



Commentator

JUNE-JULY 2014

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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2014		CALENDAR
June		
3	Tues. 7:15 PM	LWV MHR Board Meeting , home of Shirley Kobran, 53 Schuler Lane, Lake Katrine, 845-382-6989
6	Fri. 10 AM	Shared Services Study Committee , home of Ellie Charwat, 7 Creek Bend Rd, Poughkeepsie. Call 462-701 for directions.
6	Fri. 10:45 AM	Naturalization Ceremony , at the Ulster County Courthouse, 285 Wall St, Kingston, NY 12401. Contact Jean McGarry, 336-6622 / jfmcg@hvc.rr.com for more information and to volunteer. (Or just show up!).
6-10		LWVUS 51st CONVENTION - Dallas, Texas Anne Needham and Dare Thompson attending from LWVMHR
8	Thurs. 2 PM	Resource Development Committee Meeting. Home of Margaret Sellers, 80 Ringtop Rd, Kingston. Confirm date, time, location: 339-3180 or 340-2003
10	Tues. 5:30 PM	LWV Materials Management (Solid Waste) Study Committee , Gateway Diner Rt 9W just north of the Mid-Hudson Bridge, Highland. For info or to confirm: Cindy Lanzetta, 845-236-7288 or packback56@yahoo.com
16	Mon. 8:30 - 9 AM	Listen to LWV members on Kingston Community Radio on WGHQ, AM 920. Go to www.mykcr.org to listen to it on your computer. Call 845-331-1004 to ask a question or make a comment. We are guests every 3 rd Monday of the month from 8:30 – 9 pm. State Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk is usually on during the half hour before us.

PREZ SEZ...

At our Annual Meeting on May 22 we elected two people to be co-presidents, and your next Prez Sez, now Co-Prez Sez!, will be from Jolanda Jansen of Poughkeepsie, who is serving with me. Jolanda is a talented engineer and attorney, and she's a committed environmentalist and she has served this past year as our VP. It will be a pleasure and a huge help to work even more closely with her.

I'm writing this column this time so I can thank Jean McGarry and Irene McInnis who are going off the board this year. Both women have been serving on the board so long I'm not entirely sure how many years it's been and it is really hard to imagine the board without them.

Jean served as president before me and has since been serving as secretary. Her minutes are always quickly and carefully done, as you might guess they'd be from someone who as president knew how important minutes are. But Jean has been much more than secretary and, among other things, she has helped in a major way with voter service and is dedicated to having a helpful League presence at the Ulster naturalization events in Kingston.

Irene has been a faithful member of the Resource Development Committee and could be depended on for so much work related to our programs, from arranging the location and food for meetings, and putting up signs to guide people in, to being chief organizer of our 50th Anniversary celebration a few years ago.

The new board will be meeting soon to figure out how to redistribute the work. Jean and Irene have left two big holes to fill! We all thank them for their many years of devoted and capable service and hope they won't wander too far from the League. It will always be a joy to see them.

Dave

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

**MEMBERSHIP
NEWS****ANNUAL MEETING
May 22, 2014
at the New Paltz
Community Center**

Snow caused us to cancel an appearance by the Ulster Election Commissioners this past winter but the threat and reality (!) of hail and other bad weather didn't stop us this time, and both Tom Turco (R) and Vic Work (D) shared their wisdom with us - this time with Election Commissioners from Dutchess County as well.

We thank Tom, Vic, Marco Caviglia (D - Dutchess) and Chris Baiano (R - Dutchess, Deputy Commissioner) for a very interesting kick-off to our Annual Meeting. They gave us helpful insights into primary dates, early voting, absentee voting, "third" party endorsements, how various parties get on the ballot and why they appear in the order they do, why NY makes it hard for people to change parties or vote in a primary of a party they don't belong to (something allowed in other states), their insights into what we would call "dirty tricks," and much more.



Jean McGarry, Tom Kadgen, Jacki Moriarty, Ethan Hunt, & Bob Winrow



Vic, Tom, & Marco

This was a great preparation for our participation in the state study on Ballot Access, and we encourage all members to consider joining a study that is so fundamental to the work we do. Watch for details in the next Commentator.

Following this, we enjoyed a light supper and began our Annual Meeting which included committee reports, a budget presentation, and the election of board members. Lee Ridgway put together a folder containing all this information and soon you can access it on our website (at http://lwvmidhudson.org/Committees.html#Annual_Meetings) or contact us to get one mailed to you.

The budget was in the April Commentator but in the absence of Budget Committee chair, Margaret Sellers, our Treasurer Dorothy Winrow made it all very understandable in a lively presentation featuring M & Ms! She promised she'd share the candy as soon as the budget passed, and it passed quickly and with enthusiasm.

The elections created more discussion since we are trying a new structure for the first time - having Co-Presidents - with Dare Thompson (Marlboro) sharing this new role with Jolanda Jansen (Poughkeepsie). Dare explained that she had talked with both state and national LWV officials (one being the parliamentarian for the last two state conventions) and it truly is permissible to violate the by-laws for a year while we try a new management structure as explained in the LWVUS publication, "ABCs of a Streamlined League."

To reinforce the need to change the by-laws at the next Annual Meeting, a resolution was passed stating what we were doing and our plan to make a by-laws change (if still needed) next May. Dare and Jolanda were then elected, followed by Anne Needham (City of Kingston) as Vice President, who would fill in for Jolanda for the rest of her VP term.

Irene McInnis (Town of Kingston), who the Nominating Committee had asked to be Secretary, has decided she cannot fill that position and withdrew from the slate. Soyal Smalls (Poughkeepsie) was nominated from the floor and elected.

Dorothy Winrow (Hurley) is continuing for the second year of her term as Treasurer.

Cindy Lanzetta (Marlboro), Margaret Sellers (City of Kingston), and Esther Stickley (Hurley) were then elected as Directors for two years. Shirley Kobran (Lake Katrine) and Lee Ridgway (City of Kingston) are continuing for the second years of their terms.

Jean and Jim McGarry (Ruby) and Jacki Moriarty (Hurley) were elected as members of the Nominating Committee. At their first meeting in June, the new board will appoint two board members to serve with them.

Thanks to the many League members who worked on various aspects of this meeting, to the speakers, and to Irene McGinnis and Jean McGarry who are leaving the board and have served so long and so well.

And congratulations to Jolanda Jansen, Anne Needham, and Soyal Smalls for their new jobs on the board!

VOTER SERVICE

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.

Ethan Hunt Participates in Students Inside Albany

Our League recently sent Ethan Hunt, a sophomore at Kingston HS, to the remarkable LWVNYS three-day Students Inside Albany program where he was one of 60 students, mostly juniors and seniors, eager to learn how their state government works. I was one of six LWV chaperones.

Like other students before him, Ethan found it "an excellent experience!" He was grateful for the Sunday night speakers whom he felt really set the stage for the two and a half days that followed. First a lively local social studies teacher explained the structure of state government and how it's both similar to and different from federal and local government. Then our long-time state League lobbyist, Barbara Bartoletti, gave a humorous and honest introduction to lobbying.



**Barbara Bartoletti gives
Ethan certificate**

The next morning the students heard from two state Assembly members, Patricia Fahy and Pete Lopez, and from Robert Freeman, head of the Committee on Open Government. Somehow they also managed to get a tour of the Capitol. Then that afternoon, they each were assigned to an Assembly member to "shadow."

Ethan described his Assemblyman, Kevin Cahill, as "very polite and kind - he took time to ask me questions." He was also excited that they got to do a press interview which you can see at <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Kevin-A-Cahill/>. Ethan had the good luck to attend a Ways and Means Committee meeting just before Assembly session and then sat on the Assembly floor and saw bills get passed. Besides explaining what the bills were about, Assemblyman Cahill showed him the writing that his staff was doing and how he would edit it to make it sound more like his voice.

That night after hearing from journalists Casey Seiler (Albany Times Union) and Jimmy Vielkind (Capital New York), everyone went bowling. The manager turned on the disco lights and music and between games, the students danced, sometimes all in a line.

The next day they heard from two citizen activists how regular citizens can affect legislation. During one session one of our students explained how he worked with other students across the state to get education funding increased - impressive!



**Alexandra Peterson, Ethan
Hunt, & Ally Peterson**

That afternoon students visited the Court of Appeals and then shadowed Senators. They again got to sit on the floor and watch the action, which was pretty dull until all the controversial bills came up just as the students had to leave! Ethan shadowed Sen. Gipson from Dutchess, and also got included in a picture with Sen. Tkaczyk and other students from her district (as he is). Sen. Gipson was very busy, first in a party conference, and then with other business, but Ethan found his staff to be very accommodating.

The students rushed back to the hotel to get changed for a supper boat ride on the Hudson, which Ethan said was fun and a good way to relax and socialize. The next morning the whole event wrapped up with a Q & A with Barb Bartoletti about all the things the students had seen and done. After picture-taking, hugs, and lunch, the students headed home and the chaperones (including me) collapsed. What a great and exhausting experience it was!

One fun fact, we had three students named Peterson and two of them were also named Alexandra (one of them, "Ally," from Saugerties)! What are the odds?!

Dare Thompson

ULSTER COUNTY OBSERVER CORP

Audio recordings, addenda and minutes of Legislative Committee meetings can be found at <http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/legislature/committeesinfo/index.html>

BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR OBSERVER CORPS

Get to know your local government in a personal way! Strengthen local democracy by adding "sunlight" to the legislative process and publishing what you observe in our Commentator! While county meetings are our priority, you may observe your town or city board meetings if you prefer. *We will guide you, so you do not need to be an expert to get started.*

Call Margaret Sellers at 339-3180 with your questions.

**Energy and
Environment
Committee**

May 13, 2014, 6:31 – 8:28 PM

Committee Members:

Tracey A. Bartels, Chairman, Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Deputy Chairman, Manna Jo Greene, Richard A. Parete, Mary Wawro

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bartles, approval of April 8, 2014 meeting minutes.

RRA Report: Tim Rose, Executive Director, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency. Mr. Rose briefly discussed agreements with the towns, the expected bids for contracted with the landfills and for the trucking, and tipping fees. The committee discussed these topics and others including flexibility of the town contracts, funding options, flow control of recyclables, single-stream, dual-stream, composting options. A cost/benefit of a MIRF upgrade to single-stream is being considered. Problems with single-stream have been reported. Possible educational trips to regional landfills are being considered. Legislator Ken Wishnick, not a member of the committee, participated in the discussion.

Proposed Energy/Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy and Overall Environmental Issues: Amanda LaValle, Dept of Environment. Ms. LaValle discussed their coordinating model of operation. She reviewed the: Guide – a reference and compendium of projects, Climate Smart Communities, and a Vehicle acquisition program (a working session is proposed).

Resolutions for May 20, 2014:

1. Motion: Resolution No. 151 - Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (Landi)

Approved. Majority Leader Ken Ronk voted against, alleging the process is faulted.

2. Motion: Resolution No. 152 - Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (Gordon)

Approved. Majority Leader Ken Ronk voted against, alleging the process is faulted.

3. Motion: Resolution No. 160 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2014 (A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 2 Of 2006 (A Local Law Adopting A County Charter Form Of Government For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York) And Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008 (A Local Law Adopting An Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York), To Update The Term Of Membership To The Environmental Management Council) To Be Held On Tuesday, June 17, 2014 At 7:05 PM

Approved.

4. Motion: Resolution No. 166 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster

County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Department Of State For Funding To Conduct A Brownfield Opportunity Area Study, Step 1 – Amending The 2014 - 2019 Capital Program And Establishing Capital Project No. 409 - Brownfield Opportunity Area Study - Department Of Planning

Approved, following comments by Dennis Doyle, Director, Department of Planning, this is a planning grant, the first stage of the effort, due about September 2015.

5. Motion: Resolution No. 183 - Urging The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation (DEC) To Take Immediate Action To Ensure The Safety Of Communities

Along The Routes Of Crude Oil Shipments And Address Potential Impacts Of A Crude Oil Spill In The Hudson River Affecting Ulster County Shoreline Property, Environmental Resources And Drinking Water

Approved.

6. Motion: Resolution No. 184 - Urging the Federal Department Of Transportation, Through The Federal Railroad Administration And The Pipeline And Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, To Immediately Issue New Rules Regarding The Transporting Of Crude Oil And Ensure An Immediate, Open, Public Process For Updating Regional Train Safety, Spill Response, Rail Operations, And Public Notification Plans For All Energy By Rail Transportation

Approved.

Old Business:

1. Appointments (Status):
 - a. Climate Smart Committee
Continuing effort.
2. Energy Improvement Corporation (Update)
The committee has some concerns.
3. Oil Shipment Safety Public Forum (Update)

Kate Hudson, representing Riverkeeper, is expected to address the Ulster County Legislature next week at the regular monthly session and announcement of a public forum on May 27.

LWV Observer: Vic Melville, 5/23/14

**Economic
Development,
Tourism, Housing,
Planning & Transit
Committee**

May 6, 2014, 6:36 – 7:25 PM

Committee Members:

Thomas J. Briggs, Chairman, James F. Maloney, Deputy Chairman, Chris Allen, Lynn Archer, Herbert Litts, III, Mary Beth Maio, Hector S. Rodriguez

Meeting called to order by Chairman Briggs, and approval of April 1, 2014 meeting minutes.

Resolutions for May 20, 2014:

1. Resolution No. 153 - Re-Establishing The Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee – Ulster County Legislature
Approved, as amended.

2. Resolution No. 162 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Gioia P. Ambrette Inc. d/b/a New Castle Communications – Department Of Information Services

Tabled, for information from IT and placed on the agenda of Special Meeting.

3. Resolution No. 163 - Appropriating Funds From An Insurance Recovery For The Repair Of An Ulster County Area Transit Bus - Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Public Transportation (UCAT)

Approved.

4. Resolution No. 164 - Appointing Member To The Ulster County Planning Board - Town Of Denning
Approved.

5. Resolution No. 165 - Authorizing The Ulster County Executive To Execute A Contract With The New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation Represented By The Office Of Community Renewal, For Federal Funding For The Implementation Of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget - Department Of Planning
Approved.

6. Resolution No. 166 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Department Of State For Funding To Conduct A Brownfield Opportunity Area Study, Step 1 – Amending The 2014 - 2019 Capital Program And Establishing Capital Project No. 409 - Brownfield Opportunity Area Study - Department Of Planning
Approved.

7. Resolution No. 174 - Establishing Capital Project No. 413 Voice Over IP Phone System Implementation – Department Of Information Services
Tabled, for information from IT and placed on the agenda of Special Meeting.

8. Resolution No. 182 - Setting A Public Hearing As Required Under Article 25AA Of The Agriculture And Markets Law, On The Addition Of Lands To Agricultural Districts, To Be Held On June 17, 2014 At 7:15 PM And Providing Direct Notice To Affected Municipalities – Department Of Planning
Approved, following a brief discussion.

New Business:

Legislator Lynn Archer commented on rail trails – planning board invited to June meeting.

Legislator David Donaldson commented on sessions planned on releases to the Lower Esopus.

Old Business:

Legislators Hector Rodriguez and Thomas Briggs commented on IDA appointment process, resumes, and prepared interview questions in anticipation board selection. The full board is up Oct. 31.

Vic Melville, LWV Observer, 5-23-14

Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee

May 7, 2014, 5:37 – 7:23 PM

Committee Members:

David B. Donaldson, Chairman, Mary Wawro, Deputy Chairman, Lynn Archer, Donald J. Gregorius, Craig V. Lopez

Other Attendees: Kenneth Crannell, UC Deputy County Executive; Don Katt, President, UCCC; Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration, UCCC; Lee Reidy, Executive Director Cornell Cooperative Extension and CCEUC staff

Meeting called to order by Chairman Donaldson, and approval of Minutes of April 2, 2014.

Agenda:

Veteran - Harold Rosenkranse addressed the committee beginning with an announcement to honor former legislator Wayne Harris for his efforts to help veterans and to place a memorial. Mr. Rosenkranse wants information on Mr. Harris for this recognition, Legislator David Donaldson agreed to help this effort.

Ken Crannell, UC Deputy County Executive, complimented Mr. Rosenkranse for

renovating and fundraising for the Veterans Home, followed by compliments of Mr. Donaldson. Next month's committee meeting or at a special meeting will feature the renovations. A ribbon cutting is planned of July 2.

Ulster County Community College – Don Katt, President, and Mark Komdat, Dean of Administration, discussed the budget process and items including a tuition increase, enrollment, charge backs for students attending colleges outside the county. Legislator Donaldson discussed reasons for increasing the contribution from the county. The regular budget process for a proposed increase can be made by resolution. Mr. Crannell said the county cannot raise taxes.

Resolutions for May 20, 2014 Session:

1. Resolution No. 154 – Confirming Appointment Of Member To The Ulster County Community College Board Of Trustees

Approved.

2. Resolution No. 155 – Confirming Re-Appointment Of Member To The Ulster County Community College Board Of Trustees

Approved.

3. Resolution No. 156 – Confirming The Appointment Of Kelly McMullen As Director Of The Office For The Aging

Approved.

4. Resolution No. 167 – Approving The New York State Office Of Children And Family Services 2014 Resource Allocation Plan – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget – Youth Bureau

Approved.

5. Resolution No. 168 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature And The Ulster County Executive To Enter Into A Contract Of Sale With The Kingston City School District For The Purchase Of The Sophie Finn Elementary School And Accompanying Real Estate – Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

Approved.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County – Lee Reidy, Exec. Director introduced four members of the CCEUC staff to present overviews of their programs: Liz Higgins – Agriculture & Horticulture, Melinda Herzog – Healthy Communities, Leslie Zucker – Ashokan Watershed Steam Management Program, Melanie Forstrom – 4-H Youth Development. These are integrated programs. Mr. Donaldson asked about exercise instruction markings on trails.

The NYC Watershed Flood Hazard Mitigation Program was discussed.

A legislative representative is needed for the CCEUC board.

New Business: Legislator Don Gregorius commented on the Woodstock Women's Road Race.

LWV Observer, Vic Melville, 5-23-14

UC Legislative Public Health and Social Services Committee

The Committee was convened by Chairman, Legislator Lopez at 6:04 PM on May 5, 2014 and adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Present: Lopez, Provenzano, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Nettie Tomshaw, Committee Clerk

Others Present: David Scarpino, President & CEO Health Alliance, Thomas Kadgen, LWV, Erica Guerin, Minority Legislative Counsel, Stephen Rice, Chairman Trails Committee

Following the call to order and approval of the minutes for March 31, 2014, Chairman Lopez introduced Tom Kadgen to make the first presentation.

Mr. Kadgen indicated that the presentation entitled Safe-to-Talk was developed as a result of his attendance with the Public Safety Committee (it did not involve the League of Women Voters which was suggested as the agenda had indicated his association with the LWV).

The program he referenced and was recommending the committee support deals with the problems of bullying in schools, as well as intimidation, sexual predators, etc. The program is designed to provide a safe atmosphere for those individuals who are aware of such problems to be able to advise/tell the proper authorities what they believe to be occurring, and do it anonymously.

Further, Mr. Kadgen recommended that the committee ask the County Executive to look into this program, Safe-to-Talk. Apparently UC Mental Health Association has indicated it would be interested but would want more specifics on what it would be getting involved in.

Safe-to-Talk and Tip Line are two programs that offer such methods to deal with these problems. While it appears that these programs are currently geared to matters occurring in schools, it eventually could be used for general public safety as well.

The second presentation was made by David Scarpino, the President & CEO of the Health Alliance that involves the hospitals, formerly known as the Kingston & Benedictine Hospitals, located in Kingston. Mr. Scarpino has held his present position for about 9 months, but has been with Health Alliance for 8 years as Chief Financial Officer. He noted that at this time the Health Alliance is the largest employer in Ulster County.

Some of the more specific comments that Mr. Scarpino noted:

- quality of the 2 campuses at a high level (has been recognized accordingly);
- patient experience and satisfaction: the local facilities are looking/working to improve; the hospitals have found that people who care for others need to show that they genuinely care for the people they are assigned to;
- need to have a single campus: working with the NYS DOH, which wants there to be a hospital in Kingston, to reach that point;
- there is a need for a partner and the local group is looking for one with a larger system; talks are apparently going well;
- there is a need for collaboration among the parties involved: he mentioned Ellenville Hospital and the Family Health Institute;
- to reduce costs there is a need to keep people out of hospitals and to keep people healthy; he noted that the hospital is penalized if a patient, having been discharged after heart attack or pneumonia, is readmitted within 30 days;
- to do that must monitor individuals with various problems through care coordination, as well as to the necessary data to do such monitoring, i.e., electronic data system;
- the behavioral health component is apparently the most difficult to deal with;
- an important question to consider is how small with the hospital has to be in 5 years: recognizes the need to have appropriate high level of care, with better outcomes and at a lower cost;
- there was comment on an ongoing effort to arrange a better rate of reimbursement for Ulster County, more like what Dutchess County presently receives.

An examination of the brochure that Mr. Scarpino distributed, titled Enhanced Regional Planning Approach, would appear to support the points that had made with regards to the future of health care regionally:

- as to a more balanced system of healthcare with respects to the quality and

cost, the delivery, the outcomes and patient satisfaction;

- anticipation that in the next 10 years the number of insured will rise as the number of seniors retire;

- keeping people healthy and out of hospital by developing a health system partner and collaboration with related personnel, i.e., physicians and other non-hospital providers;

- by providing such, costs will go down, services will be convenient and accessible, quality of such and performance will be improved.

The third and final presentation was made by Stephen Rice, Chairman of the UC Trails Advisory Committee.

Mr. Rice provided a 6 page report for the year 2013 as well as a map. The report provided background information on the 5 year old committee with emphasis on the year 2013. The map of Ulster County show existing trails, future trails, parks, forest, water bodies, and other related entities.

The legislative committee then voted to pass Resolution #153 which re-establishes the UC Trails Advisory Committee.

Resolution #161 dealing with a contract, which will involve more than \$50,000 with Independent Home Care and the DSS, was passed. Costs are 50% Federal, 50% State.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp

UC Association of Town Supervisors and Mayors

The UC Association of Town Supervisors and Mayors May 20, 2014 meeting was convened at 8:37 by President Chipman, T/Rochester Supervisor and adjourned at 10:05.

Following the call to order the first order of business was a commentary with County Executive Michael Hein.

Initially Mr. Hein noted that the county is working with local chambers of commerce and the financial institutions (7) who are headquartered in Ulster County as well as those outside Ulster County with regards to the importance of buying local. So far 6 of the 7 have agreed with the concept and the means to show such. The example is a debit card which would have UC Advantage imprinted on it. Additionally, the chambers have agreed to put up signs noting this so that it will help everyone. Veterans will receive cards as well. Mr. Hein indicated that it would take 90-120 days to "roll this procedure out." It will benefit everyone to shop local.

He congratulated the T/Rosendale on the agreement that the town had developed with the developer of the Williams Lake project located in the T/Rosendale.

Note: Prior to Mr. Hein's arrival T/Rosendale Supervisor Walsh had noted to the group that an agreement had been reached between T/Rosendale and the Williams Lake developer to procure/fill labor/construction jobs and other related buying locally.

Supervisor Quigley noted that UC had outsourced its Workers Compensation process (he likes what he sees), but it is a major expense for the towns. He asked if there is a plan to reduce the premium costs to the towns. Mr. Hein responded that the towns should act in the best interests of those it represents. The county will continue to examine how to bring costs down, that the process had been done in the best interests of the county /towns.

There was commentary regarding how this process would work with the governor's projected plan. It appears that this will require further discussion due to the complexity of the matters involved. A joint meeting will be set in the next few weeks.

Question on the Lower Esopus led to suggestion by Mr. Hein that he will call a meeting within about a week to have groups involved to meet and discuss this matter.

As to the question on the present status of the Nevele and possible selection as a site for a casino, Mr. Hein stated that he is comfortable with the legislation as written;

it was designed to help upstate counties to have viable business in their areas. However, it is not good to have upstate and downstate designations. It was suggested that if a casino is created in Woodbury a barrier would be created and everything would stop there.

Note: a meeting was scheduled for 10:30 in Ellenville on May 20 for discussion on the Nevele project (Mr. Hein and Mr. Diestal both left to attend).

The next person to address the supervisors was John Parete, Chairman of the UC Legislature.

He asked if there were any questions on any of the resolutions presently before the county legislature. There were none.

Other items that were noted:

-the costs associated with elections is a county obligation which may be passed on to the towns which he does not agree with;

Apparently at the time that the HAVA Act was passed the federal government provided states and counties with considerable money to purchase the voting machines (one million dollars was the figure mentioned locally, but not how it was distributed.

-the concern about the heroin problem was mentioned; how difficult it has become; apparently, based on comments made, it has become difficult to discuss openly; and

-how/what responders to accidents and possible injuries can do in order to assist those involved prior to the arrival of EMTs appeared to be a concern based on how much training, if any such individuals needed by law prior to actually doing anything. Another point of concern was whether individuals so engaged had to be paid, were paid already, etc.

Alan Heyman SML Group who was scheduled to attend and speak on Cyber Security did not attend.

There was comment made on some of the concerns involving shared services and the consolidation of such services. A committee apparently will be considered.

There was commentary regarding the matter of Time Warner and the contract with ComCast. Apparently this has not yet been signed off on. Additionally, there was commentary on how much of the area in some parts of Ulster County is actually covered for cable TV, telephone, cell phones. Apparently there is not as much of these areas in some parts of the county that are adequately covered.

The April minutes were approved. There was no vote on the treasurer's report. This will be covered at the June meeting. It was noted that dues for the towns for 2014 had been previously waived.

Lee Cane, Observer Corp