

**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 April 22, 2014.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Leg. Sarah S. Anker, Chairwoman  
Leg. Monica Martinez, Vice Chair  
Leg. Thomas Cilmi  
Leg. Lou D'Amaro  
Leg. Robert Trotta

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Timothy Laube, Clerk of the Legislature  
George M. Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature  
Amy Ellis, Aide to Leg. Anker  
Maria Barbara, Aide to Leg. Cilmi  
Justin Littell, Aide to Leg. D'Amaro  
Ben Zwirn, Suffolk Community College  
Benny Pernice, Budget Review Office  
And all other interested parties

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Diana Flesher, Court Reporter

4/22/14 Edu & IT Committee meeting

**THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:25 AM**

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

The Committee meeting will be starting in one more minute.

Okay, we're going to start the Education and Information Technology Committee meeting. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Cilmi.

**SALUTATION**

Please remain standing for a moment of silent meditation and prayer as we think of those in our military serving our country.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED**

Thank you. No correspondence. No public comments. We do not have a presentation. We do not have Tabled Resolutions. And we have one Introductory Resolution.

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTION**

Hold on for just a minute. Okay, it is **IR 1270, Adopting Local Law No. -2014, A Local Law to authorize tobacco-free policy for Suffolk County Community College. (Spencer)** I'd like to make a motion.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

Second.

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

Second by Legislator D'Amaro. All in favor? Opposed? Abstention? Motion carries. **(Vote: 5-0-0-0)**

Is there -- now that we've passed this motion, Ben, would you like to speak on that as far as the Community College? You've been with us for quite some time so -- and I apologize, our meeting started so late.

**MR. ZWIRN:**

Thank you, Madam Chair. I always enjoy the discussion and the debates that the Legislature has on all issues. It's one of the things -- I listen during the sessions when I'm at the Community College so I can still partake from afar.

But this has gotten widespread support. Kevin Peterman, who's head of the faculty union, was here earlier; had to go to another meeting. In their recent contract that they approved, this was part of it. And so the faculty is on board as well. SUNY has tried to do this at the State Universities' campuses across the State but has not gotten support up in Albany. So this will be a milestone if this passes at the General Meeting on Tuesday because this will be the largest SUNY Community College in the State of New York sending a message for the health and secondhand smoke; and even the littering at the College, the cigarette butts outside where people are presently permitted to smoke. Anecdotally when I walk across the campus to get something at the Student Union, I mean, you know you're passing through an area where people are smoking, even outside on a beautiful day. So this will be welcomed and we appreciate your support. Thank you.

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

I also want to mention that the Community College did conduct a survey. And it was overwhelmingly agreed that the students support the no-smoking ban. So that was a good thing to get that information. Okay any more comments? Okay. I guess we will -- anything else? We will be adjourned.

**LEG. CILMI:**

I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. (Laughter)

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

Come on, you gotta be kidding.

**LEG. CILMI:**

I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

We voted.

**LEG. CILMI:**

We voted already. I just was curious, I saw that one of the resolutions on our agenda today was withdrawn, the resolution with regard to the accepting and appropriating grants \$69,000.

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

Yes, it was withdrawn.

**LEG. CILMI:**

Can we get an explanation as to why? Is there anybody from the County Executive's Office here who could --

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

No, I don't see a representative. And all I can say is it is not on the agenda so, therefore, we're not going to be voting on that.

**LEG. CILMI:**

Well, Lou, it's still not going to be -- it's still not going to beat your fastest meeting ever. (Laughter) I know she's trying.

**LEG. D'AMARO:**

In deference to my colleague.

**LEG. CILMI:**

Okay, so Tom Vaughn is not -- has left the building. Him and Elvis. All right. I mean at some point I'd like to have an explanation as to why this was withdrawn. We obviously all saw the story in the newspaper. And I'd be curious as to what's happening with that whole thing so -- but without somebody here from the County Executive's Office who can speak to it, I guess we -- we have nobody to ask questions of.

**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

Should I say we're adjourned? And can I hit -- can I do the gavel thing?

**LEG. CILMI:**

Go ahead, hit the gavel.

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**CHAIRWOMAN ANKER:**

We're adjourned.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11:30 AM**