

SULLIVAN COUNTY DELEGATION MEETING MINUTES

WED., DEC. 10, 2008 AHERN BLDG., COUNTY COMPLEX, UNITY

DELEGATES PRESENT: Reps. Raymond Gagnon, Sandra Harris, John Cloutier, Cybthia Sweeney, Thomas Donovan, Carla Skinder, Charlotte Houde-Quimby, James McClammer, Suzanne Gottling, Beverly Rodeschin, Philip "Joe" Osgood, Anthony Maiola, and Thomas Howard

DELEGATES ABSENT: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Commissioners Jeffery Barrette & Ethel Jarvis, Sheriff Michael Prozzo, Registrar of Deeds Sharron King, County Adm. Gregory Chanas, Health Adm. Theodore Purdy, Dept. of Corrections Supt. Ross Cunningham, Treasurer-Elect Carroll "Dave" French, & Environmental Services Coordinator Heather Presch, Commissioners' Office Staff Member Laurie Geer

MEDIA PRESENT: Eagle-Times' Ben Bulkeley, unknown volunteer taping for Claremont Community Television

PUBLIC PRESENT: Former Rep. Larry Converse, Former Commissioner Donald Clarke

Rep. Gagnon called meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Rep. Rodeschin led the Pledge of Allegiance

Rep. Skinder moved, Rep. Osgood seconded a motion reading as follows "The delegation would like to openly welcome public participation at the beginning of all county delegation meetings. The public participation will be limited to 15 minutes, or at the discretion of the chair during controversial or time-sensitive issues. The public will be instructed to be succinct and not repetitive."

Brief discussion followed, and then Rep. Harris moved to amend Rep. Skinder's motion⁴ to limit public participation during the designated participation period to three minutes per person." Rep. Harris' motion was seconded by Rep. Maiola.

Discussion on Rep. Harris' amendment proceeded. Finally Rep. Rodeschin moved to call the question on the amendment, a motion seconded by Rep. Cloutier. Motion was approved without objection by delegates.

Roll call vote then ensued on Rep. Harris' amendment, and the amendment passed on a 9-4 vote. Delegates voting "Y": Reps. Maiola, Houde-Quimby, Sweeney, McClammer, Cloutier, Gagnon, Harris, Gottling, & Donovan. Voting "N": Reps. Rodeschin, Skinder, Osgood, & Howard

Another roll call then took place on Rep. Skinder's original motion as amended. The amended motion passed on a 12-1 vote. Delegates voting "Y": Reps. Maiola, Skinder, Houde-Quimby, Sweeney, McClammer, Osgood, Cloutier, Gagnon, Harris, Gottling, Howard, & Donovan. Delegates voting "N": Rep. Rodeschin.

The election of delegation officers for the 2008-10 term then proceeded. First, Rep. Cloutier nominated Rep. Gagnon to serve as delegation chair. Rep. Maiola seconded the nomination.

Next, Rep. Rodeschin nominated Rep. Skinder to serve as chair. Nomination was seconded by Rep. Osgood.

There being no further nominations, Rep. Sweeney moved, Rep. Gottling seconded a motion to close nominations for chair. Motion approved by voice vote.

Secret paper balloting then proceeded to decide for chair. Rep. Gagnon won the balloting with 9 votes for himself, and 4 votes for Rep. Skinder.

Then Rep. Gottling moved, Rep. Houde-Quimby seconded the nomination of Rep. Harris as vice chair. There being no further nominations, Rep. Rodeschin moved, Rep. Cloutier seconded a motion to close nominations, ~~and instruct the acting clerk~~ Motion was approved by voice vote. Next, Rep. Sweeney moved, Rep. Donovan seconded a motion to instruct the acting clerk to cast one ballot for Rep. Harris as vice chair. *Motion was approved by voice vote.*

Next, Rep. Cloutier nominated Rep. Sweeney for clerk. Nomination was seconded by Rep. Harris. There being no further nominations, Rep. Rodeschin moved, Rep. Osgood seconded a motion to close nominations, and instruct the acting clerk to cast one ballot for Rep. Sweeney as clerk. Motion approved by voice vote.

Election of the Executive Finance Committee then ensued. First, Rep. Harris moved, Rep. Donovan seconded a motion for a five-member committee with Reps. Gottling, Cloutier, McClammer, Osgood, & Donovan as the five members.

Then Rep. Skinder moved, Rep. Howard seconded an amendment to Rep. Harris' motion that would require three Democrats and two Republicans on the committee, instead of the four Democrats and one Republican as called for in the original motion. Rep. Skinder said her amendment was an attempt to create more bi-partisanship on the committee, *and that as part of her amendment she was nominating Rep. Rodeschin to join Rep. Osgood* (Continued on Page 2)
was the other committee Republican.

After further discussion, Rep. Skinder's amendment was passed on ~~a~~ a show-of-hands vote of 8 in favor, 5 opposed.

Rep. Sweeney moved, Rep. Rodeschin seconded a motion to elect the three Democrats to the Executive Finance Committee from among the four Democrats previously nominated by Rep. Harris by secret paper ballot. Motion approved by voice vote.

Balloting then started, and later the chair announced that Reps. Gottling (10 votes), McClammer (10 votes), and Cloutier (9 votes) had been elected as the three Democrats to the committee. Runners up included Reps. Donovan (6 votes), and Harris (1 vote).

Rep. Rodeschin then requested that the Executive Finance Committee meet immediately after the adjournment of the delegation meeting to elect officers.

The chair then requested the new delegation approve the minutes of the Oct. 15, 2008 delegation meeting, even ^{though} they were the minutes from the previous term. He said that the County Attorney had advised him that the minutes should be approved as a matter of official record. Then Rep. Rodeschin moved, Rep. Cloutier seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the above-listed meeting. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Next, the chair announced creation of new ad hoc committee on delegation policy and procedure, made up of three members. Without objection, he appointed Reps. Gottling, Houde-Quimby, and Maiola to the new committee.

Then without objection, the chair appointed the following delegates to the below-listed committees.

- a. Nursing Home Trust fund Comm.-Rep. Sweeney
- b. UNH Cooperative Extension Comm.-Rep. Skinder
- c. Incentive Funds Comm.-Rep. Donovan
- d. County Land Management-Rep. McClammer
- e. Facilities (Building) Comm.-Rep. Maiola
- f. Criminal Justice Coordinating Comm.-Rep. Osgood, Rep. Gagnon

Discussion then ensued about the new ad hoc Sullivan County Health Care (nursing home) Advisory Committee, which the commissioners have created to help improve nursing home operations. The chair said that the commissioners would like one delegation ^{member} to serve on the new committee. Reps. Skinder, Donovan, and Harris expressed interest in being appointed the ^{one} one member, an appointment that is up to the commissioners.

Comm. Barrette introduced himself, and welcomed new delegates. Said he was glad to be at the meeting, and looked forward to working with the new delegation over the next two years.

He then introduced the other elected officials and county employees present.

Comm. Jarvis then spoke, and praised former delegates, including former Reps. Converse, Peter Franklin, & Arthur Jillette for all their help to her and service to the county.

Adm. Chantias welcomed new delegates, reviewed written information that had been earlier distributed, and then narrated a slide show on county government.

Discussion and questions about proposed shooting range on county-owned land in Unity for only law enforcement officers occurred. Rep. Harris expressed concern that any proposed range not be located too close to Sullivan County Health Care because of the loud noises. But Rep. Rodeschin expressed support in principle for the range.

Comm. Barrette requested time on the agenda of future delegation meetings to update the delegates on issues with which the county is dealing, and the chair expressed his support for this request.

Also Comm. Barrette said the commissioners now meet ~~weekly~~ at least twice a month on the first and third Thursdays. The first ~~meeting~~ ^{meeting} is scheduled for the Newport office, while the third is scheduled in Unity.

Dept. of Corrections Supt. Cunningham then answered questions about the House of Corrections, and encouraged delegates to take tours of the jail and nursing home scheduled for after lunch, ~~at~~ ^{JAC}

Rep. Rodeschin moved, Rep. Sweeney seconded a motion to adjourn meeting at 11:56 am.

John R. Cloutier
Rep. John Cloutier
Acting Clerk