

Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee

Special Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: May 29, 2014, 5:30 PM

LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Thomas J. Briggs

LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk

PRESENT: Legislators Chris Allen, Lynn Archer, James F. Maloney, Mary Beth Maio and Chairman John Parete (arrived 5:50 PM)

EXCUSED: Legislator Herbert Litts, III and Kenneth Wishnick

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Majority Leader Donald Gregorius and Legislative Counsel Cappy Weiner

Chair Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Old Business: Ulster County Industrial Development Agency – Appointment Applications

Chairman Briggs distributed a copy of the interview schedule and the resumes of all applicants. He noted one current member did not submit a resume nor contacted the Legislative office to schedule an interview. In addition, one individual who submitted a resume did not contact the Legislative office to schedule an interview.

After providing a brief time for the Committee to review the resumes, Chairman Briggs opened the discussion regarding the development of interview questions (attached).

Legislator Maio noted she would abstain and leave the room for the interview of her boss, Michael Horodyski.

Chairman Briggs and Deputy Chairman Maloney discussed the name changes for the Ulster County Development Corporation and Business Services Center as well as the County's marketing initiative with Focus Media. Chairman Briggs suggested having Suzanne Holt in to discuss the changes at a future meeting. Legislator Archer discussed the need for strategic conversations regarding the economic development direction for Ulster County. Deputy Chairman Maloney spoke of the perception of what documents could be provided and

reviewed at the Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning, and Transit Committee level. Legislator Archer spoke of the element of understanding of the Committee role. Chairman Briggs suggested getting an overview document, without details, of projects and applicants the IDA is working on. He spoke of exploring reasons why the projects may not be committing or coming to Ulster County with Suzanne Holt. Legislator Archer spoke of broadband issues and barriers with the focus on the Legislative role in helping to drive the issue forward through visionary thinking. Chairman Briggs and Legislator Maloney suggested having Josh Sommers from Focus Media present his SWOT presentation to the full Legislature. Legislative Chairman agreed this could be done.

Majority Leader Gregorius and Chairman Briggs discussed the open or closed status of candidate applicant interviews. Majority Leader Gregorius noted the Committee is 1/3 of the full Legislature and not representative of the full Legislature. Legislative Counsel Weiner suggested a uniform policy for interviewing candidates for all appointments by Committees. He noted the ability for the Legislature to conduct background checks. The Committee members discussed the committee system and when a deadline needs to be and was established. Chairman Briggs stated he would ask his wife for a copy of the the volunteer application that her organization utilizes. The Committee members discussed the Executive Session and noted the recommendations would then be discussed in a public forum at the Caucuses. Legislator Allen asked if there would be a process for deciding the top contenders.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:31 PM

Dated the 9th day of June, 2014

Krista Barringer, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved on: July 1, 2014