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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RICHARD NICOLELLO,
Presiding Officer

MINORITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STEVEN RHOADS,
Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 5, 2018
2:43 P.M.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S :3 STEVEN RHOADS ,
4 Chairman5 ROSEMARIE WALKER
6 Vice-Chairwoman

7 JAMES KENNEDY

8 DENISE FORD

9 SIELA A. BYNOE
10 Ranking

11 KEVAN ABRAHAMS

12 DEBRA MULE

13 MICHAEL C. PULITZER,
14 Clerk of the Legislature

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1 Minority Affairs/1-5-18

2 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: At this time I
3 will call the Minority Affairs Committee to
4 order. I will act as the clerk and call the
5 roll. Legislator Bynoe?

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

7 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Legislator
8 Abrahams?

9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

10 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Legislator
11 Mule?

12 LEGISLATOR MULE: Here.

13 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: And Legislator
14 Mule, welcome. Legislator Ford?

15 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

16 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Legislator
17 Kennedy?

18 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

19 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Legislator
20 Walker?

21 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

22 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: And I am
23 present. We have a quorum. We have two
24 items on the agenda. They are Procedural
25 Resolutions Number 1 and Number 2.

1 Minority Affairs/1-5-18

2 Procedural Resolution 2-2018 is a
3 resolution to adopt the proposed rules of
4 procedure of the Minority Affairs Committee
5 pursuant to the rules of procedure of the
6 Nassau County Legislature.

7 Procedural Resolution 1-2018 is a
8 resolution to adopt a proposed statement of
9 purpose for the Minority Affairs Committee
10 pursuant to the rules of procedure of the
11 Nassau County Legislature.

12 May I have a motion on both of
13 these items?

14 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

15 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Second.

16 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Moved by
17 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator
18 Kennedy. These two items are before us. Is
19 there any debate or discussion on these two
20 items?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 Is there any public comment? Ms.
23 Mereday.

24 MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday,
25 Baldwin resident.

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2 I do want to welcome my
3 legislator, Legislator Mule, definitely
4 welcome. And, Legislator Rhoads, I
5 definitely look forward to working with you
6 and your committee in regard to this.

7 I would ask that in this
8 particular aspect that there is a review of
9 the actual statement of purpose so that it
10 gets a little more teeth to it as it
11 pertains to establishing some true
12 benchmarks and some end of year
13 documentation that kind of proves that the
14 actual process is working.

15 To date, I don't feel that we
16 have really put together any documentation
17 that supports the true nature of the
18 inclusion process. I think that would be a
19 helpful item for whoever is selected as the
20 Inspector General because the whole purpose
21 of not just the contract review to ensure
22 that there is no corruption and patronage
23 and things of that nature is that there is
24 inclusion of minority women, veterans, LGBT,
25 and, to date, we do not have those

1 Minority Affairs/1-5-18

2 benchmarks in place in Nassau County and
3 unfortunately that makes us vulnerable to
4 prosecution and, as we all know, we do have
5 some significant legal fees already, let's
6 try to work proactively so we can save the
7 taxpayers money at least in that regard. So
8 that would be my suggestion with this.

9 I welcome again any ideas and
10 look forward to working with all those who
11 are on this committee. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: We appreciate
13 your comments, Ms. Mereday. Thank you.

14 Do we have any further comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 We'll take a vote, all those in
17 favor of adopting the rules please signify
18 so by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 Those opposed say nay.

21 (No verbal response.)

22 The items pass unanimously.

23 There being no other business in
24 front of this committee, I'll entertain a
25 motion to adjourn.

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2 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

3 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN RHOADS: Moved by
5 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator
6 Kennedy. All those in favor of adjournment
7 signify so by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 Those opposed say nay.

10 (No verbal response.)

11 We stand adjourned.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The next
13 committee is Planning, Development and the
14 Environment. The Chair is Legislator Laura
15 Schaefer.

16 (Whereupon, the Minority Affairs
17 Committee adjourned at 2:46 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and
Notary Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby stated:

THAT I attended at the time and place
above mentioned and took stenographic record
of the proceedings in the above-entitled
matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true
and accurate transcript of the same and the
whole thereof, according to the best of my
ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 19th day of January, 2018.

FRANK GRAY