



NYS Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 11, 2023

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

10B Airline Drive, Albany NY 12235, Apple Orchard Empire Conference Room
Shirley A. Chisholm State Office Building, 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn NY
2069 Elm Street, New Woodstock, NY 13122
Crandall Public Library, 251 Glen Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801
Buffalo State University Technology Building Room 303, 1300 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo,
NY 14222
Virtual via WebEx

[WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11, 2023, THE NYS NATURAL FIBER TEXTILE DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP REVIEWED THE PROPOSED EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RESOLUTION. CECILIA TKACYZK, BARTON HILL JACOBS, MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION. MARY JEANNE PACKER, EMPIRE SHEEP PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, SECONDED. THE NATURAL FIBER TEXTILE DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP APPROVED THE RESOLUTION IN A VOTE OF 10 YEAS, 0 NAYS, AND 0 ABSTAINS. THIS DOCUMENT IS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETINGS LAW §103(e)]

1. The NYS Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup was called to order by Chair, Commissioner Richard A. Ball, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
2. Introductions of Workgroup Members, Deputy Commissioner, Nicole LeBlond, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
3. Welcome and Introduction to ESD Programs
Director, Industry Development Allison Stark, *Empire State Development*

Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Members (In Albany)

- Commissioner Richard A. Ball, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (CHAIR)*
- Allison Stark, *Empire State Development (ESD Designee)*
- Cecilia Tkacyzk, *Barton Hill Jacobs*
- Mary Jeanne Packer, *Empire Sheep Producers Association*
- Gail Parrinello, *Hudson Valley Textile Project*
- Rabbit Goody, *Thistle Hill Weavers*
- Mimi Prober, *Mimi Prober Designs*
- Stephen Hadcock, *CCE Livestock Team*

Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Members (In Glens Falls)

- Renee St. Jacques, *NY Farm Bureau*
- Lilly Marsh, *Lilly Marsh Studios*

Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Members (In Buffalo)

- Dr. KeunYoung Oh, *Buffalo State University*



Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Members (In New Woodstock)

- Steve Halton, *CNY Hemp*

NYS Agriculture and Markets Staff

- Nicole Leblond, *Deputy Commissioner*
- Kelly Young, *Director, Agricultural Development*
- Katie Howard, *Special Assistant, Counsel's Office*
- Kathryn Davis, *Program Manager, Agricultural Development*
- Kendall Hough, *Program Manager, Agricultural Development*
- Taylor Goodell, *Food Policy and Outreach Coordinator, Agricultural Development*

Current members of the Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup include:

- Cecilia Tkaczyk, *Barton Hill Jacobs*
- Mary Jeanne Packer, *Empire Sheep Producers Association*
- Gail Parrinello, *Hudson Valley Textile Project*
- Rabbit Goody, *Thistle Hill Weavers*
- Mimi Prober, *Mimi Prober Designs*
- Stephen Hadcock, *CCE Livestock Team*
- Renee St. Jacques, *NY Farm Bureau*
- Lilly Marsh, *Lilly Marsh Studios*
- Dr. KeunYoung Oh, *Buffalo State University*
- Steve Halton, *CNY Hemp*
- Dr. Jeff Silberman, *FIT (Emeritus)*

NATURAL FIBER DEVELOPMENT TEXTILE WORKGROUP

Resolution No. [REDACTED]

WHEREAS, by passing Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022 (“Chapter 56”), the New York State Legislature amended Section 103 of the Open Meetings Law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 56 adds Section 103-a of the Open Meetings Law, permitting the Natural Fiber Development Textile Workgroup to authorize its members to attend meetings by videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(a) requires the Natural Fiber Development Textile Workgroup to adopt a resolution following a public hearing authorizing the limited use of videoconferencing under such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2) allows for hybrid meetings by requiring “that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the public body’s quorum requirement in the same physical location or locations where the public can attend”; and



Agriculture and Markets

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(c) requires that members be physically present at any such meeting “unless such member is unable to be physically present at any such meeting location due to extraordinary circumstances . . . including disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member’s physical attendance at such meeting”; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 103-a(2)(d), any members attending by videoconference must, except during executive session, be “heard, seen and identified, while the meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon”; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(g) requires that any meeting where a member attends by videoconference be recorded, posted to the Natural Fiber Development Textile Workgroup webpage within five business days, and transcribed upon request; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(h) requires that members of the public be permitted to attend and participate, if authorized, in any meeting by videoconference when a member attends by videoconference.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Natural Fiber Development Textile Workgroup authorizes its members who experience an extraordinary circumstance, as described above and further defined by any rules or written procedures later adopted, to attend meetings by videoconference: (i) as long as a quorum of the members attend in-person at one or more locations open to the public; (ii) as long as the member can be seen, heard, and identified while the open portion of the meeting is being conducted; and (iii) as otherwise permitted under Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Natural Fiber Development Textile Workgroup shall create written procedures further governing its use of videoconferencing by its members in compliance with Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022.