okay.

Seeing that we have no cards, no further business, again, I just want to thank you. I look forward to hearing more what the Community College is doing. I'm sorry I wasn't able to make your culinary event. It was last night?

MR. ADAMS:

Yes. We -- actually at our Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center, we hosted all of the Presidents from every Long Island institution at our Culinary Arts. It was the Annual {Luraschi} Fall Dinner. And I have to say our faculty, staff and students just put on one spectacular show. If you've ever been to that facility -- I'd love to invite you to come out and have a meal there. It is one of -- one of the jewels of not only Suffolk County Community College, but certainly Suffolk County. It's just an amazing facility under the direction of Richard Froelich and Dave Bergen. They did a really, really great job out there. And certainly I think every College President that left that facility last night was just -- was thrilled, excited; just another -- another example of telling the story about the great things that are happening at Suffolk County Community College.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

And that's the Riverhead -- Riverhead --

MR. ADAMS:

Yes.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

-- Culinary Institution?

MR. ADAMS:

Yes.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

Is that open during the day? Can people stop in and have a meal?

MR. ADAMS:

I believe it's -- they have special events there certainly, but -- the bakery, they have bake sales that happen every day in the afternoon where the -- the baked goods are half price. And if you ever -- you know, people line up to get these baked goods. And it's really -- you know, certainly it's great if you're ever out in Riverhead during the week Monday through Friday, please stop by.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:

And, again, I just want to give you additional credit, I did attend the -- it was -- it's a global worldwide invitation from Colleges from other countries to come and understand how you facilitated your Culinary Institute. That was extremely successful.

MR. ADAMS:

Absolutely. In fact one of the things that we're trying to do, we hosted Education USA, which is affiliated with the United States Department of State. And basically they sent over advisors from 23 countries internationally to come and learn about higher education in the United States. It was a good way to showcase. I mean we had, you know, international advisors from all over the world that came. We partnered with Stony Brook University and the Adelphi University. They wanted -- they wanted -- they'd been hearing great things about community colleges in the United States. And they wanted to know, they wanted to know all about community colleges. They spent the day, October 24th, with us and culminating our -- Legislator Anker, thank you. Legislator Anker was at the Culmination Dinner, was able to speak in front of international students as well.

CHAIRWOMAN ANKER,

And, again, whatever I can do -- whatever we can do at the Legislative body, just let us know.

So with no further business and no questions from the audience, we are adjourned. Thank you.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1:45 PM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**