

Public Health and Social Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: November 3, 2014, 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig V. Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano
EXCUSED: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Erica Guerin Legislative Counsel, Ken Crannell Deputy County Executive, Jonathan Engel County Attorney, Teresa M. Brundage LPN, Carol Smith, MD Commissioner UCDOH, Vincent Martello UCDOH, Lee Cane LWV, Health Alliance David Scarpino President & CEO, Dr. Marc Tack, Dr. Frank Ehrlich, Ellen Reinhard & Diane M. TFAC, Richard Parrish UC EMS, Pat Doxey Freeman

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of October 6, 2014
Motion Made By: Legislator Jeanette Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

- Health Alliance Hospital Progress Update and Ebola Preparation
David Scarpino – President & Chief Executive Officer of Health Alliance
Frank Ehrlich MD – Chief Medical Officer Health Alliance
Mark Tack DO – Director of Infectious Disease Medicine Health Alliance

Due to committee time constraints, a brief but straight forward overview of Ebola preparation and training was provided by the Health Alliance team. Both doctor's Ehrlich and Tack spoke to their daily CDC Ebola updates. Also ongoing complex coordination's between hospital, EMS, first responders, lab personnel, security, trained shift assignments, environmental personnel, law enforcement, CDC, state, federal and county health care personnel are a daily occurrence. Health Alliance is prepared in the unlikely event to treat a suspected or real Ebola case. Health Alliance has protocols in place such as an ER isolation room, increased Ebola questioning, and a separate entrance to the hospital should someone come by ambulance or walk in. The State DOH is sending "readiness assessment teams" to every hospital in the state - they were in Margaretville this week. When Ebola was first diagnosed here in the United States, only 6% of all hospitals in the country were prepared.

David Scarpino stated Health Alliance is as prepared as they can be.

Carol Smith MD, MPH – Ulster County DOH Commissioner per Legislator Belfiglio's inquiry, spoke to the county and hospital daily coordination efforts among all health care stakeholders on the local, state and federal levels. Dr. Smith disseminates a daily email comprehensive report with any information – power points etc. received from the State DOH, CDC, etc. along with weekly conference calls which include Ellenville Regional Hospital. The power to quarantine an individual lies in the hands of Dr. Smith.

Richard Parrish UC EMS gave a first responder overview of shift protocols in place.

As follow up to the last meeting with the Health Committee, David Scarpino noted the hospital is still in transition - hasn't realized a regional partner – larger affiliate. The Regional healthcare delivery system continues to change the health care landscape accelerated by the Affordable Care Act. Health Alliance is in the final stages of negotiations with Westchester Medical Center, St. Peters Health Partners, and to a lesser degree Health Quest, along with the Department of Health. The process to consolidate to a single campus and shrink the hospital to an appropriate number is now tied to district awards. Capital will be granted sometime in the early part of winter. Once this has been achieved, the State DOH, and the Federal Trade Commission will have to approve the partnership.

- Tobacco Free Action Coalition (TFAC)

Ellen Reinhard – Director of Tobacco Free Action Coalition

Vincent Martello – Ulster County Dept. of Health

Both speakers are here tonight in support of Resolution No. 367 Proposed Local Law No. 14 of 2014, (A Local Law Entitled "The Ulster County Tobacco Free School Zone Law), and Resolution No. 443 Proposed Local Law No. 17 of 2014, (A Local Law Prohibiting Smoking Upon All Real Property Owned Or Leased By The County Of Ulster).

Ellen Reinhard, Director of Tobacco Free Action Coalition (TFAC), presented a 4 minute video about children being exposed to tobacco in mom and pop stores - marketing tobacco ads / products geared to a youth demographic. The committee was provided TFAC literature brochures providing surgeon general / CDC information and Baruch College 2014 Ulster County survey results.

Vincent Martello, UC Department of Health runs the health education division of the department.

- Every year in NYS smoking kills 23,600 people.
- 12,900 youth under the age of 18 become new daily smokers each year
- Tobacco use is the #1 cause of preventable disease and death in NYS
- Estimated 280,000 NYS youth under 18 now will die from smoking
- Yearly tobacco related health care costs New Yorkers \$10.4 Billion – Medicaid covers \$3.3 Billion – NYS passes on \$36.1 Million dollars in Medicaid costs, annually to Ulster County
- Lost productivity from smoking costs NYS more than \$6 Billion annually
- 80% of every healthcare dollar is spent on treating preventable chronic diseases caused by smoking

Legislator Belfiglio expressed disappointment in state regulations not curtailing store display advertising. Currently the FDA is reviewing regulations.

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION NO. 2

Resolve to Amend Resolution No. 367 Local Law Title Name

Text of Motion:

Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 14 of 2014, (A Local Law Entitled “ The Ulster County Tobacco Free School Zone Law”), To Be Held On Wednesday, December 17, 2014 At 6:00 PM

Motion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Litts, 2nd Legislator Belfiglio.

Discussion:

Title Correction of the Resolution required of the Local Law - should reflect Section 1. Title should be known as; (Ulster County Reduce Youth Exposure To Tobacco In School Zone Law) to match the local law. Chairman Lopez qualified there are no fees associated with this proposed local law. Legislator Belfiglio expressed constituent concern everyone is treated equally. See Section 8 for detail of suspension & revocation of licenses. Legislator Belfiglio shared concern regarding legalities of having two different penalties – one for within 1000 ft. and another for 1001 feet away from a school.

Motion Made By:

Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By:

Legislator Belfiglio

Voting In Favor:

Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against:

None

No. of Votes in Favor:

5

No. of Votes Against:

0

Disposition:

Carried

MOTION NO. 3 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 367 as Amended

Text of Motion: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 14 of 2014, (A Local Law Entitled “Ulster County Reduce Youth Exposure To Tobacco In School Zone Law”) To Be Held On Wednesday, December 17, 2014 At 6:00 PM

Discussion: None

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4 Resolve to Take Resolution No. 443 Out of Order

Text of Motion: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 17 of 2014, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 9 of 2008 (A Local Law Prohibiting Smoking Upon All Real Property Owned Or Leased By The County Of Ulster) To Be Held On Wednesday, December 17, 2014 AT 6:15PM

Motion: Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Allen, 2nd Leg. Litts.

Discussion: Chairman Lopez asked what research – studies have been done. Leg. Provenzano shared her research findings with the committee. Electronic smoking devices have become increasingly popular despite the fact that they have not been approved as to safety and efficacy by the FDA, and their use may pose a health risk to persons exposed to their smoke/vapor because of the presence of known irritants contained therein, and other substances that are potentially harmful and toxic to those inhaling the smoke/vapor. (Legislator Provenzano forwarded additional research material to committee members and full legislature on 11/10/14.)

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Motion Made By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 5 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 443

Text of Motion: Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 17 of 2014, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 9 of 2008 (A Local Law Prohibiting Smoking Upon All Real Property Owned Or Leased By The County Of Ulster) To Be Held On Wednesday, December 17, 2014 AT 6:15PM

Motion / Discussion: Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Allen, 2nd Leg. Provenzano.

Motion Made By: Legislator Allen

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 6 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 396 – Certifying The County Takeover Of Safety Net Costs

Text of Motion: Certifying The County Takeover Of Safety Net Costs

Motion: Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Litts, 2nd Leg. Allen

Discussion: Ken Crannell gave a summary of Safety Net Costs and Takeover – required as a state sales tax renewal law – county certifies that it has taken over the safety net cost as part of the 2015 budget. Also, another resolution will follow reauthorizing the additional 1% sales tax from January 1, 2015 to November 30, 2015.

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 7 Resolve to Block Resolution Nos. 413 ~ 442 on Agenda to Vote as a Group

Text of Motion: Motion by Legislator Herb Litts, seconded by Legislator Chris Allen to group Resolution Nos. 413 through 442 together for the purposes of a single block vote.

Motion: Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: Counsel provided an overview of the balance of resolutions being brought forth for a block vote.

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 8 Resolve to Approve Resolution Nos. 413 ~ 442

Text of Motion: Motion by Legislator Herb Litts, seconded by Legislator Chris Allen to group Resolution Nos. 413 through 442 together for the purposes of a single block vote.

Motion: Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: None

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts, Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Allen and seconded by Legislator Belfiglio, all were in favor, and Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Dated the 24th Day of November, 2014
Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee
Minutes Approved on: December 1, 2014