



Labor & Housing BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Damon Maher

800 Michaelan Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, June 14, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Planning, Economic Development & Energy and Budget & Appropriations.

With a quorum present, Chair Maher called the meeting to order at 10:11 AM.

Pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order No. 202.1, "Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Relating to the Disaster Emergency," which temporarily suspends portions of the New York State Open Meetings Law.

A section of the order, "Suspension of law allowing the attendance of meetings telephonically or other similar services," provides for the suspension of "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed."

Others in Attendance: BOL: Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Elizabeth LoBello BOL Remote: Nancy Barr, Ruth Walter, Colin Smith, David Tubiolo, MaryJane Shimsky, Vedat Gashi, Kitley Covill, Jose Alvarado PLANNING Remote: Norma Drummond

MINUTES APPROVAL

This was approved

Present: Committee Chair Maher, Legislator Borgia and Legislator Boykin

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

Monday, June 7, 2021 10 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-114](#) ACT-Urban County Cooperation Agreements

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into Cooperation Agreements with any or all of the listed municipalities to undertake a community development program and apply for Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Program and Emergency Solution Grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the term 2022-2024 which will automatically renew for successive three-year periods.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, LABOR & HOUSING AND PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY.

Joint with BA & PEDE

Guest: Commissioner Drummond- Department of Planning

Commissioner Drummond explained the purpose of the act as serving to allow municipalities below 50,000 residents who haven't yet joined the consortium to join and be eligible for CDBG funds. In its first year in 2019, 25 municipalities joined, with 2 joining in 2020, and 3 in 2021.

The village of Bronxville and City of Rye are considering joining this year having until July 2 to submit their documents to the County, and the County has until July 16 to submit documents to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Legislator Walter expressed her excitement about this program and briefly discussing its effect on affordable housing, before seeking clarification on benefits seniors in the Village of Bronxville would see. Commissioner Drummond stated that all municipalities can submit applications for grants annually by June 25, and they have secured close to \$700,000 in funding for senior home rehabilitation. Legislator Walter asked if the CDBG funds could also be used for things like meals on wheels, eviction prevention, to which Commissioner Drummond said she believed so. Legislator Walter asked if flood mitigation and sidewalk repairs were also covered, to which Commissioner Drummond said yes, this is mainly a "sticks and bricks" program and no more than 15% of funds could be used for public services.

Legislator Maher asked about the communications between the County and the municipalities, and Commissioner Drummond stated that she sent communications to the municipalities, as required by HUD, in May and June for those who wished to join or leave the consortium and said she would provide copies. Legislator Barr also asked for a copy and Commissioner Drummond said she would forward to the committee coordinator.

On motion of Legislator Williams, seconded by Committee Chair Maher, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Maher, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the Committee adjourned at 10:47 AM.