



## Committee on Intergovernmental Services

~MINUTES~

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

4:00 PM

Committee Chair: Terry A. Clements

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

### CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Terry A. Clements	Chair	Present	
Catherine Borgia	D9 Legislator	Absent	
Kitley Covill	D2 Legislator	Present	
Catherine Parker	D7 Legislator	Absent	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: BOL: Dayana Gómez, Milagros Gutierrez and Carolyn Stevens

### MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 4:00 PM

**On motion of Legislator Covill seconded by Legislator Boykin the minutes were approved 3-0.**

2. Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 4:00 PM

**On motion of Chair Clements seconded by Legislator Covill the minutes were approved 3-0.**

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Organizational Meeting for the 2020-2021 Legislative Term:

Setting a Meeting Quorum to 2

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Boykin the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

Setting a Voting Quorum to 2

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Boykin the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

Chair Clements selected Legislator Catherine Borgia as Vice Chair for the committee,

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Boykin the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

Set the meeting days and times to Tuesdays at 4:00pm and then proceeded to approve the minutes.

Chair Clements also mentioned that the committee will be discussing many topics and in particular a countywide agenda for safety in Westchester along with public safety.

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Covill seconded by Legislator Boykin the Committee adjourned at 4:15pm.



## Committee on Intergovernmental Services

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

4:00 PM

Committee Chair: Terry A. Clements

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

### CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Chair Clements called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Terry A. Clements	D11 Legislator	Present	
Catherine Borgia	D9 Legislator	Absent	
Kitley Covill	D2 Legislator	Present	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Absent	
Catherine Parker	D7 Legislator (Majority Leader)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Absent	

Others In Attendance: BOL: Legislator Christopher Johnson, Legislator Nancy Barr, Chris Crane, Intern for Legislator Tubiolo Jessica Costello GUESTS: Sgt. Amery Bernhardt, WCPD; Chief Inspector Chrisotpher Calabrese, WCPD

### MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 4:00 PM
2. Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 4:00 PM

**On motion of Legislator Covill seconded by Legislator Parker the minutes were approved 3 - 0.**

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chair Clements invited The Westchester County Department of Public Safety to join the Committee to discuss School Safety and the RAVE/TAP Panic Button App. Sgt. Amery Bernhardt and Chief Christopher Calabrese introduced themselves and discussed the TAP App. It is being utilized by the county, DSS is using the app. It is an emergency notifications system to be departmental. It works in silo areas in the area. Depending on the level of emergency it would notify the local police department and/or county police department. It is free to Westchester County and other municipalities in Westchester, other entities will have to pay for the system. Having everyone use this app would be beneficial to the county as the county police would be plugged in to respond to emergencies and it would be free. RAVE is a system notification system and costs approximately \$3400 per year for a specific entity or location, it is not free for the county. Chair Clements mentioned the Suffolk County is currently using this system. Comparing both applications to see if the county would like use this system to have this shared service at no cost. Sgt. Bernhardt displayed the feature of the TAP app to the legislators. Chair Clements discussed briefly the SRO program in schools

and asked about the past meeting with the DA office, Chief Calabrese explained that the SRO program is the County police function, Sgt. Berhardt is on the safety committee and attends the meetings. Legislator Parker asked when the TAP app was established, Chief Calabrese said it was about a year ago. Sending out information to make the TAP application better known is a recommendation. Chair Clements reviewed the School Safety brochure the committee has been working on and discussed possibly adding the TAP app information on the brochure. The brochure is being translated into Spanish as well. Distributing to Neighbors Link would be beneficial. Legislator Parker asked if all SRO's have annual or semi annual meetings. Chief Calabrese mentioned that it is not currently being done, but is a great idea. The department has concluded two webinars with the BOCES program. Having better communication to the police department would benefit by enrolling in the TAP application, 911 is still the primary to contact the police. Legislator Covill asked what the webinars covered, Sgt. Bernhardt mentioned a few covered procedures that were reviewed. These webinars help empower the SRO's to build a team with in the school to respond effectively reviewing all aspect of the emergency, mental health counseling and getting the children back to their parents. Legislator Clements asked about public push back from the school community of the SRO in schools. Chief Calabrese mentioned he has not had any push back from the communities they are currently servicing. It's community policing in schools. Legislator Covill asked if the SRO profiles illegal people or gangs, she referred to an article in a Huntington paper. Chief Calabrese explained that the status of a student is of no concern, they are there to build relationships, if the matter involves members of gangs it would be addressed and intervention would take place. Legislator Barr mentioned the school administration uses their discretion, if a police officer is present they would enforce the law. The DARE program had police officers in schools and reaffirmed that SRO do have discretion in the incidents occurred in schools. The first SRO was established in 1950 in Michigan. Chief Calabrese will send a pricing outline on the TAP app.

## II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

## III. RECEIVE & FILE

### 1. **(ID # 11295) Communication – HON. CATHERINE BORGIA: Report - 2018 NYSAC Fall Seminar Resolutions:**

Forwarding the New York State Association of Counties Report entitled, "2018 NYSAC Fall Seminar Resolutions."

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>RECEIVED AND FILED</b>
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### 2. **(ID # 11296) Communication – LEGISLATORS PARKER, CLEMENTS AND MAHER: Correspondence - New Rochelle Board of Ed. Resolution:**

Forwarding City School District of New Rochelle Resolution No. 19-174: Advocating for Fair Regulations and Equitable and Principled Interpretation of Federal Tax Law that Recognizes and Rewards the Value of Contributions in Support of Public Education.

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

**RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED**

**3. (ID # 11377) Communication – LEGISLATORS BORGIA, SHIMSKY, BOYKIN, JOHNSON, A. WILLIAMS, L. WILLIAMS AND PARKER: Memo of Leg. - Proposed Local Law to establish the Right to Recount:**

Forwarding a Memorandum of Legislation proposing a Local Law to establish the right to recount votes cast through automatic manual re-canvassing procedures for elections held in Westchester County.

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

**RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED**

**4. (ID # 11400) Communication – LEGISLATORS BORGIA, BARR, MAHER AND PARKER: Green Light NY: Driving Together Fact Sheet:**

Forwarding a fact sheet entitled, "Green Light NY: Driving Together."

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

**RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED**

**5. (ID # 11419) Communication – LEGISLATORS SHIMSKY, PARKER AND BARR: Daily Gazelle Article - Editorial "A Raw Deal for all New Yorkers":**

Forwarding an editorial from the *Daily Gazette* entitled, "A Raw Deal for all New Yorkers."

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

**6. (ID # 11457) Communication – HON. DAMON R. MAHER: Daily Freeman Article - "Ulster County's New Family Court called 'a model' that others could follow":**

Forwarding a *Daily Freeman* article entitled, "Ulster County's new Family Court called 'a model' that others in NY could follow."

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

**RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED**

**7. (ID # 11458) Communication – HON. DAMON R. MAHER: NY Equity Coalition Report - NYS's Education System Suspension Crisis:**

Forwarding a report from The New York Equity Coalition and the Press Release from The Education Trust - New York on the NYS's education system suspension crisis.

With a motion by Legislator Covill and seconded by Legislator Parker the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jan 22, 2019 4:00 PM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

**RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED**

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Parker seconded by Legislator Covill the Committee adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jan 22, 2019 4:00 PM (MINUTES APPROVAL)



Committee on Intergovernmental Services

**DRAFT**

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

4:00 PM

Committee Chair: Terry A. Clements

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Chair Clements called the meeting to order at 4:16pm.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Terry A. Clements	D11 Legislator	Present	
Catherine Borgia	D9 Legislator	Present	
Kitley Covill	D2 Legislator	Absent	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Absent	
Catherine Parker	D7 Legislator (Majority Leader)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Remote	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: BOL: MaryJane Shimsy, Nancy Barr, Dayana Gómez, Yolanda Valencia, Tat'yana Martinez, Brandon Lloyd, Christopher Crane GUESTS: Karin Anderson, Vanessa Merton, Esmeralda Hoscoy

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

1. Monday, June 24, 2019 at 1:01 PM

**On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Parker the minutes were approved 4 - 0.**

**I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Guests:

Karin Anderson Ponzer, Director of Legal Services at Neighbors Link

Vanessa H. Merton, Professor at Elisabeth Haub School of Law

Esmeralda Hoscoy, Regional Director of Catholic Charities

Discussion on fraudulent immigration attorneys

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 24, 2019 4:00 PM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

Chair Clements opened the meeting and invited the guest speakers to introduce themselves and discuss fraudulent immigration attorneys.

Chair Clements explained how the topic came to be and asked what could be done to remedy this issue. Ms. Merton clarified that although there currently is no system to navigate this issue there are many scenarios where fraudulent immigration attorneys take advantage of those that seek their expertise. She also referenced an article from the New York Law Journal stating that the New York State Bar Association is calling for New York State to become the first state to guarantee a right to council in immigration proceedings and she feels that this will make progress with this opportunity.

Ms. Hoscoy emphasized part of the issue is people pretending they are attorneys in and of itself which in turn grossly affects the client's case and elaborated on Mr. Cedillo's case in Yonkers and other statistics.

Ms. Anderson mentioned that in Manhattan the District attorney is involved in prosecuting these crimes as a suggestion. Legislator Borgia asked if Consumer Affairs is a viable solution to which Ms. Merton referenced a handout with all of the resources provided by Consumer Affairs. Ms. Hoscoy advised to put those details on County sites for public access.

211 is another source of information for constituents, however services vary by zip codes and usually reference the nearest organizations. On a local level, it was suggested to gather data of reports and concerns to then develop an initiative from that. There was another suggestion made to have all people who offer immigration services be certified by state and local governments to ensure proper vetting of the individual and also if one participates in the investigation of a crime, that they should be able to apply for legal status. There was a suggestion made to draft a resolution for State Legislators leading to a solution and/or to speak with providers regarding next steps.

Legislator Barr asked if there is a list of attorneys that people can be referred to, which all guests said there are lists available. Ms. Merton suggested "reputable individuals" who are people who are not lawyers but can help with immigration paperwork such as rabbis, priests, etc. along with a training institute to help them understand the documents.

Ms. Hoscoy said Catholic Charities has pro bono legal funding for non-immigration attorneys who want to do legal immigration pro bono. They go through extensive training and offer a space to meet with clients as well.

Legislator Borgia suggested putting together a list of the small groups throughout the County that do this work because it could be helpful to disseminate that information.



To view this meeting in its entirety, click on the link below:

[https://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=1&clip\\_id=53](https://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=53)

## II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

## III. RECEIVE & FILE

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Parker seconded by Legislator Borgia the Committee adjourned at 5:05pm.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 24, 2019 4:00 PM (MINUTES APPROVAL)