

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE MEETING

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Economic Development and
Promotion Committee

DATE: January 10, 1991

TIME: 4:30 P.M.

PLACE: Fifth Floor Conference Room

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman Dunn and Legislators
Roefs, Baumgarten, Cranston and
Hall

LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Sfregola

OTHERS ATTENDING: Joseph Munster; Alice Cocalas
of UCDC

Chairman Dunn opened the meeting at 4:35 P.M.

Discussion ensued regarding the status of the Ulster County occupancy tax. It is currently in the bill drafting office of the New York State Legislature. No copies are available as yet.

All advertising for tourism in Ulster County is on hold because of the current absence of funds in the Ulster County adopted budget for 1991. The 1991 Ulster County brochure is also delayed for the same reason.

The New York State Matching Funds Program is still frozen but all grant funds are reduced by 14.4% by the Governor's office. This brings Ulster's share down to \$91,165 from a previously announced share of \$106,530. All programs are similarly reduced.

On Tuesday, February 12, there will be a lobbying "blitz" in Albany. Each year the travel industry speaks directly to the Legislature in Albany asking for more funds to be used for the "I Love N.Y." advertising office and for the Matching

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Funds Grants. This year the Governor has cut \$100,000 from "I Love N.Y." and suggested complete elimination of matching funds. We have gone every year to protest these cuts.

The Catskill Interpretive Center is still alive and the Office of General Services' architecture staff is beginning to finalize site plans and work on styles of architecture to be chosen for the ultimate design.

A schedule of travel trade, sportsman and consumer shows was distributed to the Committee. Most sportsman shows are in February and March located in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, West Springfield, Massachusetts and Suffern, New York. Ulster County will share the booth costs and staffing with the Catskill region and the Hudson Valley.

The Committee decided to meet on the third Thursday of each month usually in the fifth floor Conference Room or at locations throughout the County which are involved with either economic development or tourism.

Alice Cocalas gave her agency's report and distributed an update on activities dated December 14, 1990 because the Committee did not have a December meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Dunn, Chairman
Economic Development and
Promotion Committee

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