

**Public Health & Social Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: November 7, 2016 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION: COB, 6th Floor, K. L. Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner
ABSENT: Roberts
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Lee Cane League of Women Voters

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

Motion No. 1: Moved to Approve the Minutes of the October 3, 2016 meeting

Motion By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes approved

Resolutions for the November 22, 2016 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 455: Calling On Governor Andrew M. Cuomo And The State Legislature To Promote And Support Health And Safety Standards In Sober Homes And/Or Addiction Recovery Residences Consistent With National Association Of Recovery Residences (NARR) Standards

Resolution Summary: This memorializing resolution sponsored by Legislator Belfiglio calls upon state officials to approve at least one NARR affiliated credentialing entity for the purpose of developing and administering a voluntary certification program for addiction recovery residences in NYS. Also to enact rules and regulations that stipulate that any service provider licensed in NYS shall not refer a current or discharged patient to a recovery residence unless the recovery residence holds a valid certificate of compliance. The resolution also supports the empowerment of the Commissioner of the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to create programs and training necessary in all sober homes and recovery residences.

Motion No. 2: **Resolution No. 455 moved for discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion:

Legislator Belfiglio explained this resolution is the byproduct of six months of UCAN discussions, meetings and recommendations made to the legislature. This resolution was modeled after Florida State law and has a good chance to pass the NYS Assembly and Legislature. Legislator Belfiglio noted people go to sober homes to get help, however accountability and oversight are lacking when it comes to who can enter recovery residences. Committee discussion ensued.

On behalf of Legislator Belfiglio, Chairman Lopez asked the committee if they would like to sponsor the resolution by adding their names – all agreed.

Motion No. 3: **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 455**
Motion By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Resolution No. 470: Amending The 2016 Ulster County Budget To Accept Increased Funding From The New York State Office Of Mental Health For A 0.2% Cost Of Living Adjustment – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This resolution accepts additional \$9570.00 of funding - COLA per the NYS Office of Mental Health. An amendment to the 2016 budget is required.

Motion No. 4: **Resolution No. 470 moved for discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Discussion:

Chairman Lopez noted there is no increase in county contributions as a result of these modifications.

Motion No. 5: Moved to adopt Resolution No. 470
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 1
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Resolution No. 474: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Lease Agreement With Lealand Holdings, LLC, For Office Space For Department Of Health – Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Resolution Summary: This resolution allows the county to lease office/clinic space for the Ulster County Dept. of Health WIC Program, at the Willow Park Office Complex, 230 Aaron Court, in Kingston. This (3) year term commences 11/1/2016 ~ 10/31/2019, at a cost of \$36K annually, which includes utilities and taxes.

Motion No. 6: Resolution No. 474 moved for discussion
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Discussion:

Chairman Lopez and Legislator Belfiglio provided an overview of the office space lease agreement terms and conditions with Lealand Holdings, LLC.

Motion No. 7: Moved to adopt Resolution No. 474
Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Old Business

- Legislator Belfiglio recapped his friend's experience requiring rehab upon release from the hospital as stated in last month's minutes. Legislator Belfiglio reached out to the committee for suggestions how to research/oversee the matter of cherry picking at Golden Hill, noting part of the sales pitch was the UC Office for the Aging would monitor this concern, reinsuring our seniors receive the standard of care the community has come to know.
- As a follow up to last month's Dyslexia Memorializing Resolution No. 418, Legislator Belfiglio noted our office received a positive letter of response from Senator Bonacic's office expressing his support should it come before him in the next session.

New Business

- Legislator Heppner presented the committee with a draft copy of a letter addressed to Richard Hartunian, Esq., U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York, from Chairman Ronk and the UCAN committee asking the Health committee for their support. The UCAN committee is interested in knowing if Mr. Hartunian's office requests alerts from local law enforcement agencies regarding overdose opioid and heroin incidents. Also, does his office request information on drug related deaths from medical examiners, coroners, hospitals or other medical professionals, noting our local law enforcement agencies have a database in place gathering information at the suggestion of the Ulster County DA.

Chairman Lopez asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved: December 5, 2016