

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**NAME OF COMMITTEE:** Health and Human Services Committee

**DATE:** September 12, 2011

**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Library Conference Room, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor

**LEGISLATORS PRESENT:** Chairman Frey, Legislator's, Parete, Harris, Maio, Ronk, Briggs, Loughran

**LEGISLATOR EXCUSED:** Legislator's Petit, Stoeckeler

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Marshall Beckman County Exec., Patricia Jelacic, Barbara Sorkin both Dept. Social Services, Amy Russell Concerned Citizens for Mental Health, (6) Golden Hill Employees, Patricia Doxsey Daily Freeman, Nettie Tomshaw UC Legislature Staff

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Walter Frey at 6:00 PM.
- A motion by Legislator Loughran was made to accept the July 7, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes, Seconded by Legislator Ronk, all were in favor, Carried.
- Commissioner Rodriguez could not attend tonight's meeting due to family illness.

Marshall Beckman, Pat Jelacic, Barbara Sorkin DSS Lease Agreement to Retain Grant :

- Grant Name - Child and Family Safety Services Multi-Disciplinary
- UC Family Violence Unit is completing it's 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the 5 year Grant (grant covers staffing & partial reimbursement)
- Multi Disciplinary Team (mandated) - State Police, Sherriff, Town of Ulster are paired with DSS case workers. Team has been in place approx. 15yrs. Pat J. unsure if program is mandated but it helps support this unit - and is recognized as a model unit throughout the state.
- DSS received a site evaluation citation by OCFS for not meeting facility standards at the current DSS Building location. Grant requires separate entrance, non-uniform guard at entrance, a "neutral" building / family friendly, separation of space for the CAC program from other agencies using the building, etc. County has tried to delay moving but was told comply or lose the grant.
- The county does not have space available that meets grant criteria.
- (9) out of (10) Standards have been achieved are: Multi Disciplinary Team, Organizational Capacity, Ultra Competency & Diversity, Forensic Interviewing, Medical Evaluation, Therapeutic Intervention, Victims Support & Advocacy, Case Review & Case Tracking, Data Collection. The only standard not met is the site requirements.
- Located a 2400/SF building - \$9.00 SF in Kingston - the former Red Cross Building on 21 O'Neil St. Will need some updating - 95% ADA compliant - will have lease agreement w/ 30 day clause.

- Department heads met, evaluated O'Neil St. building. Approx. cost \$104K to update building for computers, power lines, signage and safety updates.
- When other space arrangements can be made within the county, plans are to relocate to county property.
- Approx. program county cost \$25K is in the DSS budget. Next years program county share would be \$13K. Probable grant continuation if building is secured - renewable after the 5<sup>th</sup> year.
- Resolution being developed, however not on tonight's agenda - attorneys working on contract - landlord terms.
- DSS is asking committee for support to bring the lease resolution forward.
- State has not accepted the O'Neil St. building as yet.

Leg. Parete suggests the state approve the building first then bring the info to this committee in resolution form.

Leg. Provenzano concerned if we can count on the state for funding. Hopefully it won't become an unfunded mandate.

Chairman Frey offered to sponsor the resolution.

#### Resolution:

- 1.) Resolution Draft No. 0909, September 20, 2011: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement For The Coordinated Children's Services School Placement Preventive Program With Ulster County Board Of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) - Department of Social Services

**Motion offered to move Resolution forward by Legislator Parete, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, All were in Favor with (1) Abstention. Carried. (6) Ayes, (1) Abstention - Frey. Chairman Walter Frey is a BOCES Board Member)**

- 2.) Resolution Draft No. 0910, September 20, 2011: Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute Certain Inter-Municipal Agreements For Domestic Violence Investigators - Department Of Social Service

Discussion ensued over salary and using in house personnel for the future.

Leg. Briggs requested Pat J. provide committee with invoices for the domestic violence investigators.

**Motion offered to move Resolution forward by Legislator Parete, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, Unanimously in Favor, Carried.**

- 3.) Resolution Draft No. 0911, September 20, 2011: Amending The 2011 Ulster County Budget For The Career Pathways Program - Department Of Employment And Training

**Motion offered to move Resolution forward by Legislator Briggs, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, Unanimously in Favor, Carried.**

4.) Resolution Draft No.0902, September 20, 2011: Reaffirming Article XXIX (Department Of Residential Health Care Facilities) Of The Ulster County Charter

Discussion ensued. Legislator's Loughran and Provenzano provided reasoning / clarification behind the need for this resolution. Leg. Provenzano said for the past year the Executive has reminded us this is a policy matter that we need to make a decision. Also the State has said the county must decide what direction will be taken before they can have a solid conversation as to what kind of assistance can be provided.

Leg. Ronk felt a dollar amount needs to be stated on the resolution.

Leg. Briggs wants to see the bids received by the County Executive on Golden Hill, and wants everyone to make a decision. Also would like to see the southern end of county considered & build new - better use of tax dollars vs. repair.

Chairman Frey says Golden Hill needs capital improvements according to American Standards for nursing homes.

Leg. Loughran would like to see counsel's opinion in writing why they consider this a memorializing resolution.

Leg. Parate reminded the committee of his submitted proposal for Golden Hill & the southern part of the county.

Leg. Harris asked the Chairman to call the question, line up and say what you think - this way the state can come down and talk with us etc., otherwise this could go on for another year.

**Motion offered to move Resolution forward by Legislator Loughran, Seconded by Legislator Parete, Motion Defeated (5) to (2). Noes: Frey, Briggs, Harris, Maio, Ronk. Ayes: Parete, Loughran**

5.) Resolution Draft No. 0904, September 20, 2011: In Support Of New York State Assembly Bill No. A2281 And New York State Bill No. S2494 Authorizing The New York State Legislature To Require A State Or Municipal Entity To Enact A Period Of Residency Requirement For Persons Applying For Certain Social Services

Discussion ensued - A motion was made by Leg. Ronk to move resolution forward, seconded by Leg. Loughran however after further discussion both motions were withdrawn. Chairman Frey will email the senate bills to committee members for further review - concerned how this may affect children and possibly violate the 13<sup>th</sup> amendment.

Resolution was referred back to committee - will be revisited at next months meeting.

No vote taken.

Note: Resolution 196 submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature on time: In Support Of The Findings Of The Special Task Force On The Golden Hill Health Care Center And Requesting That The County Executive Administrate The Course Of Action That He Finds Best Financially And Socially For The Residents Of The County Of Ulster. (will be withdrawn at September's Session per Chairman Frey)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM with a motion offered by Legislator Ronk, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, with all in favor, Carried.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Walter Frey, Chairman /nt  
Health & Human Services Committee**