



Planning, Economic Development & Energy BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Catherine Parker

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

Monday, February 8, 2021

12:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting held jointly with the Committee on Environment & Health

With a quorum present, Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

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: Food and Water Watch - Santosh Nandabalan; Sunrise Westchester - Hannah Adler, Sebastian Vasquez; BOL - Leg. MaryJane Shimsky (D12), Melanie Montalto, Legislative Director, Anand Singh, Committee Coordinator

Present: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Smith and Legislator Walter

Absent: Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Parker, Legislator Barr and Legislator Cunzio

MINUTES APPROVAL

January 11, 2021 at 12:00 PM

On motion of Legislator Walter, seconded by Legislator Barr, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

January 25, 2021 at 12:00 PM

On motion of Legislator Parker, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[RES-2021-23](#) RESO - OPPOSING FRACKING-RELATED DEVELOPMENT AT THE FORMER DANSKAMMER ENERGY SITE

A RESOLUTION opposing the proposed Danskammer project, based upon information received about the project, concerns that surrounding towns and

areas will be harmed by the project, and the overall economic benefits to Westchester County and adjacent counties of pursuing battery storage and other alternatives for the proposed plant.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Guests:

Santosh Nandabalan, Food and Water Watch

Hannah Adler, Sunrise Westchester

Chair Parker introduced Santosh Nandabalan, from Food and Water Watch, and Hannah Adler, from Sunrise Westchester to speak in support of the item. Chair Parker and Chair Walter (E&H) both spoke about the potentially disastrous effects to the community and the environment if a fracked natural gas operation was allowed at the site, before turning it over to the guests. Mr. Nandabalan and Ms. Adler both spoke about their organizations' efforts in promoting renewable energy and further elaborated about the negative effects of operating a fracked gas plant at this site. They highlighted the widespread public opposition to its opening. Chair Parker asked about the plant's impact on communities of color, to which Mr. Nandabalan said that environmentalism and social justice went hand in hand as people of color were most often hurt by pollution and special interest policies. Vice-Chair Barr and Legislator Shimsky praised their efforts and the committee thanked them for their activism.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Boykin, the above item was signed by the committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Parker, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Smith, Legislator Walter and Boykin

Absent: Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Parker, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 12:33PM.