

EDUCATION, CULTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009

The Education, Culture & Recreation Committee of the Broome County Legislature met on Monday, April 6, 2009 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: S. Buchta (Chair), W. Howard, B. Klipsch, R. Materese, S. Messina

Members Absent: None

Others Present: P. Brennan, Co. Exec's Office; M. Kalka, Budget; D. Bradstreet, M. Hanbury, Cornell Cooperative Extension; J. Marinich, J. Hutchings, R. Keibel, M. Diffendorf, G. LaBare, M. Whalen, E. Denk, C. Marion, C. Hall, Legislature

The Committee meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 4:31 pm. Ms. Buchta introduced Mr. Bradstreet, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County, who was invited to speak regarding their capital campaign project. Mr. Bradstreet provided the committee with the 2007 Annual Report and went over some history of Cornell Cooperative Extension. He stated that the County contributes about 31% of their operating budget which is matched by a calculated formula for State and Federal funds. He also discussed some of the education programs that they offer.

Mr. Bradstreet provided the committee with information and plans on the "Come Grow With Us" five million capital campaign (on file with the minutes). The project includes plans for renovation of the existing building which includes dedicated space for the USDA, a community kitchen, a demo lab, a print shop and bathrooms on the first floor. The second floor renovations would include offices and meeting rooms. The plans also include the construction of a new two story wing which would include an auditorium, resource center and computer lab. The project will be done in three phases, with the first phase to start this summer.

Mr. Hutchings questioned why the plans weren't done by a local architect and mentioned that the committee is committed to using local workers. Mr. Bradstreet stated that a local firm was initially selected but the plans were not satisfactory. Mr. Howard noted that if public funds are used for the campaign, CCE would have to follow the public bidding process.

Mr. Materese asked about Broome Community College possibly providing revenue to Cornell Cooperative Extension. With construction planned at the college there will be classes displaced and BCC might be able to utilize space that is part of the CCE expansion project.

Mr. Klipsch asked if there is a master plan for projects at Broome County parks. He was directed to contact the Commissioner of Parks, Ed Hart.

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, Mr. Klipsch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Messina. The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.