

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, EFFICIENCY & SAVINGS**

joint with COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 12:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

GOES Committee Members Present: Hon. Michael B. Kaplowitz, Chair; Legislators Alfreda Williams, Lyndon Williams, Judy Myers, Bernice Spreckman, Ken Jenkins.

LEG Committee Members Present: Hon. Marty Rogowsky, Chair (for John Nonna); Legislators Alfreda Williams, Judy Myers, Ken Jenkins.

In Attendance: BOL: Tara Bernard; CEO: Katy Delgado; BOE: Commissioners LaFayette and Sunderland; OTHERS: LWV Members: Barbara Strauss, Rosemary Mac Laughlin, Adelaide DiGiorgi, Janet Zagoria.

With a quorum present, the GOES Committee was called to order at 12:05 pm.

With a quorum present, the LEG Committee was called to order at 1:15 pm.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

GOES ONLY:

• **DISCUSSION OF 'PART B' OF THE NYS JOINT LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE**

Board of Elections Commissioners Reggie Lafayette and Carolee Sunderland presented the GOES Committee members with their points of view regarding the following three relative items included in the Committee's draft 'Part B' of the State Package:

- ***The possibility of the Westchester County Board of Elections to merge any election district with 50 or fewer voters into an existing election district;***

The Commissioners stated that they have already started looking into this issue, but they didn't think the law would allow its passage until after the completion of both the Census and Redistricting. Both Commissioners agreed that the State Legislature should remove the word "contiguous". They also encouraged the use of the "meets and bounds" process.

- ***Providing early voting for a candidate in a general election no sooner than twenty days and no later than five days prior to election day for the County Board of Elections;***

The Commissioners clarified that this was NOT the same as absentee ballots. They also stated that there are only a couple of places that have this program (Las Vegas and Oregon), and they feel it is, among other things, too costly.

- ***Having the State Board of Elections obtain residential data on incarcerated persons to be used for creating federal, state and county legislative districts;***

The Commissioners did not recommend this proposal.

JOINT WITH LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:

- **HON. KEN JENKINS AND HON. MICHAEL B. KAPLOWITZ: Government Operations Business Advisory Committee:** Forwarding a memorandum calling for the development of a Government Operations Business Advisory Committee. **LEG/GOES – 2/22/10**

Legislator Jenkins spoke on behalf of this proposal, citing a need to partner with the business community to understand their experiences and identify their needs, and vice-versa. He particularly highlighted the fact that this was very different than the County Executive's Economic Development Advisory Council, and the members agreed. Legislator Jenkins likened the anticipated creation and guidelines of the GOES Business Advisory Committee (BAC) to that of the Budget & Appropriations Committee's Citizens Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC). The GOES and LEG Committee members praised the idea and wanted to start the process immediately.

Therefore, for GOES, a motion was made to create the BAC by Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator L. Williams, and approved 6-0.

For LEG, a motion was made to create the BAC by Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Myers, and approved 4-0.

It was agreed the County Attorney's Office would provide in the coming days a Resolution creating the BAC, which the Committees would pass and sign out.

There was no further business before the Committees.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Jenkins, the GOES Committee adjourned at 1:25 pm.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator A. Williams, the LEG Committee adjourned at 1:25 pm.