

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Legislative Programs, Education & Community Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME : January 20, 2016, 5:00pm
LOCATION : Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building
CHAIRMAN : Mary Wawro, Chairwomen – Present
RECORDER : Natasha Tagliafierro, Assistant, SUNY Ulster

LEGISLATORS

PRESENT : Leg. David B. Donaldson, Leg. Craig Lopez, Leg. Jennifer Schwartz Berky and Leg. James H. Delaune

OTHERS

PRESENT : Alan P. Roberts, President, SUNY Ulster; W. John Dunn, Interim Dean of Administration, SUNY Ulster; William Spearman, Chairman of SUNY Ulster Board; Lee Reidy, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Ken Crannell, Deputy County Executive; Teresa M. Brudage, Aid to Leg. Lopez; Cassandra Burke, Intern for Leg. Jennifer Schwartz Berky

QUORUM : Yes

A QUORUM BEING PRESENT CHAIRMAN DONALDSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:10 PM AND TOOK ATTENDANCE.

Motion #1 to Approve Minutes:

Text of Motion: To approve the Minutes of the December 8, 2015, Regular Committee Meeting.

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Donaldson

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motions to approve the minutes of this Committee of December 8, 2015, were unanimously approved.

ULSTER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Reported by: Alan P. Roberts

Resolution: No.46, No.47, No.48, No.50, No.52, No.54, No.56

Reported: President Roberts reported that Dean Dunn would be supplying the committee with an update on the status of enrollment and the budget of the College. Dean Dunn advised that on enrollment we were down 23.6% 3 FTEs below budget and this spring we are down 44 FTEs. Tuition accounts for the shortfall that is related to enrollment, credit free, and salary increases and we were able to save about \$70,000.00. The College is projecting to use around \$400,000 plus this year on expenditures. In February's meetings the College will have the actual hard projection.

The College is expecting to receive \$100 per FTE in State Aid which would bring us back to the rate we saw back in 2006/2007. We need to discuss the funding that is supplied by the sponsor because these two numbers will show what the expectation of tuition of the students will be. Leg. Donaldson advised that the County gave the College an additional \$120,000 last year even though the sponsor share has been

flat for the past 7 or 8 years. Leg. Donaldson advised that the County will do what it needs to do to ensure that tuition doesn't go up. Leg. Donaldson said with the chargeback numbers at the rate they are we need to make sure this is taken care of and if it is funding I am in support of an increase. President Roberts advised that during a New York Community College Association of Presidents meeting the expectation is that the state will be at \$100 and the College is budgeting based on this and even looking at \$50. Dean Dunn said that since the budget process has started we can project our numbers but we will also have a better picture in April of where we stand and that will help the process. Dean Dunn also advised that the 16'-17' budget process has started and we have reached out to our budget managers to come in with a 5% decrease in their individual budgets as a start.

Leg. Delaune asked what are chargebacks. Leg. Donaldson gave the example if a student from Ulster County goes to Dutchess County Community College a chargeback is due to the College that the Ulster County resident went to and this is paid for by the community that the individual is from.

This varies from County and we are currently working on a new system-wide process. Leg. Donaldson advised that a new process is needed because there is no way to compete with such schools as the Fashion Institute. Dean Dunn advised that the chargeback rate is \$800,000 in operating and capital pay. Leg. Donaldson said a survey was done to dive into why students were going to other community Colleges and the top three reasons received included major, location, and program. Another was the idea that students were going to 13th grade and not getting a real college experience. Dean Dunn advised that the College has some great programs such as VET Tech and the new Fashion Design. Leg Wawro asked how is the Fashion Program doing? President Roberts advised that it has drawn in about 21 new students for the fall semester but it takes about 3 or 4 years to really establish a program and see results.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENTION

Reported by: Lee Reidy

Resolution: None

Reported: Lee Reidy from Cornell Cooperative gave a brief summary of the organization and its 4 major key points education, agriculture, land programs, consumer grants programs, Community value and nutrition, relatives as parents. We need the support of the environment program with agriculture and NYC DEP education facilities. Lee advised that the bulk funding for the program comes from the County, grants, contracts, and private foundations. Cornell's mission is education and the organization works with the College and other organizations with calibration. Lee advised she has been with Cornell for the past 26 years as the Executive Director. She also has 35 staff members located at the Kingston Plaza for the past three years and have agriculture satellite locations in Highland and Shokan. Cornell's main goals are extending education and focusing on practical issues such as home economics and processed foods. The warmer weather does leave the possibility for damage to the local apple crop. The grapes are going to be ok since the weather is getting colder. We should see soon what happens with the maple syrup. Lee invited the committee to come in for the education program that is held in March or April. Leg. Wawro advised that she would take Lee up on her offer to set-up a meeting at the Cornell Location.

Motion #2 to Approve Resolution No.16:

Text of Motion: Approving The Execution of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County-RUPCO Inc.-Office For The Aging

Motion made: Leg. Lopez
Seconded: Leg. Donaldson
Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5
Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #16 unanimously approved.

Discussion: Ken Crannell advised that the contract for the Office for The Aging will distribute State dollars for individuals 60 years and older and help with community support to keep the elderly out of nursing homes. It's \$400,000 in grant funds and the County wants to extend the funding not only to senior citizens but also reach out to those on disability. The funds are only available until December of next year. This is 90% Federal and 10% State funded.

Motion #3 to Approve Resolution No.46:

Text of Motion: Establishing Capital Projects No.464-SUNY Ulster Renovation To Establish The Pfeiffer Center For Business Innovation And Technology- Amending The 2016-2021 Capital Program- SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez
Seconded: Leg. Delaune
Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5
Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #46 unanimously approved

Discussion: President Roberts advised that the Pfeiffer Center will be located on the main campus and the program will include mega tronics and 3D printing. The funds are part of grants, federal dollars and donors funds. Leg. Donaldson asked why the Startup New York funds were not being used anymore? Ken Cranell advised that this project was never going to be part of the Startup New York. There was a misunderstanding that it could be part of that program. He advised that the BRC and Kingston Center location would be within that area. Dean Dunn advised that in the Capital Plan only \$300,000 was approved for the funding of this project but the total project will be \$1,400,000 and located on campus. Ken Crannell also added that he wanted to make a point to complement the teamwork process in developing this new attraction.

Motion #4 to Approve Resolution No.47:

Text of Motion: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York State Construction Fund To Accept Funding Through The SUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program-SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez
Seconded: Leg. Schwarts Berky
Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5
Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #47 unanimously approved

Motion #5 to Approve Resolution No.48:

Text of Motion: Establishing Capital Project No.465 General Furniture Replacement/ Interior Equipment Replacement- SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Donaldson

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #48 unanimously approved

Motion #6 to Approve Resolution No.50:

Text of Motion: Establishing Capital Project No. 466 Amending The 2016-2021 Capital Improvements Program- Gym Wall Replacement-SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Donaldson

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #50 unanimously approved

Motion #7 to Approve Resolution No.52:

Text of Motion: Establishing Capital Project No.467- Leach Filed Construction- SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Schwartz Berky

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #52 unanimously approved

Motion #8 to Approve Resolution No.54:

Text of Motion: Establishing Capital Project No. 468- Construction Of Vanderlyn Pedestrian Bridge- SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Delaune

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #54 unanimously approved

Discussion: Dean Dunn advised that the bridge wasn't in such disrepair but as of today there is a tarp suspended under the bridge to prevent cement from falling on anyone's head. There is not as much structural damage as projected but there is deterioration of the cement and this needs to be replaced.

The College would like to add this project to its summer project list along with the Gym Wall and Leach Field. Ken Crannell added that this was seen as an emergency repair about four years ago but as Dean Dunn said there were no structural flaws as expected.

Motion #9 to Approve Resolution No.56:

Text of Motion: Amending The 20162021 Capital Improvement Program- Establishing Capital Project No.469 Water Supply Extension Project To Public Water System- SUNY Ulster Bridge- SUNY Ulster

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Delaune

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #56 unanimously approved

Discussion: Dean Dunn wanted it to be recorded that Jamie Capuano in the County Executive Budgeting Department was an asset to the College in getting these projects together and ready for the committee and wanted to point out that her help in this process was extremely imperative to the success of meeting this deadline. Leg. Donaldson advised that he appreciated this and would make sure that the committee recognized her for her hard work on this project.

Motion #10 to Approve Resolution No.67:

Text of Motion: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County- Resource Center For Accessible Living Inc.- Office For The Aging.

Motion made: Leg. Delaune

Seconded: Leg. Lopez

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #67 unanimously approved

Motion #11 to Approve Resolution No.76:

Text of Motion: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Grant Reimbursement Agreement With Empire State Development For The Ulster County S.T.R.I.V.E. Project

Motion made: Leg. Lopez

Seconded: Leg. Donaldson

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #76 unanimously approved

Discussion: Ken Crannell advised that S.T.R.I.V.E. was the former Sophie Finn Elementary school that was renovated into the new SUNY Ulster Kingston Center. The project was on budget from the last resolution and the total cost of the project was around \$7.8 million dollars. Ken Crannell also wanted it recorded that this project didn't go over budget. The original proposed scope had added features and green infrastructure and had no impact on the County level. The misconception was that this project went over budget and that is incorrect.

Motion #12 to Approve Resolution No.81:

Text of Motion: Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Ulster County Youth Board

Motion made: Leg. Schwartz Berky

Seconded: Leg. Lopez

Voice Vote: Yes

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Disposition: The motion passed, Resolution #81 unanimously approved

Discussion ensued: Leg. Wawro discussed the meeting scheduled for February would be February 3rd at 5pm at the College's St. John Conference room. March's meeting would be the second Wednesday of the month on the 9th at 5pm. There were no issues with this from the committee. Leg Donaldson also brought up the possibility of changing the committee meeting from the second Wednesday to the second Monday of each month at 5pm at the College location but this would not be started until April. The committee had no issue with this possible request.

Motion #13- TO ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Leg. Lopez and seconded by Leg. Donaldson and Chairwomen Wawro declared the meeting duly adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Dated the 20th day of January 2016

Minutes approved on March 9, 2016

Natasha Tagliaferro, Recorder