

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 2017

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Shay, LaPointe, Campbell, Moore

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Suprenant, Pitts, Fedler
SUPERVISORS:

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, OFA Director

Tina McDougall, Public Health Fiscal Manager

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Claire Murphy, EOC Director

Patty Hunt, Director, Public Health

Mike Gray, Youth Bureau Director

Kathy McIntyre, Deputy Director Public Health

Andy Depalo, Veterans Services Director

Ken Marrwinchell, Deputy Director Veterans

Public

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1) Call to Order

2) Accept Minutes – January 25, 2017

3) Department Reports/Requests:

A. Public Health

1) Discuss Minimum Wage Rule and Early Intervention Aide Rates

2) Miscellaneous

B. Youth Bureau

1) Program Updates

C. Department of Social Services

1) Department Updates

D. OFA/ADRC

1) March 14th Supervisors for Meals

4) Other Business

5) Adjournment

Chairman Shay called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2017 meeting was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Patty Hunt, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Minimum Wage Rule and 3-5 Special Education Program Aide Rates – It has come to their attention in the preschool education program when a child is assigned to an educational placement and the committee at the school district level determines that the child needs an aide, Public Health has a set rate for the aide at \$9.00. She stated the programs have come back to her noting that the rate is below the minimum wage and they are having a problem attracting aides. The County pays the bill and the programs recruit the aides, vet the aides and send them through the State registry process. She is requesting to increase the \$9.00 to the \$9.70 minimum wage in order to attract the aides they need. This is not Medicaid reimbursable but Public Health does get 59.5% back. She stated another option would be to have the rate move with the minimum wage increases. The minimum wage is set to increase December 31, 2017 to \$10.40 and at the end of 2018 to \$11.10. On average, five children a year require an aide. Public Health does not employ the aides but according to State Regulation they pay their wage. A motion to set the rate for an aide for the 3 - 5 Special Education Program to follow the minimum wage increases was moved by Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.

- Miscellaneous:
 - WIC State Conference – A motion to authorize travel/overnight stay for the WIC Coordinator and Nutritionist at the WIC State conference on May 21 - 24 in Rochester at an approximate cost of \$2,000.78 was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.
 - CLIP Committee – May 10th Wellness Fair – Requesting to use some of the CLIP funds to purchase things for the participants. They are looking at T-shirts for attending the event. Permission to spend up to \$4,500 of CLIP funding to purchase materials (T-shirts or some other items) and permission to use the CLIP artwork which includes County logo to be put on the item. A motion to approve use of budgeted CLIP funds and CLIP/County logo for items associated with the Employees Wellness Fair was moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Pitts. Discussion. The Treasurer stated the procurement card is a rewards card and the committee had approved cashing those points in towards CLIP related goods. This year he was able to get a complete yoga kit, traveling gym, 12 piece cutlery set, and a travel mug to give away at the Wellness Fair. Rewards points are being reinvested into the worksite wellness program. This is CLIP funding not general fund monies; it is funding out of the health insurance(Self Insurance) fund and are monies that the employees have paid through their premiums. The Treasurer stated our contributions in have exceeded our claims out so we are reinvesting that money to keep the claims down. The motion to approve use of budgeted CLIP funds and CLIP/County logo for items associated with the Employees Wellness Fair was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Pitts and adopted.

YOUTH BUREAU – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Program Updates:
 - Thanked Supervisors for supporting Winterfest. This event is a collaboration with other County departments. Over 325 attendees at the event. The intention was to keep the park open this week during school vacation but the weather did not cooperate.
 - Conducting a safe sitter program in Cambridge today.
 - Lifeguard training scheduled for April 17 – 21 at the Hudson Falls Middle School. This program is free and the class will fill up quickly, usually a limit of 12, so call the Youth Bureau to register.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Department Updates:
 - Attended NYS Public Welfare Association's winter conference which provided information on the local impact of the proposed Governor's executive budget. She stated between three different initiatives proposed by the Governor, she estimates they would have a \$253,000 impact on the County. This would increase what we already have to pay. She stated there is a lot of advocacy happening and noting that it is very preliminary in the budget process. The County Administrator stated two areas that the Governor is trying to shift costs are Foster Care and Early Intervention. The Commissioner stated the proposal is to cut Foster Care 62 million statewide which equates to a local impact of \$175,000.
 - Submitted code blue during inclement winter weather plan to the State – They have not received approval yet and anticipate hearing within a couple of weeks. This is not an allocation but a request for funding for the 100% share that the State said

- they would pay towards housing people that we would otherwise not house during 32 degree and below weather. This is paying for code blue shelter. The Commissioner stated we did not house very many. They send people to a code blue shelter operated by the Open Door Mission and housed in a Warren County building.
- Teenagers in Foster Care – Speak Out Program. Commissioner DeLorme held an event yesterday that provides an opportunity for teenagers in foster care to speak with people like her that make decisions for them actually hear from them and how those decisions impact them. There were nine attendees ages 14 and up that participated in the event.
 - Asked to attend the Jackson Town Board meeting to answer questions relating to someone seeking to set up a residential treatment center (group home/children in foster care) in the County and they are looking to purchase property in the town of Jackson. The Sheriff has also been asked to attend.

OFA/ADRC – Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, addressed the following item with the committee:

- March 14th Supervisors Participating in Home Delivered Meal Program – Distributed attached letter that details opportunities for Supervisors to participate in the Washington County Home Delivered Meal program on March 14th.

OTHER BUSINESS:

VETERANS SERVICES – Andy DePalo, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Introduced New Part Time Administrative Assistant in the Office – Laura Gillis
- Out of State Travel – Requesting permission for out of state travel to required training for accreditation for the Director and Deputy Director at the Annual National Association of County Veterans Service Officers on June 10 – 17, 17 in San Diego, California. This is a budgeted expense. A motion to approve out of state travel was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.
- Mr. O'Brien attended the recent NYSAC conference and attended a veterans session. They pointed out what good veteran representatives we have here at the County. He recognized the good job our veterans program is doing. There are ±5,900 veterans in Washington County and Andy will provide a breakdown by town.

Claire Murphy, Executive Director EOC – provided an update on the status of the rural impact county challenge. This is the process through NACo that the Board asked EOC to take the lead on, rural poverty initiative. They are working together with a group of county departments, United Way, representatives from the communities of Fort Ann and Greenwich and starting to reach out to other local community groups. Awarded a coach from NACo from the county health rankings network and have begun working with that coach. The purpose of their project is to develop an implementation model for the community outreach centers across the county and the purpose of those outreach centers will be to create accessible, trusted and locally driven locations for people to access services and programs within the county. This is based on the fact we have no public transportation available and limited broadband access. Beginning tomorrow, they are doing their first community information gathering meeting with groups from the Greenwich, Fort Ann and Cambridge areas. They are starting to look at what does it take to create a successful model. Would like to invite the coach to address the Board in June as a further update and talk about the impact they can have on the social detriments of

health and overall county health in general. This is an ongoing process and moving forward on behalf of the County.

Mr. Haff stated he was contacted by Stephanie of FACT Animal Rescue and she would like to set up a spay/neuter clinic for cats in Washington County. He asked if there was a spay/neuter clinic in the County and there is not. Patty Hunt, Public Health Director, stated spay and neuter is not a function of Public Health but rabies clinics are.

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator, stated there is a proposal in the executive budget to change the public health block grant to put all funds into four funds and then cut by 20%. Patty Hunt, Public Health Director, stated she has an association meeting next week and will find out more information.

The meeting adjourned 11:00 A.M.

*Respectfully submitted,
Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors*



**Washington County
Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center**

383 Broadway
Fort Edward, New York 12828

TELEPHONE: (518) 746-2420
FAX: (518) 746-2418 or 746-2571

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell
Executive Director

Dear Supervisor,

It's that time of year again that we invite all of our Washington County Town Supervisors to participate in the Washington County Home Delivered Meal program.

We here at the Aging and Disabilities Resource Center are incredibly proud of the services we provide for the senior citizens of Washington County and our partnership with the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

This year we would like to try something a little different than we have done in years past. We would like to offer all of you the opportunity to see the meal production first hand at the Law Enforcement Center kitchen followed by a ride-along with one of our drivers in your particular town. For those of you that haven't seen the meal production or delivered meals before, we think this will give you a great opportunity to see what we do from start to finish, as well as showcase our relationship with the Sheriff's Office.

We invite you all to join us on Tuesday, March 14th for a "ride-along". The schedule will be as follows;

- 9:15 am - Meet in the lobby at the Washington County Law Enforcement Center.
- 9:15 – 10:00 am - Observe meal production and tour the LEC kitchen.
- 10am – 1:30pm - Ride with delivery driver to resident's homes to deliver meals.
- 1:30pm – Drop off at LEC

If you would like to participate in our "ride-along" please contact Craig Phalen at 518-746-2478 or via e-mail at cphalen@co.washington.ny.us no later than March 6th.

Sincerely,

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell
Executive Director