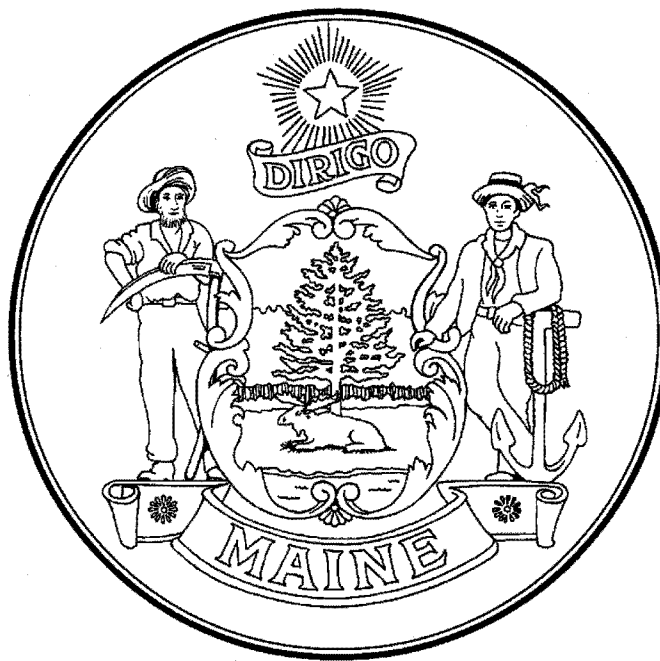


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. JANE A. AMERO
SEN. ANNE M. RAND
SEN. R. LEO KIEFFER
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REP. JAMES O. DONNELLY
REP. MICHAEL V. SAXL
REP. RICHARD H. CAMPBELL

SARAH C. TUBBESING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

118th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

July 14, 1997

Approved August 22, 1997

CALL TO ORDER

The Council Chair, Speaker Mitchell, called the Council to order at 10:45 a.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	President Lawrence, Sen. Pingree, Sen. Amero, Sen. Rand, Sen. Kieffer
Representatives:	Speaker Mitchell, Rep. Campbell Absent: Rep. Kontos, Rep. Donnelly, Rep. Saxl
Legislative Officers:	Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director, Legislative Council Jim Clair, Deputy Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review Peggy Reinsch, Principal Attorney, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House Millicent MacFarland, Assistant Clerk of the House

SUMMARY OF JUNE 16 COUNCIL MEETING

Motion: That the Meeting Summary be approved as written and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. President Lawrence; second by Sen. Pingree; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing presented the following items for the Council's consideration:

Item #1: Recommendation to Hire Clifton Graves to Fill Position of Internet/Intranet Administrator

Ms. Tubbesing deferred to Paul Mayotte, who provided Council members with a brief overview of the screening process that he had employed: candidates' technical skills and specific Internet experience were evaluated carefully, and the finalists were interviewed by several of the key Web page "customers" within the Legislature. Mr. Mayotte reported that, based on this evaluation process, he had recommended to Ms. Tubbesing that Clifton Graves be offered the position.

This item did not require formal Council action.

Item #2: Prequalification of Contractors for State House Work

Ms. Tubbesing presented a brief progress report on the selection of contractors, noting that she was working with the Bureau of General Services, as had been done in past years, to structure the process for prequalifying contractors. The prequalification process is designed to ensure that firms who do work in the State House have prior experience working in buildings on the National Register of Historic Landmarks, have managed projects of comparable scope and have the resources necessary to complete the work on schedule. She reported that two of the six firms who submitted qualification statements had met the prequalification requirements: Granger Northern, Inc. and Ledgewood, Inc., both firms based in Portland. She concluded by saying that these two firms have now been given the bid package, which includes the full specifications for the work, as well as detailed drawings, and that the bid opening had been set for August 5.

Rep. Campbell questioned whether Granger Northern was actually a Maine company, and Ms. Tubbesing agreed to get additional information to confirm this.

The item did not require formal Council action.

Item #3: FY 97 Budget: Preliminary Report on Final Balances

Ms. Tubbesing very briefly reported that, with the close of Fiscal Year 1997, she and Rose Breton had begun analyzing the final balances in all of the accounts assigned to the Legislature and that they would present a detailed report at the August Council meeting.

The item did not require Council action.

Item #4: Legislative Study Commissions: Status Report

Ms. Tubbesing again shared preliminary information, stating that the Legislature had created 25 study commissions that required staffing through the Council. She noted that the late June final adjournment date had the effect of pushing the deadline for appointments to many of these Commissions into early to mid October.

This item did not require Council action.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES**CSG/ERC '97 Legislative Steering Committee**

Senator Amero, Steering Committee Co-Chair, reported that the Conference program was now complete and that it included several "high-powered" nationally-recognized speakers, in addition to a healthy representation of Maine legislators and executive department officials. Speaker Mitchell asked all members of the Council to commit to making their staff available to support Maine's extensive hosting effort, noting that the success of the Conference would rely heavily on a strong team effort.

Committee on Legislative Information Technology

Senator Pingree, Committee Co-Chair, reported that the Committee was meeting following the Council meeting and that she would report on its progress in August.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS**Item #1: Request from Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government regarding Construction of a Playground in Capitol Park**

Sally Tubbesing drew members' attention to the memo from the Chairs of the State and Local Government Committee and reported that she and Earle Shettleworth were prepared to schedule a meeting of the State House and Capitol Park Commission as soon as the appointments to that Commission are complete.

Speaker Mitchell stated that she had reservations about the State and Local Government Committee's request to refer the issue to the State House Commission and that she wanted her reservations to be communicated to the Commission, as part of the referral of the item. In response to Senator Rand's question about who would make the final recommendation

regarding a playground, Ms. Tubbesing answered that the State House Commission is advisory to the Council and would make its recommendation to the Council. In the continuing discussion, Council members raised the following questions:

- Would the State House Commission generally hold a public hearing on a topic like this? (Sen. Rand)

Ms. Tubbesing responded that the Commission was generally committed to drawing together all interested parties, viewing this as critical to developing a sound recommendation to present to the Council.

- Is there a shortage of playgrounds in Augusta? (Sen. Amero)

Both Clerk of the House Joe Mayo and Margaret Matheson responded, as residents of Augusta, that "there are several beautiful ones in the area."

- Are there any community-funded pressure-treated playgrounds in Augusta? (Rep. Campbell)

Speaker Mitchell responded that almost every Augusta neighborhood has one.

Motion: That the item be referred to the State House and Capitol Park Commission. (Motion by Senate President Lawrence; second by Sen. Pingree).

Amendment to Motion: Sen. Amero asked that the motion be amended to add a third criterion -- need -- to the two that had been included in the letter from the State & Local Government Commission. Rep. Campbell seconded this, and Senate President Lawrence accepted the amendment to his motion.

The vote on the motion as amended was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m., on the motion of Senate President Lawrence.