

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Held In Room 318**  
**PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**  
**CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Members: Chairwoman Nacerino, Legislators Castellano & DiCarlo**

**Tuesday** **6:30 P.M.** **February 12, 2013**  
**(Immediately Followed by the Health Committee Meeting)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairwoman Nacerino who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Castellano, DiCarlo, and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

**Item #3) Approval of Minutes – November 15, 2012**  
**December 12, 2012**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Item #4) Approval/Appointment/Region 3 Fish & Wildlife Management Board/Keith**

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

**Item #5) Discussion/Listing of Legislature on County Website**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that there was an email sent from Mr. Steven Unger, Chairman of the Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities to Legislator Oliverio on December 17, 2012 in regards to the Legislature's placement on the County website. She read into the record the referenced email:

"Hi Sam,

Saw your letter re legislature in local paper.

Re this, a small but not insignificant matter:

The legislature should not be listed on the County website as a "department" of County gov't (as its now listed) but as a separate branch of gov't. Departments of the County government are executive functions subject to the administration of the County Executive; the Legislature, as you say, is a separate, independent, co-equal branch. Website should not promote and foster confusion."

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that she acknowledged what Mr. Unger said as well as what Legislator Oliverio stated though she did not have the opportunity to read Legislator Oliverio's letter in the paper. With that said, it prompted her to see how the

neighboring counties put the Legislature on their websites. She further stated that Westchester County has a picture of the County Executive on the home page and the side bars have the Office of the County Executive and a tab for Elected Officials which includes the Legislature, County Clerk, District Attorney, and Municipalities and a tab for Departments. Dutchess County has a picture of the County Executive on their homepage and at the top has tabs that say County Government and in this tab are County Executive, County Legislature, County Fees and under Departments they repeat that and have County Executive, County Legislature, County Clerk, District Attorney, and Sheriff. Orange County has a picture of the County Executive on its homepage and a separate tab for the County Legislature. Under the Departments are County Executive, District Attorney, County Clerk, and Sheriff. Rockland County has a picture of the County Executive on the homepage and a tab for County Officials including County Executive, County Legislature, District Attorney, County Clerk, and Sheriff. Under Departments they repeat and have County Executive, County Legislature, District Attorney, County Clerk, and Sheriff. It appears that most counties have two tabs such as we do so we are not quite out of the box however she stated that she does agree with Legislator Oliverio and Mr. Unger that Legislature should have equal credence on our website and if feasible it should be changed.

Legislator Oliverio stated that he has no problem with the County Executive having a paramount on the website but the Legislature also should have simply a tab with Legislature so when our constituents click on it, it shows the nine legislators, our calendar, and our agendas, those are the biggest things. He stated he has received calls from constituents asking where and why our location on the webpage is where it is.

Chairwoman Nacerino agreed and stated that she would like to see our website mirror Orange County, it is user friendly and we want to make it as easy as possible for our constituents to navigate.

Legislator Oliverio agreed.

Legislator Gross stated it used to be that way and it was changed. He agrees with Legislator Oliverio and Chairwoman Nacerino.

Legislator LoBue stated she agrees with what has been said. The website is mainly for the public to find information. When she went on the website today it was confusing, it seemed like the latest news bites and she really thinks it is confusing. It should be focused on how people can navigate their way through County government. She stated that she has heard from title closers and real estate individuals that critical information is not easily found on our website. She stated that the top of the homepage is quite busy with County Executive tabs that almost seem like advertisements.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that in looking at the neighboring counties we are the only county that does not have a picture of our County Executive on the homepage. With that being said, when you open up the page it seems busy and a little convoluted. It should be simple and accessible.

Legislator LoBue stated she thinks it should be streamlined and simplified.

Chairwoman Nacerino agreed and stated she would contact Director of Information Technology Tom Lannon regarding this issue.

**Item #6) Verbal Update/Proposed Local Law Changes/Trades Laws**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that in January she attended the Home Improvement Board, Plumbing Board, and Electrical Board meetings along with the Director of Consumer Affairs Jean Marie Noel and Deputy County Attorney Danielle Harris. Attending these meetings offered her the opportunity for very valuable insight pertaining to the functions of the Board and the Trades and how they pertain to the proposed local laws. On February 1, 2013, Chairwoman Nacerino had a meeting with Director of Consumer Affairs Jean Marie Noel, Deputy County Attorney Danielle Harris, and Legislative Chairman Richard Othmer to review some of the language in the proposed laws. Deputy County Attorney Harris is working to ensure all of the language of the laws is applicable and consistent and revising the laws to ensure they are appropriate trade by trade, she will be at the March Rules meeting to present the proposed laws to us.

**Item #7) Verbal Update/Proposed Local Law/Cell Phone & Electronic Device Usage & Safety Policy**

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that at the Year End Meeting on December 27, 2012 the Legislature tabled back to the Rules Committee the proposed Local Law for Cell Phone and Electronic Device Usage and Safety Policy. Upon Chairwoman Nacerino's review of said policy she submitted questions that she had for the Law Department. Deputy County Attorney Jonathan Engel will attend the March Rules Meeting to address our questions and concerns.

**Item #8) FYI/Annual Reports/County Clerk, DMV, & Records Center** was duly noted.

**Item #9) FYI/Annual Report/Board of Elections** was duly noted.

There being no further business, at 6:40 P.M., Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Krista M. Butler, Administrative Assistant.