

Racing Committee Minutes
December 10, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Collyer; Supervisors Barrett, A. Johnson, Veitch, Southworth and Yepsen; Todd Shimkus, Saratoga Springs Chamber; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the April 12, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Collyer said since our last meeting the advisory committee has met on various occasions to formulate the resolution that is before the committee today. Additional committee meetings were not held during the summer, because like others we all wanted to see what the Governor was going to do with NYRA and who was going to be appointed to the NYRA Board. The Advisory Committee consisting of Ms. Yepsen, Ms. Southworth, Mr. Moore and Mr. Collyer did, however, contact various individuals to seek their input regarding the future expansions of the Saratoga Casino and Raceway. Hopefully Saratoga will be one of the seven locations that the Governor will designate. As residents and Supervisors of Saratoga County I am sure that we are all aware of what the racing industry has met to Saratoga County and to the City of Saratoga Springs during the past 149 years and next year will be 150th year in which there will be a celebration. Racing has sustained business in Saratoga Springs year round with income and during the summer months it has increased levels with sales tax, rental income, jobs, sales of products, tourism, services and other benefits to the county.

Mr. Collyer requested approval of the resolution as outlined.

A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Barrett to approve the Racing Resolution as presented. Unanimous.

Mr. Shimkus gave a brief update on the 150th anniversary celebration for the Saratoga Racetrack as follows: He said there is a great website Saratoga150.com which includes an events page where all the official events will be posted that will begin in May through September. He said the goal is to get 150 events that will be designated for the celebration. The events don't just involve the track, but includes all the museums and SPAC and is a countywide effort with lots of not for profits who are going to be planning their fundraising activities to fit within the 150th.

Mr. Collyer gave a special thank you to Mr. Moore for all his hard work on the Racing Resolution and support to the Racing Committee.

On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Barrett the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Sansom