

March 13, 2003

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT
COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 2

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT LEGISLATOR FISHER.

1. RESOLVED, that the following items are hereby received and filed.

Item Page -2002 (Comm. 11D-9)
a. **ECC:** Institutional Assessment Final Official Report 5/23/02.
(4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

Item Page -2002 (Comm. 11E-5)
b. **CUSACK:** Letter to ECC Re: Institutional Autonomy.
(4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

Item Page -2002 (Comm. 16D-9)
c. **ECC:** Draft Agreement Between County Executive, Legislature & Board of Trustees of ECC
for Operation & Administration of ECC.
(4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

Item Page -2002 (Comm. 20E-11)
d. **COMPTROLLER:** ECC Institutional Autonomy.
(4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

Item Page -2003 (Comm. 5E-6)
e. **COMPTROLLER:** ECC –Local Law Authorizing ECC’s Authority & Responsibility for
Performance of its Own Personnel, Payroll & Purchasing.
(4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

2. Item Page -2003 (Comm. 5E-17)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Whereas, the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, Inc. (BECHS) has requested extraordinary funding assistance from Erie County, in the amount of \$70,000, to assist the Society in addressing its substantial fiscal problems that have resulted primarily from the loss of City of Buffalo funding to the Society in 2002, and from impacts resulting from the national economic downturn throughout the last several months, which includes the BECHS not meeting income goals in attendance/admissions, gift shop sales, and corporate foundation giving; and

Whereas, the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, a regional cultural asset located in a nationally renowned National Register listed building, is the caretaker and recorder of Buffalo and Erie County’s written, spoken, pictorial and artifactual history, and the requested extraordinary County funding is essential to the BECHS successfully implementing a long-term fiscal stabilization program which will enable the Historical Society to continue its priority programs for Buffalo and Erie County; and

Whereas, it is important to understand that this funding request to Erie County is being made in addition to other cost savings and revenue producing efforts being undertaken by BECHS staff and its Board of Directors, which include the Society having taken dramatic action at the beginning of 2002 to control costs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into the necessary agreement with the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, Inc., which will enable the County to provide extraordinary funding assistance, in the amount of \$70,000, to the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, as part of the Society's long term fiscal and programming strategy; and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$70,000 is hereby appropriated to address the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society's extraordinary funding needs, the source of funds being unanticipated tobacco residual funds (DAC Code: 110 923310528 0100); and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive, the County Comptroller, the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the Director of the Division of Budget, Management and Finance; and William Siener, Executive Director, Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, 25 Nottingham Court, Buffalo, NY 14216. (4-0) Legislator Fisher absent.

**ELISE M. CUSACK
CHAIRPERSON**