

Racing and Gaming Committee Minutes  
August 5, 2015 - 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lunde; Supervisors Martin, Lawler, Wright and Veitch; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Todd Shimkus, Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce; Concerned Citizens of Saratoga; Press.

Chairman Lunde called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Lawler the minutes of the May 6, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Shimkus said Concerned Citizens of Saratoga was an organization that the Chamber of Commerce put together in 2000 when many in the industry and local citizens were concerned about things that were happening with the future of thoroughbred racing in New York. He said the Concerned Citizens of Saratoga has tried to bring people together to come up with what is the best position to take.

Mr. Shimkus said Concerned Citizens of Saratoga came together in March, shortly after they had a chance to value the impact that the extension of the temporary board for NYRA was in the budget and going to go through. He said the committee got together and felt that it was in the best interest of Saratoga that the temporary board, three year period, and promise to the community be kept to a one year maximum extension.

Mr. Shimkus said a letter from a great bi-partisan coalition of, not only local legislators, but key legislators from both the Senate and Assembly for Racing and Wagering, have asked the Governor to move forward and keep the promise to reprivatize NYRA as a Not-for-Profit Corporation.

Mr. Shimkus requested support from the Committee for a resolution revitalizing NYRA as a Not-For-Profit Corporation.

**A motion was made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Wright to adopt a resolution that is substantially similar to the resolution that was adopted by the Concerned Citizens for Saratoga Racing on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and provided to the Governor to reprivatize NYRA as a Not-for-Profit Corporation. Unanimous.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Lawler the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom