

Environment, Energy & Climate

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Nancy Barr

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



Tuesday, March 21, 2023

2:30 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Public Works and Transportation.

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Chairwoman Catherine Borgia will be participating remotely from Clear View School and Day Treatment Center, 480 Albany Post Road, Briarcliff, NY, 10510

With a quorum present, Chair Barr called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Committee Coordinator Jill Axelrod; Planning Dept.: Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge (Remote)

Present: Committee Chair Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce and Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Williams Johnson

MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, March 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

On motion of Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Parker, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion on flood mitigation projects in the County.

Guest: Planning Dept.: David Kvinge, Assistant Commissioner

Mr. Kvinge discussed the County's flood mitigation efforts. He said that there is little likelihood that we are going to eliminate flooding, but we can certainly reduce its impact and frequency through appropriate actions, including physical projects to mitigate flooding directly and other programs and initiatives. This will help us to be better prepared and better able to respond, which is all part of community resilience. He said the County is working with municipalities to identify and prioritize projects, and then taking a leadership role in finding grant funding and then moving forward with implementation.

Chair Pierce asked what the transition process is going to look like for changing from a passive approach to the active approach that he described. Mr. Kvinge said the programs will ease the transition because they're doing the heavy lifting with respect to some of the initial watershed plans. They also have initiatives for collecting data and creating early warning systems to better inform our emergency managers, as well as doing a lot more long range planning. They are also underway with a contract for a software provider to create some crowd sourcing tools to measure the condition of our streams and flooding during flood events.

Legislator Tubiolo asked there any updates on the Bronx River drainage basin. Mr. Kvinge said that we are currently in the process of completing an analysis of the dams along the Bronx River that should be completed this spring, and he will provide a copy of it to the committee members when it is completed.

Mr. Kvinge concluded by saying that they are currently reviewing some changes they've made to the County's funding assistance program. They also made changes to the program fact sheet, application form, and some engineering requirements. Once they are approved by the commissioners, he can share them with the committee members.

He added that they intend to do some outreach to the local municipalities about this reformatted program to encourage participation and reinvigorate discussion about flood mitigation. Chair Pierce asked if legislators should be reaching out to municipalities to let them know about these other funding streams, and Mr. Kvinge said that would be a great idea. He said they could do an outreach packet and put together an annotated list of funding programs to give to municipalities.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

[2023-78](#)

HON. CATHERINE BORGIA: Petition for Amendment to the Saw Mill Sewer District-154 South State Rd., Briarcliff Manor

On motion of Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Parker, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce and Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Williams Johnson

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Parker, the Committee adjourned at 3:40 p.m.