



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates for public office but does encourage its members as individuals to participate actively in the political process. The League acts on those issues the membership chooses for study and action

The LWV of the Mid-Hudson Region covers the Ulster County area and the Dutchess County area. We belong to the LWV of New York State and the LWV of the US.

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Commentator

APRIL 2012

CALENDAR		
2012		
MARCH		
28	Wed. 5:00 pm	Enjoy Dutch treat dinner, Rosendale Café, 434 Main St., Rosendale. Call Margaret Sellers to reserve: 845-339-3180.
	7:00 pm	Film "Iron-Jawed Angels," Rosendale Theatre, 408 Main St., Rosendale. Special guests: Terri Bernardo, Chairwoman of UC Legislature, and Susan Zimet, Supervisor of New Paltz Free admission. Discussion to follow: <i>Why, 92 years after winning the vote, are women still under-represented on legislative bodies?</i>
29	Thurs. 6:30 – 9 pm (Sign in 6 pm)	"Zeroing In on New Paltz: How Our Community Can Be a National Model for Waste Reduction" at Coykendall Aud, SUNY New Paltz LWVMHR a co-sponsor. Free and open to all. Register online at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9V9FNNC More info: 845-255-8456 or recycling@townofnewpaltz.org
APRIL		
2	Mon. 7 pm	Discussion of proposed revisions to the Ulster Co. Charter Home of Margaret Sellers, 80 Ringtop Rd., Kingston, 845-339-3180. Free and open to all. Call to confirm time, date.
3	Tues. 7 pm	Hearing on the possible revisions to the Ulster County Charter. County Office Bldg, Fair Street, Kingston. 3 other hearings still to be scheduled.
3	Tues. 8 pm	LWVMHR Board Meeting , home of Shirley Kobran, 53 Schuler La, Lake Katrine, 845-382-6989.
4	Wed. 11 am	Dutchess County Shared Services Study Committee , home of Ellie Charwat, 7 Creek Bend Rd., Poughkeepsie 845-462-7061 TENTATIVE DATE – call to confirm
4	Wed. 2 pm	Resource Development Committee , home of Margaret Sellers, 80 Ringtop Rd., Kingston, 339-3180. Call to confirm time, date.
12	Thurs. 7 pm	End the Confusion! Answers to Your Recycling Questions from Dutchess and Ulster experts. An LWV "hot topic" event hosted by Vineyard Commons, 300 Vineyard Ave, Highland, NY 12528 www.vineyard-commons.com or 845-834-2912. Free admission. Refreshments available.
17	Tues. 2 pm	Observer Corps discussion on Ulster County Gov't at Panera's on Ulster Ave., Kingston (near Barnes & Noble). Please call to confirm time, date with Margaret Sellers at 845-339-3180 or mcsellers@aol.com .
MAY		
1	Tues. 7:15 pm	LWVMHR Board Meeting , home of Shirley Kobran, 53 Schuler La, Lake Katrine, 845-382-6989.
24	Thurs. 6 pm	LWVMHR Annual Meeting , Esopus Library, 128 Canal St., Port Ewen. Pot Luck Supper followed by 7 pm business meeting Includes remarks by our area high school "Students Inside Albany."

Check <http://lwvmidhudson.org/calendar.html> for updates.

Prez Sez...

This Commentator is packed with Annual Meeting business, details about Ulster Co.'s charter revision process, a look at fire districts in Dutchess Co. (with information that should make ALL of us on both sides of the River wonder what is happening in OUR fire districts), opportunities to help yourself and others reduce waste, and our invaluable Observer Corps reports.

If you get this Commentator in time, the calendar also reminds you that Women's History Month is drawing to a close and seeing **Iron-Jawed Angels** (about the suffragists' brave and persistent struggle) is a great way to honor it. Anjelica Huston plays LWVUS founder, **Carrie Chapman Catt**, and got a best-actress Golden Globe and an Emmy nomination for it. Special guests **Terry Bernardo** (the first-ever ChairWOMAN of the UC Legislature) and **Susan Zimet** (New Paltz Town Supervisor) will comment on the film and participate in a discussion about why, 92 years after we got the vote, women are still under-represented in elected offices. They'll also tell you about their plans for celebrating the centennial of the 19th Amendment in 2020. The showing is on **March 28** - see the calendar for more details - and bring your friends. Many of us will also be gathering at 5 pm for dinner, so consider that too.

I'm betting some of the talk at dinner will involve laments over the continuing gerrymandering of the state's Senate and Assembly districts. The US Congressional lines got drawn by a judge, who leaned heavily on maps drawn by good government groups, so they're pretty reasonable, but even the quickest glance at the other maps will assure you that politicians were taking care of themselves first - voters be damned. The only silver lining is that we've been *promised* a Constitutional amendment to prevent this practice from continuing. We must be sure that promise is kept.

But that aside, we must thank Mother Nature for a beautiful March. May April be even half so lovely. Happy spring, everyone!

Dare

PROGRAM NEWS**CONFUSED ABOUT RECYCLING? THIS FREE "HOT TOPIC" EVENT WILL HELP!**

Thursday, April 12, 7 pm. Vineyard Commons, 300 Vineyard Ave, Highland, 12528 (www.vineyard-commons.com)

Don't know which plastics are recyclable or what paper can and cannot be included with your newspapers? Does composting just sound too hard?

Do broken or outdated appliances and electronic items clutter your life and weigh down your soul?

Speakers: We've invited the recycling coordinators from both Dutchess and Ulster Counties to answer questions and provide resources to KEEP you informed.

Moderator: LWV member, Sarah Womer, whose life mission is to reduce waste. She maintains a great website, www.zerotogo.org

Thanks: to Vineyard Commons for welcoming us, and we recommend the tasty food in their Bistro 300 if you can come early.

Directions: Just north of the 9W entrance to the Mid-Hudson Bridge, go west (away from the River) at the traffic light onto Tilson. Follow Tilson, approx. 1/4 mile, to the stop sign and turn LEFT onto Vineyard Avenue (Route 44/55). Continue for 1.25 miles. Vineyard Commons is on the LEFT.

VOTER SERVICE**Conducting an effective Voter Registration Drive****Elections: Voter Registration Planning Webinar on 4/27, 3pm EDT**

Join the LWV Education Fund for an interactive training webinar covering all you need to know to conduct effective voter registration in 2012! Hear tips from our in-house registration experts and share your own experiences with your colleagues across the country. Sign up at <http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=XSwUkK6%2Fwkbb7u5qbPGnuHDEAPhNUdyK> for the free training webinar. The webinar will start promptly at 3pm EDT on Friday, 4/27, and will last about one hour.

Moderating Guidelines

New on our website are guidelines for moderating and sponsorship of candidates' events. Check it out and please refer anyone who is interested in sponsoring a debate to our website. The guidelines can be found directly at <http://lwvmidhudson.org/Moderating.html> or from the [Home](#) page and the [Elections](#) page.

Ulster County Charter Revision Commission

The commission has continued to meet (most) Tuesdays at 3:00-5:00pm in the legislature conference room (6th floor) of the county office building. It is an "open meeting" with the last 15 minutes reserved for public comment.

The commission has sought input from various administration, comptroller, and legislature representatives and has heard from experts in the field. As a result of these deliberations a number of areas have been identified, by a substantial consensus of the commissioners, as potential areas for revision. These areas, among others, broadly relate to:

- the respective powers and duties of the Comptroller and Commissioner of Finance.
- vacancies in the offices of the County Comptroller and Comptroller
- process and powers governing appointment of department heads
- requiring an Audit Committee regarding the annual independent audit
- the powers and procedures of the Commission on Reapportionment (Redistricting)
- defining subpoena powers of the Legislature, Executive, and Comptroller.

Four public hearings are being scheduled in April. The first will be in the Legislature Chambers in Kingston on April 3rd. Additional hearings will be conducted on the 4th, 10th, and 11th in the Town of Olive, Village of Ellenville and Village of New Paltz. (Exactly which community for each date is yet to be specified.) In addition to considering comments on the draft proposals the public is welcomed and encouraged to comment on any particular area of the Charter it may wish.

Ulster County maintains web pages for the Commission that contain agenda and minutes of the commission's meetings and will include drafts of each item which will be presented for public comment. The site will include marked up (redline) drafts of each item for consideration. It will also have a full redline Charter to be sure a reader has the full context of the changes. You can access the Commission's pages from the Ulster County home page or directly at <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/charterrevision/index.html> (As of this writing, the hearing schedule and the drafts have not been updated... but should be soon.) (Links to an unadulterated Charter and to a "codified" version are also available)

LWVMHR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

This year, the League has formed the Resource Development Committee to focus on the details of membership, finance, publicity and program. These areas need to be developed on a coordinated way so that program and publicity contribute to membership growth and financial stability as well as our primary goal of advancing the mission of the League through advocacy. We try to meet fairly soon after the Board meeting so we can advance the goals set by the Board. This past month we discussed the Membership, Leadership Development effort that is a national League program, involving students, fundraising, membership letters to send in May, and the national convention in June. We need to strengthen our work in all these areas, but particularly in membership and program planning. If you are interested in these projects, please come to our next meeting or call Margaret Sellers, 845-339-3180, MCSELLERS@aol.com. Your help is needed.

Margaret Sellers

ADVOCACY & STUDY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Golden Hill Local Development Corporation

Our League's Consensus Report to the Ulster County Legislature and various reference materials can be found at: http://www.lwvnet.org/lwv/ny/midhudson/Action_Study.html#s03

See Lee Cane's report below on the Ways and Means Committee meetings held on February 27th & March 1st.

Ulster & Dutchess Counties Solid Waste

Our group has been busy meeting and sharing information. We hosted the League's last "Hot Topic" meeting at the Crafted Kup in Poughkeepsie, with the newly appointed Lindsay Carille, who will oversee Solid Waste issues for Dutchess County. We are looking forward to following up, on April 12th, with a session in Highland (www.vineyard-commons.com) to talk about Recycling (see separate article.)

We have been working with a number of stakeholders to present a forum, "Zeroing in on New Paltz: How Our Community Can Be a National Model for Sustainable Resource Management" on Thursday, March 29th (see calendar), that we hope League members will attend.

This program is organized by the State University of New York at New Paltz's Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach (CRREO), the League of Women Voters of the Mid-Hudson Region, the Town and Village governments of New Paltz, the SUNY NP Environmental Task Force, the New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce, the County of Ulster, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), the NYS Department of Environment (DEC) Region 3, and the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2.

Our next Committee meeting will be on April 10th, 5:30pm, at the Gateway Diner, in Highland.
Cindy Lanzetta

Dutchess County Shared Services Committee Update

Anne Conroy spoke with City of Poughkeepsie mayor's office re consolidating city bus system with county bus system. Talks are underway between the two entities regarding this sharing of services.

Ellie Charwat attended a meeting on March 22 at the Poughkeepsie Town Hall to hear Pace University discuss its feasibility study of consolidating or sharing services among several fire districts. The study is funded by NY State Local Government Efficiency funds in a contract with the Fairview Fire District, which has the highest tax rate in the area for fire services, since 50 percent of its district is tax exempt. A fuller report follows.

The committee will be meeting with Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro on April 10th on his ideas for shared services and how the League might work with him. There will be a committee meeting on April 4 at 11 am (see calendar).

Ellie Charwat

Ulster County Shared Services Study

See documents online at <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/municipal.html>

Links of interest:

- The Draft Report can be found on the County Website at www.co.ulster.ny.us/municipalities/FINAL%20DRAFT%20Highway%20DOC%20with%20charts%20and%20maps.pdf
 - Frank Cassetta's summary at lwvmidhudson.org/files/Highway_Service_Cooperation_-_Summary.pdf
 - the Shared Services Program within the NYS Department of State Division of Local Government Services <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss/sharedservices/index.html>
- Best Practices page of the NYS Association of Counties. www.nysac.org/County_Corner.php/

ULSTER COUNTY OBSERVER CORP

Ulster County Charter Revision Commission Meeting and Update

I attended the meeting of the Commission on Tuesday, March 20. League member Cynthia Lowe is doing a wonderful job of chairing the Commission, and two more League members who are also members of the Commission, Jim McGarry and Tom Kadgen, were also attending. The Commission has created a draft document which they expect will change after it hears the public response. The Commissioners have **substantial, but not complete agreement** on the changes that they are putting forward, ranging from unanimous to three to four dissents or abstentions. Some stressed that they were for putting the draft items out for the hearings, but are not necessarily in favor of the item.

There will be **four public hearings** where the Commissioners will hear comments from the public. The first one will be held on **Tuesday, April 3 at 7 PM, Legislative Chambers, County Office Building**. The rest will follow in the next two weeks. The Commissioners proposed amendments to the following sections of the Charter:

- C-57 Comptroller; C-60 Vacancy (Comptroller)

Meeting of the UCRRA Board

- Article VIII. Department of Finance C-53 Commissioner of Finance regarding CFO status
- C-25 Appointments of the County Executive
- C-29 Acting County Executive- considerable language change
- C-11 Annual Audit- Audit Committee
- C-10 Redistricting (3 Commissioners opposed to some of the considerable language changes)
- Subpoena Power
 - C-11- Legislative Branch
 - C-25- Executive Branch
 - C-57- Comptroller

League members will begin discussing the proposals at an informal meeting on Monday, April 2 at 7 PM (see calendar) and intend to speak at the hearings once there is consensus on our views. **Members are encouraged to attend.**

Margaret Sellers, 339-3180; MCSELLERS@aol.com

March 19, 2012, 3:30, UCRRA Office Bldg.

In attendance: Board Members – Dennis Helm, Leon Smith, Catherine Nilsen, Al Teetsel (vacant seat)

Staff Members – Tim Rose, Stephen Wing, Timothy DeGraff, Charlie Whittaker, (Michelle Bergkamp on vacation)

Chairman Leon Smith & Stephen Wing began meeting with historical overview of the Agency. Mr. Smith voiced his frustration with the Ulster County Legislature. Legislator Ken Wishnick was in the audience and asked to respond to the comments. He was not allowed to.

There was a presentation by Rick McCarthy of Environmental Capital. He has been the financial advisor to the Agency since 1992. There was discussion about the status of the bonding. There are over \$18 million worth of bonds that can be “refunded” to save money for the Agency (aprox. \$40,000 a year). Board members were favorable to the idea and suggested that the process to refund proceed.

Minutes were approved.

Tim Rose reports:

MSW is up, sludge is up, recycling is down. The staff is working to divert more materials from the waste stream. Waste Management is trucking its recycling to Liverpool.

The April 28th HHW Collection has received a good response. Pharmaceuticals will be collected by the Sheriffs Office and incinerated at Dutchess Facility.

The Composting Business Plan will be emailed to Board members, in preparation for next meeting.

UCRRA is receiving some revenue from electronic recycling.

Timothy DeGraff presented Treasurers Report.

Discussion of monies owed by Towns that availed themselves of “flood boxes” for Irene/Lee cleanup.

Resolutions:

1. Terminate Insurance Reserve (redundant) and earmark \$100,000 for an Environmental deductible, if needed.
2. County Waste Agreement (Put or Pay). Negotiated to end of this year in the effort to keep County Waste using facility.
3. Stephen Wing – amendment to continue paying health care as part of contract.
4. Sludge Transportation Contract. Went out to bid and chose same hauler, but at a reduced price with additional perks.

Old Business:

Tim Rose reported that FEEMA and DEC are looking to help remediate landfill damage from the flooding.

The Agency has received a new permit from DEC that will allow increased collection at the Ulster facility. They have also received a permit to do the Composting Pilot Program, should the Agency Board approve.

Discussion about reduced fees for nonprofits. Decided it is against policy, but may revisit in future.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a labor issue.

Legislator Wishnick asked for an opportunity to address the Board. Request was denied.

Respectfully, Cindy Lanzetta

**Ulster County
Executive Hein's
remarks to UC
Chamber of
Commerce**

On February 23, 2012, County Executive Michael Hein was guest speaker at the monthly breakfast sponsored by the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce. Before a sold out crowd of about 250 attendees, Mr. Hein spoke to a variety of points:

- on a person note he said that, while he and his wife had discussed whether he should run for the congressional seat that Congressman Hinchey will retire from at the end of 2012, no decision had been reached;
- the people of Ulster County are very special to him...for them he wants the best possible representation at each level; to do so he was 100% supportive of doing it right Transparency is a must. He has cleaned up various messes to further doing it right. The UC Department of Health was one of the worst messes in county government. This was one of the first such to be cleaned up;
- to further the transparency point the county web site is being used to allow citizen access to various aspects of county government. Using www.ucny.com one can access the budget, show how money is being spent, etc.;
- with the advent of Hurricane Irene he noted how local people and local organizations met and worked together to help each other within three days of the disaster. Three hundred people had been expected at the fundraiser held in the mountain towns, 1500 did in fact turn out, many of whom had lost everything, offering to help;
- with the stream lining that was done of the county department of public works, \$2.3 million has been saved;
- for the county to further advance, Mr. Hein noted it must be more streamlined. He gave as an example the 70 county owned properties which are off the tax rolls at present. He will work with the county legislature to return them to the tax rolls as quickly as possible;
- at UCCC there is a "wonderful home" valued at \$500,000. Originally designated as the president's house, it is not being used; he is working on an immediate sale, with some of the proceeds to be used towards building housing for homeless veterans, a problem that continues to increase in Ulster County;
- for those who are first time home buyers, he is working to develop a 5-year tax break so that initially it would be 50% off the property tax with subsequent reductions to 10% at the end of 5 years;
- the economic development process is being worked on. Tourism remains a major consideration as well. During the last year the bed tax dollars received has risen 5% over the previous year;
- he spent some time on the efforts the county is making to get the DEP and DEA to correct what is the problem with the water and the negative effects their procedures have on Ulster County;
- with respects to the Golden Hill nursing home facility, he noted it is not about whether it would be public or private but rather whether it would be opened or closed. He described the present proceedings as a compassionate process;
- presently Ulster County has the highest bond rating it has ever had;
- Mr. Hein noted that he was able to refinance the jail project and save \$3,000,000 in the process.

There was time for just a very few questions:

- when asked what he was doing re fracking in NYS, he said he was not convinced that water will be safe;
- to ensure that flood damage aid will continue he said that it was his job to make sure those people, governor, senator, etc. who promised to provide the aid, do so ;
- to what is county doing to address the problem dealing with Lyme disease he said that was one of the reasons for redoing the UCDOH;
- he noted that if the people in Ellenville/Town of Wawarsing want to have casino gambling at the Hotel Nevele, that was a local decision and he will support Ellenville and the Town of Wawarsing.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

**Ulster County
Legislature**

To view monthly proceedings, go to <http://www.totalwebcasting.com/view/?id=ulster>;
 Archived and upcoming resolutions: <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/resolutions/index.html>
 Committee Agendas/Minutes: <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/committeesinfo/index.html>
 Legislative Calendar: <http://www.calendarwiz.com/ucalendar> . There are links available to send an e-mail reminder to yourself and to download an event to your computer based calendar.

**Ulster County
Legislative
Programs,
Education and
Community
Services**

Date: March 12, 2012 Start Time: 5:03 p.m. Finish Time: about 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Wayne Harris called the meeting to order and the minutes of the February 7, 2012 were adopted.

Lydia Reidy, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CEE), gave an overview of the new facility, the staff and their programs.

Ann Gordon, Ulster County Historian, accompanied by Joan Burroughs, great granddaughter of John Burroughs, and John Wadlin, Esq. addressed the committee on the Riverby property where the county holds the title pending a resolution for taxes owed (almost \$100,000). There was an extensive discussion on the importance of this property and how a sale or another resolution could be reached.

Evelyn Clarke, acting Commissioner of Human Rights & Youth Program was introduced regarding a proposed resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of her as the Commissioner. She briefed the committee on her background. The resolution passed.

Richard Heyl de Ortiz, representing the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) organization, described CASA, their volunteers and clients, and funding. A proposed resolution passed.

A late proposed resolution approving an Ulster County Community College budget amendment for the year 2010-2011 passed following a discussion with Mark Komdat, Dean of Admissions.

Lydia Reidy, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of UC, briefly discussed that efforts with UC Tourism continues.

Document prepared by Vic Melville, 3/23/12

**Ulster County
Legislature:
Laws and Rules,
Governmental
Services
Committee**

Date: March 19, 2012 Start Time: 5:32 p.m. Finish Time: 6:48 p.m.

Chairman Kevin Roberts called the meeting order and the minutes of February 21, 2012 were approved.

A proposed resolution confirming County Executive's appointment of Evelyn J. Clarke as Commissioner of Human Rights and Director of the Youth Bureau. Approved.

The Charter Revision Commissioners were on the agenda to review its discussions and considerations. A roll call of the Charter Revision Commission was taken. Some attended, some didn't because, it was alleged, they disagreed it was not an "invitation" but a "summons".

Michael Catalinotto, Esq. and Richard T. Cahill, Jr., Esq. addressed the committee. Mr. Catalinotte emphasized the commission will not make any recommendations prior to public hearings that are to be scheduled, suggesting their discussions are preliminary. They also discussed reapportionment issues that may be included in charter revision recommendations.

Commissioner Leif Spencer emphasized a "fair and balanced" charter. Spoke person Cynthia Lowe stressed a good government process of flexibility.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the public hearings to understand the issues and provisions under consideration, prior to the final vote.

All other proposed resolutions were passed, some as amended, except for a resolution confirming an appointment to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, which was tabled.

In conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Roberts seeks better relations with the Charter Revision Commissioners. Of particular concern was an e-mail from Jim McGarry, a commissioner, that upset several committee members. Majority Leader Ken Ronk and Minority Leader David Donaldson are to meet with the Charter Revision Commissioners on process.

Date: March 20, 2012 Start Time: about 6:00 p.m. Finish Time: about 6:15 p.m.

Deputy Chairman Robert S. Parete chaired the meeting as Chairman Kevin Roberts was ill.

A proposed resolution confirming appointment to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency of Charles Landi was approved.

A proposed resolution setting a public hearing on a proposed public law known as "Ulster County Truth in Taxation Acton" was not voted as the Ways and Means Committee did not move it forward.

Document prepared by Vic Melville, 3/23/12

**Ulster County
Legislature:
Economic
Development &**

Date: March 8, 2012 Start Time: 5:46 p.m. Finish Time: 7:58 p.m.

Carl Belfiglio, Chairman, called the meeting to order, took attendance. The minutes of February 9, 2012 meeting were approved.

A proposed resolution confirming the reappointment of Cindy Lanzetta a member of the Environmental Management Council was adopted.

Tourism Committee

A proposed resolution authorizing to execute a license agreement with the Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District to operation of a plant materials center on the UC fairgrounds was adopted.

A proposed resolution regarding the Greater Catskills Flood Remediation Program was adopted following discussion on types of materials removed, property uses, and tax and revenue consequences.

A proposed resolution regarding the appropriation for the Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District was adopted. Gary Capella, Executive Director of the district gave a report of the activities and funding involved in the aftermath of tropical storms Irene and Lee.

A proposed late resolution setting a public hearing on a local law regarding "Hydraulic Fracturing Brine Prohibition Act" was passed following discussion of the types of rules and regulations the law might allow.

Legislator Ken Wishnick has been assigned by Mr. Belfiglio to explore the issues and options for the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency to become revenue neutral for the county. Mr. Wishnick reported on topics he's explored: funding and tax amounts, contracts, operations and waste tonnage, and alternative processes.

Following this discussion, some attendees spoke on some issues. This LWV observer asked to make a personal comment: that the county legislature and county executive embrace an independent body to address interests of the county and its citizens.

Document prepared by Vic Melville, 3/23/12

Ulster County Legislature: Economic Development and Tourism Committee

Date: March 7, 2012 Start Time: 6:02 p.m. Finish Time: about 7:02 p.m.

James F. Maloney, Chairman, called the meeting to order and took attendance. The minutes of February 8, 2012 meeting were approved.

A proposed resolution supporting a grant application for implementation of tourism shared services with the City of Kingston was adopted.

A proposed resolution designating the Ulster County Tourism Office as the official tourist promotion agency of the county was tabled.

A proposed resolution amending the 2012 county budget for national emergence grant funding – Department of Employment and Training was discussed with Nancy Schaefer, Director, Workforce Development Board and passed. This is a \$355,000 grant.

A proposed resolution appointing a member to the Ulster County Planning Board for the town of Marlborough passed.

A proposed resolution authorizing to enter agreement with the City of Kingston to implement shared tourism services passed.

Carl Meyer, President and co/CEO, The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC) and Frank Falatyn, President of Fala Technologies discussed business development in Ulster County. They also discussed the current manufacturing environment highlighting the 4,000 manufacturing employees in the county, but the workforce is aging and new skilled workers are needed.

The highlight of their presentation is a joint proposal to establish a Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing (CGAM0) The SUNY Institute of Technology (SUNYIT), The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC), Council of Industry (CI), Hudson Valley Technology Development Center (HVTDC), Mount St. Mary College and the region's community colleges ("Founding Organization") are in the process of legally forming a 501C 3 not-for-profit center.

Legislator Ken Wishnick discussed several topics related to this proposal: education, skilled worker pooling, BOCES programs, apprentice program Local salaries were discussed: these jobs are above minimum wage and competitive wages for skilled workers and engineers.

Document prepared by Vic Melville, 3/23/12

Ulster County Legislature Ways and Means

The Committee of the conducted interviews for two possible selections for the Golden Hill Local Development Corporation Board (GHLDC). The chairman of the committee, Legislator Richard Gerentine, convened the two meetings on February 27, 2012 and March 1, 2012. Members of the committee present: Gerentine, Gregorius, Rodriguez, Maio. Legislator Harris was absent.

The purpose of these meetings was for the committee to interview the 10 individuals who had expressed an interest in being considered by the county legislature for a seat on the GHLDC Board. Originally, 12 individuals had indicated an interest. Prior to these meetings, Steve Kelley and Kathryn Reed had withdrawn their names.

Two of the 10 presumably would be recommended to the Chairman, Terry Bernardo, for appointment to the Board. The third nominee was to be made by David Donaldson, the minority

leader of the Democratic party of the UC Legislature. That nomination had already been completed prior to the committee meetings. Legislator Jeanette Provenzano had been appointed by Mr. Donaldson.

At the first meeting of the committee, Mrs. Provenzano, who was also a member of the committee, spoke briefly to the committee. She advised the committee that she had come to the meeting out of respect for Legislator Gerentine and the other members. However, the minority counsel had advised her that it would not be appropriate for her to be present while the committee conducted the interviews for the Board positions. She wished everyone good luck and left.

As a result only 6 individuals were interviewed on the 27th: Michael Bernholz, Gerald Brown, Dave O'Halloran, Steven Perfit, Dr. Melissa Iannuzzi, and Matt Hall. On the 1st Brian Drabkin, Leslie Kalmus, David Lent, and Matthew Watkins were interviewed.

It was clear from the outset that the committee had specific questions that it would ask of each of those interviewed. Each of the interviews was conducted on an individual basis, lasting about 20 minutes in length. Each of those interviewed were asked the following:

- to provide a brief resume of his/her background;
- would they have the time to devote to the work;
- did they understand what was expected of a GHLDC Board member;
- why did they want to serve on this board;
- what was the person's vision for the use of the additional land adjacent to the GH facility (about 18 acres) which was also part of the board's consideration; and
- what did they know about the GH facility.

It should be noted that in the course of the interviews that Chairman Gerentine explained that while the LDC Board might have its own agenda to completing its charge: finding a qualified buyer, selling the facility for the best possible price which would be in the county's best interest, and at the same time protecting the rights of the residents, that he would like to have the process done by October/November, 2012...at least a prospective buyer, so that such could be considered when the 2013 budget would be worked on.

There appeared to be a general consensus of the need to secure an appropriate buyer, who would provide quality care for the residents, and at the same time provide the financial arrangement needed by the county. Those interviewed appeared to recognize the need to evaluate the potential buyer's track record as a nursing home operator, its credit status (ability to provide the best financial arrangement for the county), the plan to keep the nursing home open, and provide the appropriate quality care for the residents.

Following the completion of the interviews on March 1, the committee began its discussion of which of the people interviewed were to be recommended.

There was general consensus among the committee that it had had a group of well qualified individuals to select from for which they were all appreciative of.

Legislator Gerentine reviewed what the committee needed to do:

- select 2 of the people to recommend to Chairman Bernardo to consider for appointment to the GHLDC Board of Directors; Minority Leader Donaldson had already appointed Legislator Provenzano; (Note: County Executive Hein has already appointed Marshall Beckman, Deputy County Executive Sudlow, and Budget Director Hansom to be part of the Board);
- select 2 of the people to recommend to Chairman Bernardo to consider for part of the 6 member pool (3 of whom have already been recommended by County Executive Hein: Dr. Steckman, a physician; Gregory Helsmoortel, former T/Saugerties Supervisor and Regina Fitzpatrick, attorney); Minority Leader Donaldson has yet to appoint a person to this pool. It is from this pool that the 6 Board members will select the independent member of the Board.

Further, it was noted that while Mr. Watkins (T/Shawangunk) and Mr. Drabkin (T/Rochester) could be considered for one of the six Board positions, neither could be considered for the independent position (both are elected members of their respective town boards).

A final point here, it was announced that in addition to Steve Kelley and Kathryn Reed having withdrawn from the process, Mr. O'Halloran had called after being interviewed to withdraw his name from consideration having determined he would not have the amount of time needed to do the work if selected.

Last, Mr. Gerentine commented that he wished to have a balanced selection: medical, operations, finance, real estate...that the LDC Board would have representatives of each area.

The selections of those to be recommended were made by Legislators Gerentine, Mahoney, Rodriquez, Gregorius, and Maio. This was a majority of the committee as Legislator Provenzano

**Ulster County
Legislature:
Health and
Personnel**

was not present (see above for reason) and Legislator Harris was on vacation.

For the LDC 6 member Board the committee recommended that Dr. Ianuzzi, physician; and Mr. Bernholz, appraiser be considered by Chairman Bernardo; as noted above Legislator Provanzano has already been appointed.

For the independent pool: Gerald Brown, insurance and Les Kalmus, finance were selected for Chairman Bernardo to consider for appointment. Mr. Donaldson has yet to select one for consideration. Mr. Hein has already announced his recommendations (see above).

The observation was made regarding whether those recommended for consideration met the qualifications laid down in the By-Laws of the GHLDC. Mr. Gernetine commented that it would be up to the appropriate attorneys to perform their "due diligence" and examine the credentials and the By-Laws.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

The Legislative Health and Personnel Committee was convened by Chairman Legislator Robert Aiello on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 5:30 and adjourned at 6:47.

Present: Aiello, Provenzano, Parete, Rob, Ronk, Belfiglio

Other attendees: Deputy County Executive Ken Crannell, Comptroller Auerbach, J.J. Hansom, Sandy Mathias (newly appointed Deputy Clerk of Finance)

Following the approval of the February minutes, the committee took up Resolution 55. This item dealt with the establishment of the UC Lyme Disease Advisory Committee.

Chairman Aiello introduced Doreen Peone. Ms. Peone is Mr. Aiello's choice as a citizen appointee representative to this committee, if this resolution is eventually approved. Ms. Peone spoke briefly about what her experiences had been in having Lyme Disease and having her condition diagnosed. She noted that her condition commenced in 2008, but it was many months, many test, and many doctors who were involved before her condition was finally diagnosed. She still has pain and neurological problems. Ms. Peone stressed the importance of educating the public; that it was vital that the medical community be more aware, take what ever reading/training needed to become more aware of Lyme Disease and be able to diagnosed such more quickly. Booklets on this disease were distributed.

Legislator Parete pointed out that while the section of the resolution referencing that the committee appointees would serve without compensation was appropriate, the remainder of the sentence and "shall serve at the pleasure of the respective appointing authorities was not....it was not in keeping as the charter would allow. Following a general discussion, the committee struck the above phrase and added and "pursuant to C-16 of the UC Charter. Resolution passed.

Legislator Provenzano noted that April had been designated Healthy County, Healthy Family. She distributed a draft of a resolution that is being worked on, which once done, and if passed, would recognize April as such.

Legislator Parete was then recognized to explain the idea behind raising the resolution previously passed in 2010 on doctor recruitment/retention in Ulster County. He explained that he brought this up as a result of the statement made by Senator Schumer re the "shortage epidemic" of doctors in upstate NY, March 1, 2012. DCE Crannell noted that the DOH would like to talk to Mr. Parete regarding this subject, possibly do some brain storming. Mr. Parete said he would be willing to do this or invite Dr. Tack to talk with the committee. After further discussion, the committee decided to contact Dr. Tack, president of the UC Board of Health and invite him to meet with the committee for discussion.

The next order of business dealt with Resolution # 40 dealing with the establishment of a salary range for the position of Deputy Comptroller.

During early February, 2012 the former Deputy had resigned for personal reasons. In the ensuing weeks while there were applicants for the position, apparently the salary then being offered, \$69,992, was viewed as not high enough to attract and be acceptable to the quality of candidates desired. This was noted during the lengthy discussion on the need for a more competitive salary, as well as the concern on the part of some of the committee to voting for an increase without knowing who the prospective candidate(s) for the position would be as well as what the candidate(s) qualifications were. It was also suggested that the present budget for the comptroller's office had already been amended to enable the hiring of a senior auditor; so any additional increase if needed for another position could be negotiated when working on the 2013 budget.

The result of this discussion: the committee voted to raise the deputy comptroller salary by half of the difference between what it is now, \$69,992, and what was asked for, \$79,602, which is \$4,823.50 rounded up to \$4,824. Final figure \$74,816. Passed as amended.

**Ulster County
Board of Health**

Resolution \$64. Committee approved appointment to UC Community Services Board of Anne Flanagan Kelly.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

Initially, there was no quorum at 7PM when the UC Board of Health was to be convened on March 12, 2012 by President Dr. Marc Tack. Therefore, Dr. Tack called for reports to start with.

-Dr. Hasbrouck, Director of the DOH, introduced Cheryl DePaolo, the Program Director from the Ulster Prevention Council. Her report dealt with the problem of prescription drug abuse which is viewed as being an epidemic situation. She noted that drug overdose death rates have more than tripled in the US since 1990. A second chart indicated that the source of pain relievers for most recent non medical use in the last years shows that 56% of such is obtained free from a friend or relative. A third chart, labeled "Lifetime Prescription Drug Abuse-UC Youth Development Survey of students in grades 7-12 indicated a greater abuse of pain relievers versus tranquilizers or sedatives. These figures/percentages stem from work in 2007, 2009, 2010

Part of her presentation included a listing of specific points showing what the scope of the problem is. Some of the points noted:

- 1 in 20 people age 12 or older report using prescription painkillers for non-medical reasons in the past month (CDC-2011);
- In one month in 2010 enough prescription painkillers were prescribed to medicate every American adult around the clock for one month. (CDC, 2011);
- Every day, almost 2,500 teens abuse Rx medication for the first time (National Council on Patient Information and Education)
- Additionally, some suggested strategies were indicated to address this problem:
- Pharmacy Education;
- Senior Education'
- Increased use of prescription drug monitoring (PMP) programs; and
- Community Drug Take-back and Disposal Events.

One other suggested strategy was partnering with UCDOH and MH. Dr. Hasbrouck suggested that there appeared to be ample opportunities to partner with the Take Back the Prescription Drug Program.

The two nominations made so far for vacancies on the Board of Health: Danielle Heller, Regional Director for the American Cancer Society and Dr. Walter Woodley, Medical Director for the Institute for Family Health have been sent to the County Executive. Suzanne Holt is acting as liaison in this process. Apparently those nominees to be made by Mayor Gallo of Kingston have not yet been received. Dr. Tack suggested that an appropriate letter of reminder be sent.

Dr. Hasbrouck announced that Ms. Guilford, the Environmental Health Director, "had not worked out"; that her last day had been Friday, March 2. Until a replacement can be appointed, Denise Woodbine has been assigned to the position on a temporary basis. The selection process is underway, using the short list of those who had originally been considered.

The 2011 Fourth Quarter Program Review has shown that it is in substantial compliance.

Dr. Heller, UC Medical Examiner reported that in February there had been 16 cases which resulted in 5 site visits, 7 autopsies, 2 suicides and 1 motor vehicle death. There were no homicides. These overall numbers were considerably lower than January, which had had a total of 30 calls.

Under Patient Services Mrs. Veytia reported the following which involved a Health Advisory from the Bureau of Immunization-Pertussis in NYS:

- Pertussis (Whooping Cough) is still being seen: In 2009 there were 9 probables going by physicians report based on symptoms not swab tests; 2012 1 probable which is under investigation. Dr. Tack suggested that contact with the labs, Lab Corp and Quest be made to do the education process with doctors offices; that it might be possibly needed to involve the office managers to ensure that the doctors' offices have the necessary tools to enable them to do at least the preliminary work. She further noted that they are working with the Kingston Hospital to ensure infants being vaccinated.

There were two additional reports both of which involved computer programming in order to learn how to navigate through the outbreak system for which the local personnel are being trained. This system will enable the commissioners to enter on line and view how things are being managed when there are cases to be monitored. Locally, any case data entered into the system received a number and the history of how handled is provided. Training continues and soft ware is developed.

**The Ulster
County
Association of
Town
Supervisors**

- the second report dealt with pulsed-field gel-“fingerprinting” of the sampling of blood, stool sampling, of items such as e-coli, pertussis, salmonella, etc. Ulster County has volunteered to participate with the Bureau of Communicable Disease.

Note: A quorum was achieved at 7:15 with the arrival of Dr. Delma; at 7:49 the minutes of the February meeting were approved and the meeting was adjourned.

Present: Dr. Tack, Joan Authenreith, Maryann Hilderbrandt, Dr. Delma

Other attendees: Dr. Hasbrouck, Director of DOH, Dr. Heller, Medical Examiner, Nereida Veytia, Director of Patient Services, Cheryl Qamar, Deputy Commissioner of UC Mental Health. Lee Cane, Observer Corp

The Ulster County T/Supervisors meeting was convened by President, T/Supervisor John Valk on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 8:34 AM and adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Present: Representatives of Towns of Shawangunk, Marbletown, Denning, Rochester, Olive, Hurley, Ulster, Shandaken, Wawarsing, Hardenburgh, Rosendale, T/Kingston, Saugerties, Plattekill, Woodstock

Other Attendees: County Executive Michael Hein, County Legislature Chairman Bernardo, Vice-Chairman Maloney, Commissioner of UC DSS Michael Iapoco, Jonathan Drapkin, President/CEO Pattern for Progress, Tim Rose, Executive Director UCRA, Adele Reiter, Chief of Staff to Michael Hein

First on the agenda was CE Michael Hein. He noted that work on road repair(continues to be a problem from the storms) continues moving ahead, some better than others; same for bridges;

- there are many returning veterans as well as many from preceding conflicts. Many are homeless. The towns may or may not have the problem. The county has a significant number of properties which he wishes to return to the tax roles as quickly as possible. He hope to utilize some of these properties to create “dignified” housing for those homeless veterans.
- the president's house at UCCC is a beautiful piece of property. Presently assessed at \$700,000 he hopes the county will be able to sell. The Board of Trustees of UCCC as well as President Katt are “on board” supporting the concept of selling.
- first time home buyers have been considered in the county's offer of tax exemption over a five year period in a descending order starting with 50% down to 10%.
- the Tourism Advisory Board is excited about where it is going; believe it is more efficient now. Rocking Horse Ranch was fully booked with guests. Its water park was found to be in trouble so that it could not be used. Through the efforts of the TAB in securing the DOH's involvement, the resort's problem was addressed and fixed so that neither the Ranch nor the guests were unhappy.
- Citizen Access is the county web site that UC citizens can access and among other information determine who has taken county cars home, read the procurement contracts.
- he is continuing the “discussion” with the DEP.
- Tax Cap: Mr. Hein reminded the group that the Safety Net is not a county mandate; it is a state mandate to the towns interceded by the county in all counties in NYS except in Ulster county. The towns must consider the costs when doing their budgets.
- If shared services works for everyone then he is prepared to continue working accordingly.
- Mr. Hein does not support hydro-fracking or the product obtained from this work that si then used on roads.

The brine legislation, if passed could endanger legitimate businesses, which have been in existence for many years prior to any consideration about hydro-fracking, and produce road salt according to the comment from the T/Wawarsing Supervisor.

Chairman of the UC Legislature Terry Bernardo was next on the agenda.

- she is attending various town board meetings each month;
- an effort is being made to keep citizens up to date on what is taking place during the week from the perspective of the county legislature;
- minutes of the various committee meetings are to be done prior to the monthly legislative session;
- DEP: legislature is waiting for files from the county attorney in preparation for the public hearings;
- there are three local laws that are being considered by the county legislature:
- people who abuse animals will be required to have name on list;
- ban on fluids used in hydro-fracking (Mrs. Bernardo noted that in 2011 the county banned hydro-fracking on all county owned property;

- truth in taxation law: mandated costs will be delineated on the tax bills. She advised that the legislature's legal counsel has spoken to the state comptroller who has advised that the county is within its rights to pass such.
- she commented that the legislature understands that it is responsible for passing laws; resolutions are posted on the county web site;
- her three priorities are DEP, economic development, and better government.

President Valk noted that James Rollins from Taylor Biomass Energy was not present. However, he did note that Mr. Rollins had requested time to talk to the supervisors as he was aware the RRA contract was coming up for renewal, so he would probably be contacting the T/supervisors.

Tim Rose the executive director of UCRRA noted that the latter has had a contract with Ulster County for 20 years. Such contracts are of an individual nature with the towns. The latter can renegotiate with RRA or with their individual town companies which handle such work. He also noted that the UCRRA is a public benefit corporation. The only aspect that the County has oversight with is that it appoints the 5 member board and if RRA should fall short financially, the county then subsidizes the RRA.

Jonathan Drapkin, President/CEO of Pattern for Progress was then introduced. He had come to discuss what the organization was about with the hope that the Association of T/Supervisors would renew its membership. Until 2010 the Association had belonged to Pattern at a cost of \$1100.

Apparently Pattern does support the T/Supervisors position and the county's position v. DEP. He noted it was difficult for Pattern to speak with one voice as it was so fragmented as an organization given the hundreds of members throughout the Hudson Valley that it had.

In about 2 weeks Pattern will release a report on school enrollment; will include what has been done with the school buildings that have been closed. It was suggested by Mr. Drapkin's associate who was with him that the results of such were quite interesting and useful.

Commissioner Iapoco, the newly appointed DSS Commissioner noted that he had come to say hello to the supervisors; to advise them that the agency and staff had met in February and reviewed its responsibilities. Further he pointed out that the DSS employees must administer the DSS program correctly and efficiently. They know that the towns have problems and concerns, ie. re safety net and housing sex offenders. He is willing to talk on a case by case basis; and that the supervisors should feel free to contact him.

Mr. Valk called for the approval of minutes, which was accomplished. He then commented on the UC Transportation County. T/Supervisor of Marbletown Warren will act as the rural town voting member.

Mr. Maloney, Vice-Chairman of the UC Legislature urged the group to support the truth in taxation law.

Motion was passed supporting such and the Association's support will be conveyed at the legislature's meeting on 3-20-12.

The supervisors then considered rejoining Pattern for Progress. With a motion on the floor, the group discussed rejoining. The group voted to rejoin with a 6 month membership, with the suggestion that if dues paid that regional marketing particularly as applied to tourism should be "pushed". The group voted to rejoin, 6 months at \$575.

Mr. Leifeld, T/Olive reported that the Association had \$6,954.44 in the treasury.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

ANNUAL MEETING	May 24, 2012, 6:00pm . Pot Luck Supper followed pm business meeting. Town of Esopus Library, 128 Canal St., Port Ewen, NY 12466	
Nominating Committee Report: Election of Directors, Officers & Nominating Committee	Directors	Officers
	Cindy Bell (12-14) Jolanda Jansen (12-13) Cindy Lanzetta (12-14) Anne Needham (12-14) Margaret Sellers (12-14) Laura Walls (12-14) Continuing: Betty Chin (11-13) James Mahoney (11-13) Lee Ridgway (11-13)	President: Dare Thompson (12-14) Secretary: Jean Mc Garry (12-14) Continuing: Vice President: Irene McInnis (11-13) Treasurer: Dorothy Winrow (11-13)
	Nominating Committee	
	Lee Cane	Kathy Germain Cynthia Lowe
	Program Proposals	
Programs	Continuation - Ulster & Dutchess Counties Shared Services study. Continuation - Solid Waste Management.	
	Bylaws Amendments	
Bylaws	SEE FOLLOWING PAGES	

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011

Fiscal Year is June 1 - May 31

	Actual Totals 2010-2011	Actual Totals to: 3/29/12	Approved Budget 2011-2012	Proposed Budget 2012-2013
Income				
Individual Dues	3300	2175	3050	3150
Household Dues	1400	825	1200	1200
Interest	164	62.42	250	76
Contributions: Gen Fund	1169	650	1000	1000
Contributions: Ed Fund	1710	1820	1800	1800
Fundraising	2250	27.44	5000	3000
Ads/Sponsorships	0	0	1050	500
Voter Service	405	30.71	350	350
TOTAL	10398	5590.57	13700	11076
Expenses				
Operations, phone,web	1248	1534.75	1180	1100
Organizational Activities	198	299.96	452	450
Educational Activities	1465	733.50	2500	1313
Public Programs	222	276.21	300	400
Delegates	315	0	600	600
Commentator Printing	570	497.55	550	600
Commentator Mailing	289	260.60	350	350
LWVNYS	1620	1086.75	1422	1566
LWVUS	2688	1811.25	2346	2697
Fundraising	2294	44	4000	2000
TOTAL	10909	6544.57	13700	11076
Surplus	511	954	0	0

**Nominating
Committee
Report**

The Nominating Committee is excited to present this year's slate of Directors to the membership of the League of Women Voters of the Mid-Hudson Region. Please be advised that the following is the proposed slate of nominations for board positions to be voted on at the May 24, 2012 annual meeting.

The slate is as follows and all terms are to run from 2012-2014 except for Jolanda Jansen who has agreed to a one year term ending 2013:

President: Dare Thompson

Secretary: Jean McGarry

Directors: Cindy Bell, Jolanda Jansen, Cindy Lanzetta, Anne Needham, Margaret Sellers and Laura Walls

Additional Board members who are not under consideration at this time whose terms run through 2013 include:

Vice-President: Irene McInnis

Treasurer: Dorothy Winrow

Directors: Betty Chin, Jim Mahoney, Lee Ridgway

The **Nominating Committee** for the upcoming 2012-2013 year will be Lee Cane, Kathy Germain and Cynthia Lowe with two additional selections from the Board.

This year's committee would like to thank all those who continue to volunteer for the leadership positions for the league and thank those who are newly under consideration who will be new to the board. A diversity of talents will lead to a stronger organization.

Nominating Committee 2011-2012: Cindy Bell, Lee Cane (Chairman), Kathy Germain, Jean McGarry and Renée Sachs

**Notes on the
Proposed
Budget**

The Proposed Budget is a well considered estimate of the income (inflows) and expenses (outflows) for the coming fiscal year which begins on June 1 every year. The amounts in the line items are based on history, trends and known facts. For this reason the proposed budget includes information from a previous year as well as the current year.

The goal of the proposed budget is to have the inflows and outflows balance. Some line items appear in both income and expenses such as Fundraising. In such a case the actual fundraising is determined by the difference. Our per-member payments to the State and National levels of the League, for their share of the dues we all pay, is determined by a formula based on the rates voted on by the US and NYS entities. We based our numbers this year on 96 members.

The proposed budget is a guide for the organization in their activities and an authorization for the treasurer, and authorized persons, to pay bills based on the accepted budget.

A Proposed Budget differs from a Budget Report in that in a budget report all inflows and outflows are identified, categorized and accounted for. A Budget Report is presented each month to the LWVMHR board. This reports accounts for income and expenses for the previous month and lists the assets in each of our accounts. The bank statements are also reconciled each month. Such a Report is also made after the close of the Fiscal Year.

The LWVMHR is fortunate to have accumulated assets over many years. While we do have substantial assets from funds donated by our predecessors, we aim to balance our annual expenditures and income for long term financial health.

Members can contact Dorothy Winrow, Treasurer, for more information.

Board Minutes

Minutes of the monthly Board meeting can be found at <http://lwvmidhudson.org/Committees.html>

Proposed amendments to LWVMHR Bylaws for approval 5/24/2012
to become effective May 24th, 2012 if accepted.

Changes that do not appear on this list are deletions of past dates when articles became effective, a change of cut-off date to December 31 for non-renewing members (approved at the annual meeting in 2010), and a few typos.

Changes in **blue** (*italics*) do not change the meaning or intent. Changes in **red** (**bold**) are substantive.

The standing rule date will be changed from March 15 to “after February 1” by vote at the annual meeting.

	AS IN 2007 BYLAWS	PROPOSED CHANGE	
Article I	...referred to hereinafter as the LWVMHR	...referred to hereinafter as the LWVMHR or the League	To conform to LWVNYS bylaw requirement
Article IV, section 2	The officers of the local League shall be elected for a term of two years; the directors shall be elected for a term of two years. half of the directors shall be elected for two-year terms at each annual election	The officers of the local League shall be elected for a term of two years; the directors shall be elected for a term of two years.	Remove requirement for half being elected each year as number of directors can vary.
Article V, section 5	The Treasurer shall perform such duties as customarily pertain to the office; arrange for an annual audit of the books; and at the direction of the Board, maintain deposits in authorized financial institutions; and serve ex officio on the Budget Committee but not as chairperson.	The Treasurer: <i>a. shall perform such duties as customarily pertain to the office;</i> <i>b. shall arrange for an annual audit of the books.</i> <i>c. shall at the direction of the Board, maintain deposits in authorized financial institutions;</i> <i>d. shall serve ex officio on a committee to prepare an annual budget for Board approval, but not as chairman;</i> e. and shall report financial status against the budget to the board.	Make a list of duties to conform with other officer formats.
Article V, section 6	Directors: Each director shall perform any duties assigned her by the President and/or the Board of Directors. Assignments are expected to cover functions such as strategic planning, development, education, advocacy, and communication.	Directors: a. shall ensure that voter registration and education are carried out; b. shall provide for candidates meetings and debates on request; c. shall oversee advocacy by the local League; d. shall perform strategic planning for the future of the LWVMHR; e. shall provide for membership development and fund-raising; f. shall communicate League positions to the media and public; and <i>g. perform any duties assigned by the President and/or Board of Directors.</i>	Make format consistent; add candidates' meetings and debates as responsibilities.
Article VI, section 5	Does not exist in 2007 Bylaws	Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the LWVMHR, all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWVMHR	After debts paid, property is to be disposed of at the discretion of the Board.

<p>Article VII, section 3</p>	<p>Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum at all annual and consensus meetings of the LWVMHR.</p>	<p>shall be paid to the LWV of New York State after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed that may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWVMHR shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the board in its absolute discretion may designate.</p> <p>Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum at all general, annual, and consensus meetings of the LWVMHR.</p>	<p>Sample bylaws of LWVNYS call for this article..</p>
<p>Article VIII, section 1b</p>	<p>...two of whom shall be appointed from the Board of Directors by the Board immediately following the elections.</p>	<p>...two of whom shall be appointed from the Board of Directors by the Board at its next meeting;</p>	<p>Include general meetings in quorum requirements. Change in when to appoint Nominating Committee members from the Board.</p>
<p>Article VIII, section 1c</p>	<p>The chairperson of the new nominating committee shall be elected by the new nominating committee immediately following the elections.</p>	<p>The chairperson of the new nominating committee shall be elected by the new nominating committee within one month following the first Board of Directors meeting in the new year and shall be a non-Board member of the committee;</p>	<p>Change in when to elect Nominating Committee Chairman.</p>
<p>Article IX, section 5</p>	<p>Member action: Members may act in the name of the LWVMHR only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Member action: Members may act in the name of the LWVMHR only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Word proper has no meaning in this context.</p>
<p>Article XI</p>	<p>Not in present document. Left out by mistake.</p>	<p><i>Section 1 National Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the National office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to LWVMHR under the provision of the Bylaws of LWVUS.</i></p> <p><i>Section 2 State Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the State office shall select delegates to that convention In the number allotted to LWVMHR under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVNYS..</i></p> <p><i>Section 3 State Council . The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the State office shall select delegates to the Council In the number allotted to LWVMHR under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVNYS.</i></p>	<p>To provide for delegates to conventions and councils</p>