

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, PLANNING & TRANSIT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – January 24, 2007
MEETING HELD AT: UCAT – ONE DANNY CIRCLE**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Hector Rodriguez – Chair
Joseph P. Roberti, Jr. – Deputy Chair
Elizabeth Alfonso
Donald J. Gregorius
Peter M. Loughran
Mary F. Sheeley

ABSENT OR EXCUSED: Michael Berardi

OTHERS ATTENDING: Irene MacPherson, UCDC
March Gallagher, IDA
Dennis Doyle, Director, U.C. Planning
Cynthia Ruiz, Director, UCAT

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the December minutes. A motion was made by Legislator Loughran, seconded by Legislator Roberti.

CYNTHIA RUIZ – UCAT

Ms. Ruiz informed the Committee that the disadvantaged business program needs to be updated. She stated electronic copies are available.

Ms. Ruiz gave an update on the hybrid-diesel bus stating that the bid received was from California. She added that the State will not give 10% on a CA bid. Ms. Ruiz stated that she also needs a replacement bus. She informed the committee that she has found demonstrator models with warranties available and added that she would like to buy two vehicles at a reduced cost. Legislator Loughran asked what happens to the older buses. Ms. Ruiz answered the County has a fleet replacement cycle and explained what that entailed. She added that we are hoping to get the hybrid-diesel bus in 6 mos.

Action Items:

- 1. Ms. Ruiz requested approval to attend Advocacy Day on February 26th with a cost of \$55 per person. She added that funds are available in her marketing budget.**

Legislator Sheeley moved to approve the conference, seconded by Legislator Gregorius. All were in favor.

2. Ms. Ruiz stated she received a request from John Lukaszewski of Highways & Bridges for transportation for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Chairman Rodriguez approved the request.

Informational Items:

Ms. Ruiz informed the Committee of several thank you letters received from various agencies for services performed by UCAT.

Ms. Ruiz stated she met with a member of the Woodstock Chamber of Commerce who requested shuttle bus service for weekenders. Ms. Ruiz said she gave them an overview and a budget on how to proceed. Chairman Rodriguez requested she keep Legislator Gregorius in the loop.

Ms. Ruiz stated UCAT will be doing a scheduled realignment plan and handed out a draft letter, under Chairman Donaldson's name, requesting coordination from all providers. 2007 Transportation Coordination Plan for Human Services – monies will come from Region 8 for match and a bilingual facilitator from MetroPool.

Ms. Ruiz gave an update on Medicaid update. An agreement has been made with Kingston CitiBus to help get riders out of cabs. She added that Fees and Revenue will be higher than anticipated. Legislator Gregorius asked who authorized cabs and how can we put together information to educate them. Ms. Ruiz stated she is working on an outreach educational program for doctors' offices.

DENNIS DOYLE – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Action Items

**1. Resolution – Authorizing the Continuation of Agricultural District No. 4
Motion to Approve by Legislator Gregorius, seconded by Legislator
Loughran. All were in favor.**

**2. Approval of Equipment Request for Modular Office Furniture
Motion to Approve by Legislator Loughran, seconded by Legislator
Sheeley. All were in favor.**

Comments: Legislator Gregorius asked if this request required May need Ways & Means approval.

**3. Approval of Request to Fill for New Planner Position
Motion to Approve by Legislator Roberti, seconded by Legislator Sheeley.
All were in favor.**

Comments: Legislator Loughran stated this may need Personnel Committee approval. Mr. Doyle stated he will contact Brenda Bartholomew, Director of Employee Relations.

**4. Approval of Conference Request Form for Refreshments for UCTC Meetings (Request for \$900.00 UCTC is 95% reimbursable)
Motion to Approve by Legislator Berardi, seconded by Legislator Loughran. All were in favor.**

Informational Items

Mr. Doyle reported on a two year work program and what it will entail. He explained how the many parts, encompassing both the Planning Board and UCTC's efforts, eventually become one program.

Mr. Tobin reported on the Transportation Improvement Program. A discussion followed on the Catskill Mountain Railroad.

Chairman Rodriguez explain the process and the meeting on March 7th. A discussion followed on Economic Development in the County. Legislator Gregorius asked if there were steps to progress and stated that he felt that the press should be notified as this progresses. Legislator Gregorius also stated that the work plan should be segmented or simplified in order to be present to the public.

Ms. Ruiz spoke about tipping off reporters on important topics for exposure. Mr. Rodriguez cautioned her to keep content in mind.

UCDC

Chairman Rodriguez stated the search committee now has 80 applications.

Ms. MacPherson and Ms. Gallagher gave an update on UCDC. At present an application is expected in Saugerties for Shovel Ready and there have been a number of new loans and opportunities. Ms. Gallagher reported on a new applicant. A re-organizational meeting has been held and members are in place. IDA policies will be reviewed at the Feb meeting. Audit Committee met on sales tax issues.

Mr. Doyle announced upcoming technical and policy meetings for UCTC and also public meetings for UCTC and Community Development Block Grants.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 – there were no objections.