



# Commentator

## JULY/AUGUST 2013

*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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**Membership:**

### CALENDAR

2013		
JULY		
29	Mon. 10 AM	<b>Resource Development Committee meeting</b> , home of Margaret Sellers, 80 Ringtop Road, Kingston, 845-339-3180, <a href="mailto:mcsellers@aol.com">mcsellers@aol.com</a> Location tentative; please confirm with Margaret.
AUGUST		
6	Tues. 7:15 PM	<b>LWV MHR Board Meeting</b> , home of Shirley Kobran, 53 Schuler Lane, Lake Katrine, 845-382-6989
13	Tues. 5:30 PM	<b>Solid Waste Study Committee</b> , Gateway Diner, Rt 9W just north of Mid-Hudson Bridge, Highland. For more info and to confirm, contact Cindy Lanzetta, 845-236-7288, <a href="mailto:packback56@yahoo.com">packback56@yahoo.com</a>
SEPTEMBER		
10	Tues. 7:15 PM	<b>LWV MHR Board Meeting</b> , home of Shirley Kobran, 53 Schuler Lane, Lake Katrine, 845-382-6989
17	Tues. 6 PM	<b>SALAD SUPPER, potluck, and presentation by Patricia Pomeroy</b> , Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Regional Council, <b>on the Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan</b> at the Town of Esopus Public Library, 128 Canal St., Port Ewen. Supper from 6 – 7 pm. Program at 7 pm.
24	TUES.	<b>National VOTER REGISTRATION DAY</b>
27	Fri. 9:30 AM	<b>Shared Services Study Committee</b> , home of Ellie Charwat, 7 Creek Bend Road, Poughkeepsie, 845-462-7061, <a href="mailto:echarwat@yahoo.com">echarwat@yahoo.com</a>
OCTOBER		
12	TBD	The League has reserved a three-hour sail on the Clearwater sloop for Saturday afternoon (probably 3 - 6 pm) on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend, a leaf-peeper's delight. The boat can only hold about 40 people at a cost of \$50 or more each, and it will be first-come, first-served. To be sure of a seat on board, reserve now at <a href="mailto:info@lwvmidhudson.org">info@lwvmidhudson.org</a> !

For updates, check our Calendar on-line at  
<http://lwvmidhudson.org/calendar.html>

**Prez Sez...**

**A QUIZ:** Do you know who represents you in Washington and Albany? Since redistricting, a lot of boundary lines have changed, so they may not be who you think they are. You can find maps at: <http://www.latfor.state.ny.us/maps/> and see if you're right.

The DC reps are pretty easy. Senators Schumer (D) and Gillibrand (D) represent all of us, and Congressman **Chris Gibson (19-R)** now represents most of us except for parts of Poughkeepsie and southwest Dutchess County. **Sean Patrick Maloney (18-D)** serves the rest of Dutchess. Because in NY the House districts were drawn by a court, the districts look pretty tidy.

But at the state level, thanks to gerrymandering, the district maps are a mess. I think Ulster's Senate districts look like a bed of snakes, but you may come up with a better description. There are four senators - **John Bonacic (42-R)**, **Wm. Larkin (39-R)**, **James Seward (51-R)**, and **Cecilia Tkaczyk (46-D)**. Meanwhile Dutchess County is a little more comprehensible with only two senators - **Terry Gipson (40-D)**, who represents most of the county, and **Greg Ball (41-R)**, who serves SE Dutchess.

How remarkable that out of 63 senators, almost 10% of them represent at least part of the area our League serves. Also remarkable is that we have fewer Assembly members, three in Ulster – **Kevin Cahill (103-D)**, **Frank Skartados (104-D)**, **Claudia Tenney (101-R)** and two in Dutchess - **Didi Barrett (106-D)** and **Kieran Lalor (105-R)**.

We have been trying to meet with all eleven state representatives. Jim and Jean McGarry reported on their visit with Sen. Tkaczyk in the June Commentator. Since then Diane Jablonski and I have visited with Assemblyman Skartados. Meetings with Didi Barrett and Terry Gipson by Ellie Charwat, Nan Fogel, Soyal Smalls, Gina Klein, and others are imminent. If you'd like to join us for other visits, please let me know. Besides expressing concern about the general lack of action in Albany, we have expressed particular concern about **campaign finance reform**, the **women's equality agenda**, **election reform**, and other long-time LWV issues.

Even if you can't visit them with us, do know that the NY reps are back home and you can visit them about your own issues or see them at community events. They represent you – let them know what you think.

And check out our LWV calendar and plan to join us as when you can. All meetings are open. Our next major membership event is **September 17**. It will be both sociable and informative

*DARE*

*PS - We thank all those who responded to the concurrence on **human trafficking**. Not surprisingly, members agreed to it and the statement is now a part of our LWWNYS positions.*

**HELP WANTED**

Bring refreshments to a meeting  
 Help plan the 10/12 Clearwater fundraising day  
 Register voters on September 24 - or any time!  
 Train to be a candidate forum moderator or timekeeper  
 Help set up for an LWV event  
 Be a friendly greeter at the door  
 Help get candidates to respond to our voters guide questions  
 Get involved in one of our study committees (shared services, materials management agriculture, and more to come)  
 ....and the list goes on. We can always use your help!

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS** Monthly Board meeting minutes and more can be found at <http://lwvmidhudson.org/Committees.html>

**Program News****SAVE Saturday, October 12 for a SAIL on the CLEARWATER!**

The League has reserved a three-hour sail on the Clearwater sloop for Saturday afternoon (probably 3 - 6 pm) on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend, a leaf-peeper's delight. The boat can only hold about 40 people at a cost of \$50 or more each, and it will be first-come, first-served.

To be sure of a seat on board, reserve now at [info@lwvmidhudson.org](mailto:info@lwvmidhudson.org)!

As surely you know, folksinger Pete Seeger was inspired to recreate a Hudson River sloop in 1969 in an effort to get people out on the water and to inspire them to clean up a waterway that had become a dump for all sorts of waste. It was an ambitious dream that is coming true. Today you can actually swim in the Hudson!

Learn more at [www.clearwater.org](http://www.clearwater.org) about the unique-to-the-Hudson sloops that served as freight trains do today, moving goods up and down the river. This past winter the aging Clearwater has undergone its largest restoration work in decades, so it is now a very spiffy ship!

Since it will be sailing in and out of Beacon that day, we are building some other entertaining and educational events in that lively city before and after the sail.

Watch for details and plan to join us!

**VOTER SERVICE****Naturalization**

Flag Day proved to be a very significant day as league members welcomed and congratulated forty individuals on becoming citizens of the United States. The ceremony took place at the Ulster County Court House with the Honorable Karen Peters presiding. Thank you to Shirley Kobran, Karen Miller and Jim McGarry for distributing voter registration information.

**VOTE 411 – Our Electronic Voters Guide**

David and Harriett Straus offered a simplified but thought-provoking question that would serve as an opportunity to allow all candidates at every level to be heard in both Ulster and Dutchess Counties. "What three problems in your locality would you resolve if elected?" Ellie Charwat further suggested that the wording should read, "Which three problems would you work to resolve" noting that very few candidates can resolve an issue by themselves. To avoid generalities, we would add, "How?" along with gentle reminders to avoid the standard campaign shout-outs, "need for change" and "greater transparency." Given our limited number of volunteers, this is the best solution for creating a comprehensive voter guide in the Mid-Hudson Region. If members are concerned about specific problems that need to be resolved in their area, we would strongly urge that they personally contact these candidates to ensure that these issues are addressed.

As with most new endeavors, what at first seems straight forward and simple proves to be quite the opposite... usually because of your initial ignorance and hubris! Vote 411 is proving to fit in that category. With over exuberant optimism we thought we could at least invite candidates for every Dutchess and Ulster Countywide and local office to participate. With nearly 200 offices to be filled with over 350 candidates it's time to scale back to a more manageable level to at least quash the hubris and relieve some of the ignorance... we learn best by correcting our own mistakes.

Thus, this year we will be seeking input from the Dutchess and Ulster county-wide and legislature candidates. It is still a big task but the "crew" that has volunteered to help is determined.

We could use *your* help too! Contact Dare Thompson [darethompson@gmail.com](mailto:darethompson@gmail.com) or Jean McGarry [jfmcg@hvc.rr.com](mailto:jfmcg@hvc.rr.com) if you can join us.

Jim and Jean McGarry

**Moderating Guidelines**

*Guidelines for moderating and sponsorship of candidates' events by the League are our website at <http://lwvmidhudson.org/Moderating.html> or from the [Home](#) page and the [Elections](#) page.*

**ADVOCACY & STUDY COMMITTEE REPORTS****Solid Waste/ Materials****Solid Waste (Materials Management) Committee Report for June:**

The group met at the Gateway Diner in Highland on June 11th. We had a special guest - Patricia

**Management Committee**

Pomeroy, Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC, [www.hudsonvalleyregionalcouncil.org](http://www.hudsonvalleyregionalcouncil.org))

Like the League, the HVRC advocates for bringing stakeholders together to approach problem-solving through a regional approach. One of the issues that the HVRC is examining is the best way to manage organic material and keep it out of the waste stream. Ms. Pomeroy talked about some promising options and invited committee members to attend the quarterly public meetings of the HVRC's Materials Management group. Not only were we impressed with Ms. Pomeroy and her presentation, but she liked us enough to ask to become a member of the League, and she has since agreed to be a speaker at our fall salad supper (see calendar).

**Solid Waste/Materials Management Committee Report for July:**

The Solid Waste Committee met at the Gateway Diner on July 9th. We discussed the Regional Sustainability Plan, Ulster and Dutchess County's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections, and composting organics. Member Sarah Womer talked about her efforts to do recycling at Beacon public events. She hosts "Garbage Parties" for the volunteers. (See a report from Sarah in this Commentator on one of their recent efforts.)

We voted to change the name of the study committee to the Materials Management Committee, in line with the statewide effort to get to "zero waste." We will continue to monitor regional efforts to manage materials. Our next meeting will be August 13th, 5:30pm, at the Gateway Diner, Rt. 9W in Highland. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend!

Cindy Lanzetta, Solid Waste/Materials Management Committee Chair

**The Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan is in final form and can be accessed at the Orange County Government website at**

[http://www.orangecountygov.com/filestorage/124/1362/MHRSP\\_FinalDraftPlan\\_May2013\\_web.pdf](http://www.orangecountygov.com/filestorage/124/1362/MHRSP_FinalDraftPlan_May2013_web.pdf).

This important Plan has a special section on "Material Management" that the League's Solid Waste Committee has been actively monitoring. What follows are the three key objectives for the Region:

**MM1: Reduce the Volume of Solid Waste Generated**

- ❖ Create policies and programs that will reduce the overall amount of waste generated, with the long-term objective of achieving zero waste. Reducing the amount of waste generated will reduce the amount of material disposed, saving money, reducing GHG emissions and fuel use, and avoiding environmental impacts associated with material extraction and processing.

**MM2: Increase the Proportion of Material Diverted from Landfills and Incinerators via Reuse, Recycling, Composting, and Other Organic Recycling Methods**

- ❖ Maximize the useful lifespan of materials and increase recycling rates. This will help reduce the environmental impacts associated with producing new goods and materials. This will also reduce GHG emissions from landfills.
- ❖ Reuse and recycle materials locally so that new industries can develop and jobs can be created. The materials management sector has great potential as a source of local jobs.
- ❖ Educate the Region's residents to increase reuse and recycling rates.

**MM3: Reduce T & D Cost**

- ❖ Create local or regional management and disposal options. By keeping material local, transportation costs and associated energy use and GHG emissions can be reduced
- ❖ Incentivize regional efforts to achieve reduction goals so that counties combine resources and expertise to solve materials management problems.
- ❖ Aggregate waste streams to create a more attractive market for recyclables and compost, generating new revenues.

**One Of Our Many Members Who Make A Difference**

LWV member, Sarah Womer, and her waste-reduction organization, [Zero to Go](#), had a happy time at Beacon's Riverfest 2013 handling the trash (really!). Here's her report: Great work, Sarah!

[Beacon Riverfest](#) is a big music festival in Beacon, organized by Local 845. [Zero to Go](#) handled the waste and recycling for the event, which brought 3600 people to Riverfront Park. We provided bins, as shown in the accompanying photo (courtesy of [Jennifer Konig](#)).

A gigantic thank you to the fun-loving Daniel Weise of [Thundercut](#) for happily



drawing sad faces on styrofoam cups, grinning cups of iced coffee and other whimsical characters on these cans. We saw delighted children examining them, and nothing could make me happier. Except of course, people putting the right things in the cans! And they did that, better than at any festival I've been in charge of.

This couldn't be possible without a dedicated team of volunteers to assist all day. Volunteers explain what's recyclable to the crowd, and manually sort through the bins to make sure everything recyclable is being recycled. Together we handled 10 stations of 20 bins. We filled a recycling dumpster to the top, and filled a garbage dumpster nearly to the top. I'd guess 50 bags combined (55 gal size)! 3600 people came! Amazing work! All photos can be seen at the [Garbage Party #3 Facebook event](#).

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**NEW DOCUMENTS ONLINE:** [Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan](#) at [http://www.orangecountygov.com/filestorage/124/1362/MHRSP\\_FinalDraftPlan\\_May2013\\_web.pdf](http://www.orangecountygov.com/filestorage/124/1362/MHRSP_FinalDraftPlan_May2013_web.pdf) ; the [Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency Press Release and Flow Control FAQ](#); the [Dutchess County Solid Waste Management Plan 2013](#) and the [Study Committee's Comments](#). Links to these and an extensive "library" of related materials can be found on our website at: [http://www.lwvnet.org/lwv/ny/midhudson/Action\\_Study.html#Trash](http://www.lwvnet.org/lwv/ny/midhudson/Action_Study.html#Trash)

### Dutchess County Shared Services Study

Jail Fact Sheet Version 4-1	Highway Departments in Ulster County
Fire Districts in Dutchess County	Purchasing in Dutchess County Municipalities
Justice Courts in Ulster County	Bus Transportation

You can find links to these materials at [http://lwvmidhudson.org/Action\\_Study.html#s02](http://lwvmidhudson.org/Action_Study.html#s02)

### ULSTER COUNTY OBSERVER CORP

### Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

Meeting at UCRRA Offices in Kingston. Meeting began at 5pm.

All UCRRA Board members were in attendance, as was participating Agency Staff.

Agendas & previous Minutes from UCRRA meetings can be found at:

<http://www.ucrra.org/BoardMeeting/index.html>

Legislator Carl Belglio spoke at the Public Comment about the need to increase communications between the Legislature & the UCRRA Board.

Chairman Leon Smith commented that a Legislative Committee on Alternative Disposal Methods has yet to be convened.

The minutes were approved and the next meeting on August 19th, 5pm announced.

Director Tim Rose gave the reports on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) tonnage and Recycling tonnage. A new report known as a Recycling Commodity Report shows bid offers for recycled materials. Recycling Coordinator Michelle Bergkamp explained that events in China and wet product in single waste containers have had a negative effect on prices. Tim Rose acknowledged that Ulster County has one of the highest tipping fee in the nation, but that fee seems to be adequately addressing Agency needs to be solvent.

Tim Rose also reported on the Leachate Collection, which has been impacted by the very wet weather.

Michelle Bergkamp made her Recycling Program Update (which can also be accessed online). The Agency is selling compost, collecting Household Hazardous Waste & Pharmaceuticals, and recycling electronics.

Treasurer Tim DeGraff's report for May was accepted.

The Material Recovery Facility is still showing positive revenue.

Resolution # 2303 Re: Payment of Requisition No. 112 Bond Redemption & Improvement Fund was approved.

Resolution # 2304 Re: authorizing the Agency to Enter into Contract Extensions of the Solid Waste Management with Ulster County Towns was approved. (Contracts through Dec.31, 2014)

Resolution No. 2305 Re: Amending the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency By-Laws to allow on Ulster County Legislator Non-Voting Status as Board Member was voted down.

As explained by Legal Council, it would require a vote of State Legislators to change the authorizing



enabling legislation. Charlie Landi will investigate further.

At 6:10 a motion was made to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the employment history of an employee and to discuss enforcement issues with possible litigation.

Respectfully, Cindy Lanzetta

**Economic  
Development and  
Tourism  
Committee**

Date: June 5, 2013      Start Time: About 6:00 p.m.      Adjourn Time: About 7:12 p.m.

Chairman James F. Maloney called the meeting to order and took attendance.

[audio recording]

The May 1, 2013, and May 7, 2013, meetings minutes were approved.

[This LWV observer joined the meeting at 6:35 following the Legislative Programs committee meeting, after all proposed resolutions were approved.]

James Taylor, Taylor Recycling, made a presentation of the Taylor process (similar to the presentation a year or so ago to the RRA/EET, and reported in the Commentator observer notes) and he discussed the status of the project. Several important funding and operational objectives are to be reached in the next few weeks.

Vic Melville, LWV Observer Corp, 7/16/13

**Legislative  
Programs,  
Education &  
Community  
Services  
Committee**

Date: June 5, 2013      Start Time: 5:03 p.m.      Adjourn Time: 6:12 p.m.

Chairman Wayne Harris called the meeting to order, attendance taken and the meeting minutes from May 8, 2013, were approved.

American Legion Representatives, John Nielson, Tillson and Carl DiLorenzo, Highland, and members of other posts briefed the committee on a monument movement and cemetery issues of veterans and their families. Deputy County Executive Ken Crannell has been working with representatives on the issues and funding, and the committee expressed its support. The new Veterans Home on Wurts St. in Kingston is moving forward.

Mark Komdat, Ulster County Community College Dean briefed the committee UCCC budget outlook and the public hearing next week. The sale of the President's home is complete and a resolution is needed to move funds. The move to the Sophie Finn facility is expected in the summer of 2014.

The proposed Resolution No. 166 approving UCCC budget for the year 2013-2014 will be held until the committee meets next week.

All other proposed resolutions were approved.

Lydia Reidy, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension Ulster County, reviewed their current activities and programs: The activities include celebrating the 100 years anniversary of the extension on June 1. They are working on a consolidated funding application with March Gallagher, UC Planning, Deputy Director of Economic Development. They are working with UC Planning on Lower Esopus water issues. The back office consolidation effort in the HV Region is continuing.

Vic Melville, LWV Observer Corp, 7/16/13

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

Date: June 17, 2013      Start Time: 6:00 p.m.      Adjourn Time: 6:58 p.m.

Chairman Kevin Roberts called the meeting to order.

[audio recording]

Chairman Roberts recognized Mr. Benjamin of Saugerties for comment on Resolution No. 156, support the Two Row Wampum Renewal Campaign. The committee expressed its support. Mr. Benjamin will have a book published on the Hudson Valley.

A proposed Resolution No. 155 setting a public hearing on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2013 to establish certain consumer protection practices in Ulster County was tabled pending work on the language.

Proposed LATE Resolution No. 178 regarding capital project renovation of Sophie Finn and re-location of various county departments: The county is the lead on the environmental permits and there was a discussion of responsibility for any issues, such as a leaky underground tank.

Proposed LATE Resolution No. 180 urging the New York State Legislature to act upon and approve a Home Rule request regarding authorizing Ulster County to continue the additional 1% rate of its sales and compensating use tax or two more years. Approved following a strong objection by Majority Leader Ken

Ronk of state legislative bills proposed by Assemblyman Kevin Cahill.

All other proposed resolutions were approved.

Vic Melville, LWV Observer Corp, 7/16/13

**Ulster County  
Legislature:  
Environmental  
Energy &  
Technology  
Committee**

Date: June 6, 2013

Start Time: 5:50 p.m.

Adjourn Time: 8:10 p.m.

[audio recording]

Chairman Carl Belfiglio, called the meeting to order and took attendance. The meeting minutes of May 2, 2013, were approved, as amended.

Two proposed resolutions and a New Business item related to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency were the main topics of discussion:

Resolution No. 86 requesting the introduction of legislation to amend Article 13-G of the Public Authorities Law relating to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency was discussed including oversight provisions and proposed amendments. Voted to move forward.

Resolution No. 174 establishing a special committee to negotiate with the Resource Recovery Agency (RRA) to consider a potential amendment to their operating agreement with the County of Ulster was postponed to the next meeting following extension discussion on representation and voting rights, contractual topics and financial items. Legislature legal counsel is to work on some issues. Discussions are being held with the RRA Board. Future actions of the committee are pending the outcomes of these items.

Under New Business a proposed RRA's special committee to investigate final disposal options for the county's solid waste system was discussed. A letter from the RRA was discussed regarding the special committee. Legislators Tracey Bartles and Carl Belfiglio would represent the committee. Related to this topic, the committee discussed (briefly) landfills, regionalization, and the Solid Waste Management Plan. Legislator Bartles mentioned the LWV Solid Waste Committee and the interests of the LWV.

Under Old Business the Climate Smart Committee the committee discussed representation and communications with the towns.

All other proposed resolutions were approved.

[The audio recordings will provide greater detail.]

Vic Melville, LWV Observer Corp, 7/16/13

**Legislative Health  
and Personnel  
Committee**

The UC Legislative Health and Personnel Committee was convened on 6-3-13 at 5:59 by Chairman Legislator Robert Aiello and adjourned at 6:12.

Present: Aiello, Provenzano, Ronk, Belfiglio; Absent: Parete, Robert

Others: DCE Ken Crannell, Budget Director JJ Hanson, UC Comptroller Elliott Auerbach, Krista Barringer, Dept. Clerk UC Legislaure, Erica Guerin, Attorney

Following the call to order, the minutes of the April 29, 2013 meeting were approved. Under Old Business the Personnel Report was distributed to committee members. The report includes listing of new hires and those who have been separated from county service, as well as any transfers and reassignments. No names are used, identification is by position number.

There were four resolutions. Two dealt with confirming appointment of two people to the Community Services Board: Mary Netter and Suzanne Palmer. The Community Service Board had requested that both be appointed to the Mental Health Subcommittee of the Community Service Board. Both resolutions were passed.

The third resolution( a memorializing resolution) dealt with support to NYS A05174/SO3478(sponsored locally by Assemblyman Cahill and Senator Gibson) that Health Insurance Companies be required to provide coverage for long term medical care for Lyme disease and toher related tick borne related pathogens and to establish educational measures including a tick borne illness research, detection and education fund. Passed

The fourth resolution dealt with the county accepting additional funding (\$5,000) which is to be provided by NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors for the UC Department of Mental Health to continue participation in the System of Care initiative; as well as to amend the county budget to show the additional income to the mental health portion of the county budget. Passed

The last item of business to be addressed by the committee dealt with a review of an amendment to an

agreement between Health Research, Inc. and the UC Department of Health. This agreement refers to "Public Health Emergency Preparation Program." The amendment to this agreement extends the end date of the contract to June 30, 2017; indicates that the total cost of the contract will be \$592,925; and that the maximum reimbursable amount will be \$177,877. The amendment was agreed to by the committee.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

**Board of Health**

The meeting of the UC Board of Health was convened at 6:40 on 6-10-13 by Chairman, Dr. Tack and adjourned at 7:07.

Present: Tack, Graham, Hilderbrandt, Delma, Woodley; Absent: Kelly

Others: Dr. Carol Smith, Commissioner of Health, Dr. Heller, Medical Examiner, Nereida Veytia, Deputy/Patient Services Director; Shelley Mertens, Environmental Health Director, Katrina Kouhout, Secretary to the Commissioner

The first order of business was the approval of the May, 2013 minutes. Following that the group considered the topic of financial disclosures, which refers to members of the board only.

The next item on the agenda was the Commissioner's report: She noted that the Community Health Assessment Stakeholders meeting was held May 21; about 90 people attended; very pleased with the attendance. Reviewing the plan that CRREO of SUNY, New Paltz has developed and which is due to the state in November, 2013.

The fee schedules that the DOH uses locally are being evaluated; the local DOH is acquiring information from other DOHs statewide to eventually determine possible appropriate changes that the UCDOH would charge for various items, i.e., inspections, permits, etc. Dr. Smith indicated that the current permit/service fees chart (which was distributed at the meeting) is being examined.

Dr. Smith noted in the course of her report that DOHs are considering accreditation, which, while worthwhile, is an involved process and costly. Local costs are not off-set by state funds. More information on this topic will be provided at the next meeting.

A further item of comment dealt with the update of the local Sanitary Code. For the next meeting there will be more information on this as presently the state is still reviewing.

The Medical Examiner, Dr. Heller, reported as follows: 22 calls received, 1 site visit, 7 autopsies, 1 suicide, no motor vehicle or homicides.

Deputy Veytia reported on the measles alert and the flu update: Locally, the concern is that summer camps are opening and many participants are from New York City and surrounding counties which is where there has been a report of more than 30 cases of measles in New York City. A public health alert regarding this is being sent out. Additionally, the UCDOH is also issuing a health advisory regarding avian influenza. As of June 3, 2013, the Chinese health officials reported more than 130 cases. At this time no cases of this infection, H7N9, has been detected in the US. In either of these situations any concerns that arise should be directed to the UCDOH.

Under the Environmental Health Report: UCDOH continues to work on the various aspects associated with mass gatherings: water, bathrooms, food permit fees, inspection fees, protocols, what documentation would be accepted by UCDOH.

It was noted that the city of Kingston has awarded the contract to cover the Washington Avenue sewer by pass to Alternative Technology.

Amy McCracken was formally introduced as the new Deputy Commissioner of UCMH as of June 15, 2013.

The decision was made by the board that it would not meet during the month of July.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

**UC Association of  
Town Supervisors  
and Mayors**

The meeting of the UC T/Supervisors and Mayors was convened at 8:44 by Chairman T/Rochester Supervisor Carl Chipman on June 18, 2013 and adjourned at 9:58.

Present: Rochester, Marbletown, Plattekill, T/Kingston Representative Dennis Weiss, Hurley, Olive, Hardenburgh, Wawarsing, Saugerties, Village of Ellenville.

Mr. Chipman noted that he had received calls from several individuals indicating that they would be unable to attend due to other commitments requiring their attention.



Mr. Hein and Mrs. Bernardo did not attend the meeting.

Following the call to order the first item on the agenda was therefore a presentation by Melissa Everett of Sustainable Hudson Valley. Ms. Everett indicated that the group she represented emphasized that energy and saving money were of main importance. The group arose in Westchester County, called Energize Program involving 14 towns. Further, apparently all that is good from the state, i.e., social marketing, encouraging people to have assessments done as well as up-grades is positive and helps to create jobs.

For those homeowners who do engage in this process, a procedure apparently exists that allows the homeowner to take out a loan, have the upgrade done and repay the loan through ones property tax. Apparently the concepts emphasized by this group have begun to catch on at least to increase the involvement of people to do these things, both home-owners and business can utilize these methods. In addition jobs have been created-home energy assessors. A suggestion from the group was that it should get the county involved. Ms. Everett pointed out that any town could pass a resolution to involve itself in this work. Then it could show the county how well things had gone. She suggested that it was possible that home-owners could conceivably save about \$2,000 per year. NYSERTA has a program-green jobs. Rupco is also apparently involved in this program. Apparently this group takes the position that it wants to make involving one in such as easy as possible to arrange to do the assessments and prospective financial support/pay back and save money for those who participate. The group seeks to encourage such programs so that such can show savings as well as preserving resources.

Following Ms. Everett's presentation Mayor Kaplan of the Village of Ellenville, explained a problem that the village was having. Apparently there is property that is not being cared for the way that it should be by whoever owns it. The surrounding properties appear to be okay. The town has taken to mowing the overgrown area; but there is also flooding involved. He wanted to have a resolution to be able to have someone to call so either the village or the town could find whoever to call so the problems can be taken care of the landlord or the owners. Other members indicated that this is a problem elsewhere as well, not just with single family homes, but apartment housing as well. Further, the observation was made that in some instances the banks do not know who owns the property.

A resolution to ask the county to look in to this matter was agreed to.

The group then engaged in a discussion on public safety specificall as to recommendations and needs at the local level in public places. Mr. Chipman is to make a presentation on things like after school programs for children, recognizing domestic abuse, how are these matters handled with regards to having security personnel present.

Mr. Chipman noted that he has been given 5 minutes to speak at the county Legislative Ways and Means Committee on 6-18-2013 asking it to approve the 2nd and 3rd aspects of the financial takeover by the county of Safety Net Program costs. Mr. Carlsen agreed to attend and join him in this procedure.

Resolution 196 will also be addressed....it deals with forming a commission to discuss sustainable law enforcement. This is on the agenda of the County Legislature 6-18-2013. Mr. Chipman indicated that when he asked about the town supervisors being on the commission he was told it would be considered after the commission had been established and met. Apparently he interpreted this to mean that down the road there would be a county wide police force administered by the county and cost for such would be charged back to the towns. The group then decided to form its own committee to study the sustainability of law enforcement and invite the county, the sheriff, the president of the police chief's association, etc. to participate.

Under other concerns: the point raised was that having the reservoir filled at 100% v. 85% has created flooding for some due to the recent heavy consistent rains. Apparently Congressman Gibson's area includes the water shed; he has created a group to deal with the matter.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Mr. Leifeld, the Treasurer reported that the balance was the same as last months.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp.