

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 29, 2009

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: LaPointe, Henke, Brown, Trinkle, Rymph, Banks, N. Hall

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPERVISORS: Wilbur, G. Hall

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Mike Gray, Director Youth Services

Claire Murphy, Director of ADRC/OFA

Kevin Hayes, County Administration

Natalie Williams, Workforce/EOC

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Rob York, Director Mental Health

Karen Baker, DSS

Sam Hall, Director Veterans

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Minutes – March 25, 2009
- 3) Department Reports/Requests:
  - A) Mental Health
    - 1) Council for Prevention Presentation
    - 2) Request for Proclamation for Mental Health Month – May 2009
    - 3) County Mental Hygiene Cost Comparison Data Update
  - B) Social Services
    - 1) Resolution on Intensive Case Services Funding
    - 2) Program & Budget Updates
  - C) Youth Bureau
    - 1) Agency Updates
    - 2) 2009 Budget Impact
  - D) ADRC/Wash. Co. Cares
    - 1) Nutrition Update
    - 2) Fed/State Stimulus Allocation
    - 3) May 2009 – Senior Citizens Month
- 4) Other Business
- 5) Department Head Evaluation – Director of ADRC
- 6) Adjournment

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

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2009 meeting was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Rymph and adopted.

MENTAL HEALTH – Rob York, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Council for Prevention Presentation – Mr. York stated several months ago they brought a resolution request to the committee relating to accepting 100% funding from the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services for problem gambling. At that time, he was unsure if the funding would be available. As stated at the previous meeting, they have been awarded \$60,000 for this initiative and requested a budget amendment to flow that funding (100% state funding) to the Council for Prevention for gambling prevention. The Human Services Committee referred this budget amendment to the Finance Committee for consideration and the Council for Prevention was in attendance to address what they would do with this funding. The Supervisors requested additional information

before moving forward with this budget amendment. The Supervisors have been provided with copies of the proposal submitted by the Council for Prevention for this gambling prevention funding. Dave Saffer, Executive Director of the Council for Prevention, presented an overview of their agency, discussed school survey results and underage drinking. He stated that the agency would not only address problem gambling but also wrap that into other areas like underage drinking and drug use. He stated OASAS' mission on the State level is alcohol, drugs and gambling and it is a wrap around. A motion to forward request to accept \$60,000, 100% OASAS funding, to the Finance and Personnel Committee recommending approval was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mrs. Trinkle. Discussion. The accuracy of the numbers from the survey was questioned and that the kids feel they are bombarded with these types of programs. Mr. Saffer stated that this is an opportunity to get funding to address risky behaviors with our youth. They do know that the risk factors for underage drinking and gambling are the same. Mr. York stated that the gambling and drug/alcohol prevention programs would be integrated. Mike Gray, Youth Services Director, asked if it would be beneficial to hear from the school districts on this issue. Mr. York is not aware of a deadline for accepting this funding. A motion to table the request to accept the funding pending additional information was moved by Mrs. N. Hall, seconded by Mr. Rymph and defeated. The committee considered the motion to forward this request to the Finance and Personnel Committee. The motion to forward request to accept \$60,000, 100% OASAS funding, to the Finance and Personnel Committee recommending approval was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mrs. Trinkle and defeated. The committee discussed what information that would like to see and requested copies of the survey, feedback from the school districts and a fresh new short presentation not a repetition of what has been presented.

- Request for Proclamation for Mental Health Month – May 2009 – A proclamation was issued, on file.
- County Mental Hygiene Cost Comparison Data Update – A County Comparison Summary of the information gathered to date was distributed and discussed, handout attached. When the unified services funding was in jeopardy, they were asked to gather information on the cost of similar counties for these services. They are still in the process of gathering information from other similar counties.

SOCIAL SERVICES – Karen Baker, Director of Administrative Services, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Budget Amendment - Intensive Case Services Funding – To increase 2009 budget for Intensive Case Services – 3 approved plan. A motion to increase budget for approved Intensive Case Services plan in the amount of \$6,326.00 was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Brown. Discussion. DSS received this additional funding based on a plan they submitted designed to support the agency's efforts in increasing the work participation of TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) clients who have been sanctioned for noncompliance with work readiness programs. Typically, the population is very difficult, either unwilling to participate or an inability to due to medical or clinical.

They are working with Northeast Career Planning, who they contract with, having them design specific services to work with this group. The motion to increase budget for approved Intensive Case Services plan in the amount of \$6,326.00 was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Brown and adopted.

- Budget Amendment – Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services – This plan was also approved for services to TANF eligible clients and their children for non-residential domestic violence services. These services will be provided through Catholic Charities. A motion to increase budget for Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services in the amount of \$25,000 was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Brown. Discussion. Support services for domestic violence that does not involve a shelter. The motion to increase budget for Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services in the amount of \$25,000 was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Brown and adopted.
- Foster Care Block Grant – They have been officially notified that the amount of their Foster Care Block Grant will be \$638,908, a slight increase.
- Reimbursement – Claims – DSS accounting staff met with a representative from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to discuss how we claim. They are exploring all options for maximizing reimbursement. One area noted was reimbursement of Flex Funds could have done differently. They are continuing to improve and do a better job. They went to Warren County to see how they handle their claiming.
- Annual Report – The Annual Report was distributed to all Supervisors' mailboxes Supervisors should call Tammy with any questions.

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

- Agency Updates – Updated the committee on community services projects that the youth are participating in. On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, they will be doing cleanup work at Lake Lauderdale with youth and volunteers from the area and some Alternative Sentencing participants (offenders). On Friday, he plans to go to Huletts Park to review area for a cleanup day. Last Saturday, they were in Granville with over 130 people participating in planting trees and cleaning sidewalks and in Hudson Falls some roadside pickup.
- 2009 Budget Impact – The Youth Block that he discussed several meetings ago was not adopted so it is business as usual but with less money. There will be monies for recreation programs but it will be less by 10% to 20%. Youth Bureau administration was decreased by about \$3,000 and he will ask his Youth Board to look at the discretionary monies going out. He will try to come in level for budget. The ACT grant did not receive funding that they subcontracted with EOC resulting in a loss of approximately \$13,000. He is looking into a plan Workforce Investment Act (WIA) dollars to offset the loss of revenue. He will be bringing forth a plan to fund two positions with WIA dollars, no County dollars.

ADRC/Wash. Co. Cares – Claire Murphy, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Nutrition Update – Claire informed the committee last month that the dietician resigned and she was not going to backfill the position but look to subcontract. She reported that there has not been much interest to date. They are not interested in the duties. She will contact Doug Cosey, Pleasant Valley Administrator, regarding how they met their needs.
- Fed/State Stimulus Allocation – The office has received notification of a federal stimulus allocation for congregate and home delivered meals in the amount of \$17,194, eighteen months funding. They have to provide a separate application for those funds that have to be applied directly to meal costs. What she is defining our application as is preventing the establishment of a waiting list and all these funds will be applied against the contract with the Jail. A motion to authorize submitting application and signature authorization for federal stimulus funding was moved by Mrs. Trinkle and seconded by Mr. Henke. Discussion. She asked the committee to consider creating a stimulus budget line for separate reporting. Once money is received, she will request a budget amendment. The motion to authorize submitting application and signature authorization for federal stimulus funding was moved by Mrs. Trinkle, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- May 2009 Senior Citizen Month Senior Citizen Day May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hartford Firehouse. Tickets are \$12.00 and available in Claire's office. She will prepare a proclamation for the Chairman's signature.
- State Budget – No final State allocations to date. The State is using some of their stimulus funding to increase CORE funding and a COL (cost of living) increase for Human Services programs, reinstated at 2.5% increase over the 2008 amount that had been adjusted in July. Other state funding update, they did not get funded for \$5,000 transportation grant and \$50,000 for long-term health insurance program. For next year, she estimates a reduction of funding levels of about \$50,000
- Travel and Training – Annual Aging Conference – This is a two-day statewide education training conference in Albany. She budgets for three attendees at this conference. Directors are required to attend and she would like to bring 2 other staff at \$150 each. Board Chairman Wilbur stated several supervisors would meet with the larger departments to work on a policy. Chairman LaPointe stated all travel requests should come to the committee. A motion to approve Office for the Aging annual Aging conference travel request, three attendees, was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS: Kevin also mentioned a Department of Social Services travel request. He has a request from DSS for two employees to go to training in Syracuse that requires an overnight stay. The request is to go to the NY Public Welfare Fraud Investigators Annual Conference Annual and they would like to send the Fraud Investigator and one employee. The employees have agreed to pay their cost to go out the night prior. Chairman LaPointe would like a breakdown of what DSS budgeted for

conferences and how many will be attending. Mrs. G. Hall stated a policy is needed to treat all departments the same.

DEPARTMENT HEAD EVALUATION – Director of ADRC

A motion to enter an executive session to conduct a department head evaluation, Director of ADRC, was moved by Mr. Trinkle seconded by Mrs. Banks and adopted.

The committee adjourned from executive session. No action was taken during the executive session.