



Planning, Economic Development & Energy

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Catherine Parker

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 held jointly with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations and Labor & Housing

With a quorum present, Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 10:00 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 - Beth LoBello, Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Anand Singh

Present: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo and Boykin

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Committee Chair Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Smith and Legislator Walter

MINUTES APPROVAL

March 8, 2021 at 10:00AM

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

April 8, 2021 at 2:00PM

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

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[2021-376](#)

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.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, LABOR & HOUSING AND PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY.

Commissioner Drummond explained the purpose of the Urban County Cooperation Agreement is to allow Westchester County municipalities with populations below fifty-thousand residents to join the consortium, and therefore become eligible for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. In its first year in 2019, 25 municipalities joined, with 2 joining the next year, and 3 the following year. Presently, the Village of Bronxville and City of Rye are considering joining this year, and have until July 2nd to submit their documents to the County, and the County has until July 16th 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, and briefly discussed the \$10M in funding received from the CARES ACT. Legislator Walter asked if flood mitigation and sidewalk repairs were also covered, to which Commissioner Drummond said yes, as this is mainly a "sticks and bricks" program with no more than 15% of funds being eligible to 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 Committee Vice-Chair Barr, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 6/28/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Boykin

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Borgia, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Barr, the Committee adjourned at 11:11 AM.