

Ulster County Committee on Education, Culture and Economic Affairs meeting on
Wednesday, September 22, 1999, Dominick's Restaurant, New Paltz, NY

Legislators Present: Vincent Dunn, Chair; Frank Felicello; Richard Gerentine; Joan
Every; Sam Magarelli; Edward Jennings

Legislators Absent: Jeannette Provenzano (excused by Chair), John Naccarato (excused
by Chair), David Donaldson (excused by Chair)

Other Present: Lee Reidy, Gerry Davidson, Gordon Howatt.

Peter Carofano and Tina Iapocewere excused to attend a conference.

Chair Dunn convened the Ulster County Legislative Committee on Education, Culture and Economic Affairs at 5:00 pm and welcomed all Legislators and visitors present for the meeting. Chair Dunn called upon Lee Reidy, Cornell Cooperative Extension, for her report to the committee. Ms. Reidy commented on several issues including the end of their program year at September 30 and described briefly the storm damage in Ulster County with reference to the apple crop. She advised the committee that the Cornell Cooperative Extension would move from its present location at 74 John Street to a building on Westbrook Drive. The 74 John St. property has serious structural damage and will be repaired over the next 18 months to 2 years. The facility is on the National Historic Registry. Grants will be sought to defray a portion of the expenditures. The statewide program on the purchase of development rights received a lot of good press and there is increasing interest in the program (reported at the previous committee meeting). Finally, there was a discussion of Ulster County being declared a disaster area as a result of the storm. Legislators discussed significant aspects of the apple crop loss and the need for disaster area declaration by the governor. All agreed to follow up on this matter in the interest of Ulster County businesses and families.

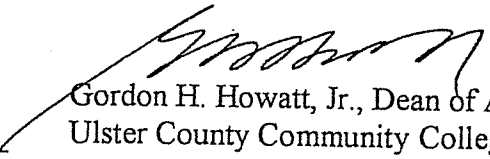
Chair Dunn called upon Dean Howatt for a report on the College. Dean Howatt indicated the need for a resolution to amend last year's operating budget report for the College to reflect the 35 full-time equivalent students in excess of budget which will generate additional state funds. There are no College or county funds involved. Dean Howatt reported record enrollment increases this fall at about 6 to 7%, while the budget was planned at 3%. Chair Dunn stated that all seemed to be going quite well at the College. Chair Dunn called upon Gerry Davidson of Ulster County Development Corporation for his report. Mr. Davidson circulated an advertising report, statistical report and the like in support of a requested \$75,000 increase in support for Ulster County for the 2000 calendar year. The additional funds to be requested will provide the impetus to generate more business interest in Tech City. The advertising campaign is necessary if Tech City is to be successful in attracting new industry to Ulster County and thus generate additional tax dollars. The current year's ad campaign drew 43 inquiries. There was considerable discussion among the legislators and general agreement in support of the UCDC request when it comes before the Legislature in the 2000 county budget. Further discussion ensued on Tech City and the businesses located there at present.

Gerry reminded the committee of the Business to Business showcase scheduled for October 14, 1999 and encouraged all legislators to attend.

Chair Dunn asked if there were any other matters to come before the committee. There being none, there was a motion to adjourn by Frank Felicello, seconded by Richard Gerentine, which was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Gordon H. Howatt, Jr., Dean of Administration
Ulster County Community College

On behalf of Vincent Dunn, Chairman
Education, Culture and Economic
Development Committee

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