

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 25, 2009

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

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Banks

SUPERVISORS: Wilbur, G. Hall, Lindsay

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Mike Gray, Director Youth Services

Rob York, Director Mental Health

Claire Murphy, Director of ADRC/OFA

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Kevin Hayes, County Administration

Sam Hall, Veterans Director

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2009 & February 2, 2009
- 3) Department Reports/Requests:
 - A) Mental Health
 - 1) Discuss Community Services Board Member Appointment
 - 2) North Country Respite Initiative Update
 - 3) Proposed Unified Services Funding Cuts Update
 - B) Youth Bureau
 - 1) Discuss Global Youth Service Day
 - C) Social Services
 - 1) Program Updates
- 4) Other Business
- 5) Adjournment

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

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2009 and February 2, 2009 meetings was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mrs. Trinkle and adopted.

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

- Discuss Community Services Board Member Appointments:
 - A motion to appoint Molly McConnell to the Washington County Community Services Board for a term commencing March 20, 2009 terminating December 31, 2012 filling the unexpired term of Patricia Harrison was moved by Mrs. Trinkle, seconded by Mrs. N. Hall and adopted.
 - A motion to re-appoint Lu Cosgrove to the Washington County Community Services Board term effective January 1, 2009 and terminating December 31, 2012 was moved by Mrs. Trinkle, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
 - A motion to re-appoint Robert Miles to the Washington County Community Services Board effective date of appointment January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012 was moved by Mrs. Trinkle, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.
- North Country Respite Initiative Update – This is a \$200,000 member item from Sen. Little for six counties to create and expand respite opportunities for children with mental health issues or developmental disabilities. This funding is flowing

through Warren County. Three phases: 1) Warren County issued RFPs for needs assessment – awarded to Northeast Parent and Child Society at no cost, 2) issued RFP for training and recruitment respite providers – No RFPs received so they are moving to phase 3 and 3) Counties develop mini grants. The funds are distributed by population and Senator Little is requesting each County to give approximately \$1,500 to Hamilton County as they were funded at such a low amount, see attached handout. This funding will be placed in an account with a contract agency, Glens Falls Hospital, and drawn down as needed for services to high-risk children. A motion to authorize execution of an inter-municipal agreement, in a manner directed and approved by the Washington County Attorney, among Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Warren and Washington Counties for distribution of North Country Respite Initiative funds, which are a result of a member-item secured for the counties within Senator Betty Little's District to create or expand respite opportunities for children, youth and families impacted by mental illness and/or developmental disabilities was moved by Mr. Henke and seconded by Mrs. Trinkle. Discussion. Kevin suggested that it be specifically stated that Washington County would draw down on our share of funds, the funds should be kept separate for each county and drawn down accordingly. The motion to authorize execution of an inter-municipal agreement, in a manner directed and approved by the Washington County Attorney, among Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Warren and Washington Counties for distribution of North Country Respite Initiative funds, which are a result of a member-item secured for the counties within Senator Betty Little's District to create or expand respite opportunities for children, youth and families impacted by mental illness and/or developmental disabilities was moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mrs. Trinkle and adopted.

- Proposed Unified Services Funding Cuts Update – Rob stated he is continuing to advocate and meeting with state agencies and getting contract agencies together with state funding agencies. Funding cuts are still in the Governor's proposed budget and seeking to have this funding change phased in. Chairman LaPointe stated he asked at the last meeting for data on other counties programs and they are soliciting information on their mental health budgets. G. Hall, Budget Officer, stated she would like to see the contract agencies be looking at how they can cut their budgets and still provide services. He will bring this data to a joint meeting with Warren County.

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

- Discuss Global Youth Service Day – Argyle youth are considering a clothing or food drive and the Fort Ann youth are also in the planning stages for their events for that day and he discussed Granville at last month's meeting.
- Youth Leadership Summit - This is the 25th Youth Leadership Summit and it will be held on March 18th at ACC. This event is planned by youth from both Warren and Washington Counties. EOC is picking up cost through Youth Act grant.

- Youth Services Block Grant Update – There is opposition to put prevention and detention dollars together.
- Alive at 25 Program – In 2009, 15,600 traffic tickets were issued. Thirty percent of all tickets involved 16-25 year olds, 49% in accidents. The Alive at 25 program is run by the National Safety Council. The County would contract with a facilitator at a cost of \$20 per participant but would charge \$50 that should net \$30, positive budget impact. This program will address underage drinking and other risky behaviors, i.e. cell phone usage. The focus for the first six months will be with the courts and then opening it up to parents who might want to send their child, not court related. The magistrates have indicated their support for this program. Accountability piece, making them account for their behavior.

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

- Program Updates
 - Scot House Group Home – Scot House Group Home “Snapshot” of Accounts 2007-2008 handout attached.
 - Placement Services Program Overview, handout attached & Eligibility worksheet, handouts on file. The number of active foster care families is approximately 25 but more are needed. Currently about 79 children are in foster care. In general, 25% local cost for a child in care.
 - Staffing Request, handout on file – One Community Services worker and one Community Services aide recently resigned and Tammy is asking for one temporary employee while she determines the agencies future needs. Hopefully, other agencies can pick up more of our transportation needs. Kevin mentioned unemployment costs associated with temporary employees. A motion to support request to fill with a temporary position was moved by Mrs. N. Hall, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted. Mr. Brown opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- NYS Consumer Protection Week – Claire Murphy announced there would be a display in the lobby on March 3 – 5, 2009 regarding the NYS Consumer Protection week. Employees can also attend a half hour presentation on identity theft.
- Liberty House – A joint community services board meeting will be held on March 12th at Liberty House regarding their program.

Chairman LaPointe asked for a moment of silence in memory of Claire Murphy’s mother and Nancy Hall’s mother.

The meeting adjourned at 11:18 A.M.