



Intergovernmental Services

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Terry Clements

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

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

1:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with the Committees on Environment and Health, Planning Economic Development and Energy

The County Board will meet pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>. With a quorum present, Vice-Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Others in attendance: BOL - Legs. Nancy Barr, Margaret Cunzio, Ruth Walter, Tyrae Woodson Samuels, MaryJane Shimsky. BOL Staff: Melanie Montalto, Yolanda Valencia, Anand Singh

MINUTES APPROVAL

September 22, 2021 at 4:00PM Minutes

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

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[2021-413](#)

RES-Declaration Climate Emergency Resolution

A RESOLUTION forwarded by County Executive George Latimer urging federal, state and local government to adopt and implement Declaration of Climate Emergency.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH, INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES AND PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY

Guest: Peter McCartt, Director of Energy Conservation and Sustainability, Office of the County Executive

Legislator Walter, Chair of the Environment and Health Committee introduced Peter McCartt, Director of Energy Conservation and Sustainability spoke on the importance of the climate emergency resolution, especially in this climate emergency, and the importance of Westchester getting behind this. Legislator Parker concurred and noted the need to update the legislation to reflect Governor Hochul being in office, before thanking Mr. McCartt for his work on the Climate Crisis Task Force. Legislator Shimsky asked if this should also be sent to our Congressional Delegation, before Legislator Barr added it should sent to additional

stakeholders as well. Legislator Barr raised the issue of the County needing to stay committed to this endeavor before a discussion ensued on ways the Board of Legislators and County Government as a whole could make internal adjustments to promote environmentally friendly practices. Mr. McCartt agreed and said additional signage, among other things could be explored as they work toward this, including promoting the fact that Westchester County is a bronze climate smart community. Legislator Shimsky agreed that these ideas should be explored, but only as part of a larger initiative including the use of LED lights, weatherizing buildings, and existing initiatives like the use of electric vehicles in the County fleet. Legislator Boykin concurred a discussion about the need for better enforcement throughout the County ensued. Legislator Parker stated that there was some confusion about who had enforcement authority on certain issues and reiterated the importance of this message coming from the top. Legislator Walter asked the committee members if expounding on the loss of life and damages to communities in Westchester would make the resolution stronger and a consensus was reached that it would. Melanie Montalto, Legislative Director made a clarification about the procedural changes needed to amend the legislation. Vice Chair Borgia stated that this needs to be passed next week and it was agreed that the changes would be made and brought before the committees next week.

This RESOLUTION was tabled

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Covill, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 1:36 PM.