

Legislation Meeting Agenda



Committee Chair: Colin Smith

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

Monday, June 16, 2025

1:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

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.

Legislator Emiljana Ulaj will be participating remotely from 520 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main Street, Suite 1, Peekskill, NY 10566.

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2025-259 Establishing the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program

Forwarding a RESOLUTION establishing the Westchester County Board of Legislators' Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION 2025 -

BY THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS ESTABLISHING THE HERMAN S. GEIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Westchester County Board of Legislators recognizes the value of public service and desires to engage the next generation in local government; and

WHEREAS, there is demonstrated need in Westchester County to provide meaningful professional development opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds, especially those who may face financial or structural barriers to unpaid internships or career exploration; and

WHEREAS, providing paid summer fellowships can cultivate civic engagement, expose students to career paths in public service and develop a pipeline of future leaders who are familiar with and invested in their local communities; and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2025, the Westchester County Board of Legislators celebrated the 100th birthday of Herman S. Geist, the first-ever Board Chairman, a lifelong public servant and mentor; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Herman S. Geist transformed Westchester through a century of dedicated service and enhanced county government and the lives of Westchester residents, demonstrating the remarkable impact one committed person can achieve in their community; and

WHEREAS, to honor the extraordinary legacy of Herman S. Geist, the Chairman of the Board of Legislators named the Board's paid summer internship program the "Herman S. Geist Summer Fellowship Program."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Westchester County Board of Legislators hereby establishes the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program to be launched in Summer 2025 and continuing annually thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the goals of the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program shall be to enhance each fellow's understanding of the legislative process and how county government works.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program shall be administered by the Clerk of the Board of Legislators, subject to the following conditions:

1. Each County Legislator shall designate one participant each summer for the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program.
2. Participants in the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program shall be between the ages of 16 and 22 years old.

3. The Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program shall begin in July, with each fellow to complete no more than 100 hours.
4. Participants in the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program shall be compensated at a rate equal to the Westchester County hourly minimum wage rate.

Dated:

White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Vedat Gashi

Chairman of the Board
Legislator, 4th District



TO: Hon. Colin Smith
Chair, Legislation

FROM: Hon. Vedat Gashi
Chairman of the Board

DATE: June 13, 2025

RE: Resolution Establishing the Herma S. Geist Fellowship Program

As Chairman of the Board of Legislators, I am placing the below item directly into the Committee on Legislation.

Thank you.

(ID: 2025-259) **Establishing the Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program**: A Resolution establishing the Westchester County Board of Legislators' Herman S. Geist Fellowship Program.

CC: Jill Axelrod
Marcello Figueroa
Dylan Tragni
Sunday Vanderberg