

Public Health and Social Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: February 9, 2016, 4:45 PM
LOCATION: SUNY Ulster, Vanderlyn Hall, 1st Floor, Room 111
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Donald Quesnell
PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk
EXCUSED: Legislators Allen, Roberts
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator's Mary Beth Maio, Tracey Bartels, Tom Kadgen League of Women Voters & UCAN, Comptroller Elliott Auerbach

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 4:45 PM.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of the January 20, 2016 Meeting
Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator John Heppner
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION NO. 2 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 85 for February 16, 2016 Session
Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator John Heppner
Text of Motion: Resolution No. 85 – Confirming Reappointment Of Member To The Board Of Health
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 3 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 92 for February 16, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for Discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator John Heppner

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 92 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Services Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Discussion: Chairman Lopez explained this resolution is for the allocation of NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) funding for the administration of the Ulster Prevention Council and Primary Prevention Program. Federal 100%, \$332,352.00, 1/1/16 ~ 12/31/16

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator John Heppner

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4 Resolve to Approve Memorial Resolution No. 110 for February 16, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for Discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kenneth Ronk

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 110 – Supporting The Passage of A05518 /S03891 To Amend The Volunteer Firefighter’s Benefit Law For The Expansion Of Specific Health Condition Coverage

Discussion: Chairman Ken Ronk noted this volunteer benefit’s law originated within the Fire Advisory Board he honorably served on for the past eight years. This memorial resolution supports additional coverage for volunteer firefighter’s that currently only professional firemen receive. The expanded coverage would include cancer of the digestive, hematological, lymphatic, urinary, prostate, neurological, breast, and reproduction systems. This measure has passed the Senate but not the Assembly. Committee discussion ensued. The committee members asked that their names be added to the resolution.

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kenneth Ronk

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk

Voting Against: None

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

MOTION NO. 5 Resolve to Approve Late Resolution No. 111 for February 16, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Kenneth Ronk for Discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 111 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Services Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Discussion: This resolution contract with Family Services Inc., Poughkeepsie, NY provides advocacy services for individuals and families seeking treatment for substance abuse when they struggle to navigate insurance regulation and/or are denied coverage. This funding will be allocated toward individuals not on public assistance. \$95K, 100% County, 3/1/16 – 12/31/16. Chairman Lopez called upon Tom Kadgen who explained this evolved through the efforts of the UCAN committee research and recommendations.

Motion Made By: Legislator Kenneth Ronk for Discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio, Heppner, Ronk

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

New Business:

Legislator Belfiglio will be introducing new legislation next month regarding a memorializing resolution asking the state to go back to a 50/50 percent share in safety net cost – currently 79/21 percent. NYSAC wants the state to do a five year phase in of safety net costs.

Chairman Ronk noted he attended a workshop at NYSAC with Dr. Benjamin, SUNY New Paltz, regarding the constitutional convention on the ballot next year. In 1967 at the last constitutional convention one of the amendments proposed on the ballot was all Social Services and Medicaid costs not borne by the federal government would be borne by the state and not by localities. The measure failed when it went to the voters as it was grouped together with multiple amendments all into one ballot question. This will be on the ballot in 2017 – a mandatory question every twenty years. Legislator Belfiglio also noted it was the one of the best workshops at the NYSAC convention.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Kenneth Ronk, seconded by Legislator Carl Belfiglio, all were in favor. Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Dated February 22, 2016

Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee

Minutes Approved on: February 29, 2016