

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

MINUTES: August 10, 2009

MEMBERS (E&E): Chair: Abinanti; Legislators: Harckham, Kaplowitz, Myers, Oros

IN ATTENDANCE: STAFF: C. Crane; GUESTS: A. Neuman, C. Hyde (CEO); H. Beber, L. Kerr (NYC Mayor's Office, by telephone); M. Wilson, B. Hagen, S. Eskow

Meeting called to order at 3:45 pm.

Item(s) Discussed: **Green Buildings Legislation**

Chair Abinanti renewed discussion of green buildings policy and legislation for county facilities. At its July 20 meeting, the Committee had discussed with New York City Council (NYCC) staff several current proposals before the Council on "greening" buildings. In continuation of this discussion, the Committee commenced a conference call with Hilary Beber and Laurie Kerr of the New York City Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability.

Before speaking with Ms. Beber and Ms. Kerr, Chair Abinanti recognized attendees Ms. Wilson, Ms. Hagen, and Ms. Eskow, who explained their current pursuit of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accreditation with the US Green Buildings Council. Chair Abinanti expressed interest in possible county certification or licensing of green building professionals to protect consumers and ensure quality services.

Ms. Beber and Ms. Kerr then described the four legislations sponsored by the Mayor's Office and under review by NYCC: Int. No. 476-A, Benchmarking Energy and Water Use; Int. No. 564-A, NYC Energy Conservation Code; Int. No. 973, Required Upgrade of Lighting Systems; and Int. No. 967, Audits, Retro-Commissioning and Retrofits of Building Systems. In most cases, the legislations target existing private sector and public sector buildings, rather than new buildings.

Chair Abinanti adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

[audio recording of the meeting is on file]