

Public Health and Social Services Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: March 2, 2015, 6:30 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig V. Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts
EXCUSED: Legislator Provenzano
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Erica Guerin Legislative Counsel

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Guest Speakers Kim Lyons and Minerva Solla with the NYS Nurses Association were unable to attend – to be rescheduled.

Committee members were provided a printout of Safe Staffing Flyer - ANA American Nurses Association, along with Assembly ACT #1578 and Senate ACT #782 to amend the public health law.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2015 Meeting
Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Herb Litts
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Litts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION NO. 2Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 107

Text of Motion: 2015 Appropriation For Awareness, Inc. - Legislature

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Herb Litts

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio attended last Friday's Awareness meeting to better understand how county money is being spent. This is a totally volunteer staffed program. Legislator Belfiglio expressed it's a great program that's making a difference. SUNY New Paltz College was reported as having the highest drug related offenses in the entire SUNY state system. A New Paltz judge sentenced (20) youths to the Awareness program and whereas by the end of the 6 week program the participants were glad they were there - being able to make a fresh start and given a second change.

This program provides a peer-to-peer education program specifically oriented toward adolescent offenders who received substance abuse related sentencing in Ulster County Courts. Last year the program was allocated half the funding of what is being proposed in this resolution - for the overall operation and costs associated with a peer-to-peer education program and certified mental health professional oversight.

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 3Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 123

Text of Motion: Amending The 2015 Ulster County Budget To Accept An Additional Allocation Of Funds from the New York State Office Of Children And Family Services To Expand Services Under The Supervision And Treatment Services For Juveniles Program (STSJP) – Department Of Social Services

Motion Made By: Legislator Herb Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Discussion: Chairman Lopez noted this is additional available funds coming from the state for Children and Family Services for the expansion of supervision and treatment services – administered through Social Services.

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 131

Text of Motion: Appointing Member To Fill Vacancy On The Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Discussion: Chairman Lopez spoke to Steve Rice who felt they couldn't have found a better candidate to fill the vacancy.

The resolution notes the candidate selected will complete the term set to expire on December 31, 2015 previously held by Abigail Osgood, Esq.

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Old Business: None

New Business: Legislator Belfiglio shared his recent positive experience at the Health Alliance emergency room. For the record he commended the staff's professionalism and efficiency – noting he was seen by the attending physician, provided meds and was sent on his way. Legislator Belfiglio expressed they run a tight ship and did a great job.

While waiting for the NYS nursing association guest speakers to arrive, Legislator Allen shared he had watched a HBO "Vice Special Report", whereas an oncologist from Canada is on the verge of discovering a cure for cancer. The FDA has fast tracked ground breaking research exploring treatments using re-engineered HIV cells and other viruses to attack the cancerous cells without harming healthy tissue.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Belfiglio and seconded by Legislator Litts, all were in favor, and Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 6:46 PM.

Dated the 12th Day of March, 2015
Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee
Minutes Approved on: April 6, 2015