

Public Health and Social Services Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: February 29, 2016, 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, C.O.B.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig Lopez

LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw

PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts

EXCUSED: None

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Tracey Bartels, Deputy Director of Clean & Healthy New York Bobbi Chase Wilding, League of Women Voters Lee Cane

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM.

Note - Prior to the meeting committee members viewed merchandise provided by Clean & Healthy New York Deputy Director, Ms. Bobbi Chase, who earlier in the day participated in a press conference along with Legislator Tracey Bartels, calling for toxic free children's toy's here in Ulster County.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of the January 20, 2016 Meeting

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION NO. 2 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 112 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 112 – Re-Establishing The Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee – Ulster County Legislature

Discussion: Legislator Carl Belfiglio qualified the Chairman of the Legislature appoints committee members. This resolution creates and re-establishes the UC Trails Advisory Committee for the purposes of advising the legislature on trail-related issues, adoption, repeal or amendments to laws and regulations as they relate to UC trails, and the appointments for (3) Legislators, James Delaune, Johnathan Heppner and Craig Lopez, among other notable appointments not to exceed (13) voting members.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 3 Resolve to Amend and Approve the Amended Memorializing Resolution No. 128 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for discussion and on the amendment

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 128 – Urging The Governor And Legislature Of The State Of New York To Gradually Restore The 50/50 State/County Cost Sharing For The Safety Net Program And To Increase Shelter Grant Reimbursements To Counties

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio who is the sponsor of this memorializing resolution noted the resolution frame work originated at the NYSAC convention during the Health and Human Services Committee. Legislator Belfiglio made the motion to amend the eighth WHEREAS on the resolution to include **“Ulster County has budgeted \$11.2 million in the 2016 budget.”**

Amended to state: WHEREAS, for the first half of 2015, State data indicates that county Safety Net costs have increased by nearly 9% over the prior year; and Ulster County has budgeted an additional \$11.2 million in the 2016 budget; and

All committee members asked to have their name added to the amended resolution.

Ken Crannell explained the current safety net program and the 100% reimbursed federal TANIF program that services women and children having a 5-year life time limit - benefits program for families.

Under state law when families age out of the federal welfare program they automatically become eligible for safety net benefits. He noted Ulster County served 170 families- almost 500 individuals last year.

Legislator Heppner expressed his support for the state paying their fair share of the safety net program, noting the increase in his constituent tax base utilizing the program. Legislator Heppner felt the fifth whereas offers up a different debate vs. policy and fiscal realities noting the wording, (only 11 states provide benefits to childless adults that do not have some disability.)

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio on the resolution as amended

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 131 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 131 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 3 Of 2016 (A Local Law Protecting Children From Exposure To Toxic Chemicals) To Be Held On Tuesday, April 12, 2016 At 6:00 PM

Discussion: This proposed local law “The Children’s Product Safety Act” is designed to protect the health and safety of its residents, particularly children, who are the most vulnerable. Many common children’s products contain toxic carcinogenic chemicals, whereas exposure can cause harmful effects to the red blood cells, causing cancer in humans.

Legislator Belfiglio wanted to learn more about the issue being presented from all sides, parents and industry – to have equal representation prior to setting a public hearing and public hearing participation. Also who pays for the toys selected for testing once opened? Also Legislator Belfiglio would like the retailer to have reasonable notification – 2 weeks prior to the inspection.

Legislator Roberts asked Ken Crannell if there are any grants available for the purchase/leasing of testing equipment – costing upward of \$50K/ ea. Ken noted he is not aware of any. He also expressed concern with the penalty phase – with the possibility of the health department writing the violations and the health commissioner being judge and jury. Legislator Roberts qualified Section 4 wording – federal law vs. guidelines / regulations for lead and mercury parts per million for children’s toys, (clothing and jewelry excluded). “Federal law” is established for mercury and lead. “Guidelines” are established for all other toxic chemicals. The American Society for Testing and Materials, (ASTM) offer standards that cover other heavy metals found in toys such as cadmium. ASTM is a non-government organization.

Legislator Allen questioned what input the health department provided and if there is a list of retailers within the county. Also how would the required

enforcement, resources, and documentation upkeep weigh on the health department? Legislator Allen recommends a list of defective/banned products be compiled and built upon included in the local law - informing store management. Clean & Healthy New York Deputy Director Bobbi Chase expressed a chemical list will be made available in the spring beneficial to vendors. Legislator Allen noted our proposed local law doesn't have to be exactly the same as Suffolk County.

Legislator Heppner feels the inspections will be less intrusive with the 10/10 program – (10) retailers per quarter and (10) products inspected, and also allowing the retailer the ability to remove the defective products from the shelf. The health departments experience with similar inspections such as restaurant inspections should help for a smooth transition with retailers.

Committee discussion ensued regarding enforcement, education, testing equipment, timeframe and inspection cycles.

In summary Chairman Lopez would like to take more time and get this important legislation right to be effective for all parties.

Legislator Bartels, co-sponsor of this resolution thanked the committee for their attention and input and asked that no action be taken at this time to allow time to confer with co-sponsor Legislator Mary Wawro, county health department, Deputy Executive Ken Crannell, and Clean and Healthy New York, to work on the creation of rules customized to Ulster County - make changes before presenting additional information at next month's meeting. Legislator Bartels will forward information as it becomes available to the committee clerk who will forward onto the committee.

No Action Taken

MOTION NO. 5	<u>Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 142 for March 15, 2016 Session</u>
Motion Made By:	Legislator Carl Belfiglio for discussion
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Chris Allen
Text of Motion:	<u>Resolution No. 142</u> – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock Inc. – Department Of Social Services
Discussion:	Chairman Lopez explained this Family of Woodstock Inc. resolution is for professional support and diversion services for youth who have received Person in Need of Supervision (PINS) or Juvenile Delinquent (JD) petitions. 37% Federal, 52% State, 11% County \$57.5K
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	5
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

MOTION NO. 6 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 143 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 143 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Lincoln Hall – Department Of Social Services

Discussion: This resolution is for mandated foster care services. Federal 36%, State 29%, County 35%. \$180K. Legislator Belfiglio qualified Westchester County as the location of the residential facility in Lincolndale, Town of Somers, NY.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 7 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 148 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Kevin Roberts for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 148 – Amending The 2016 Ulster County Budget To Accept Funding From The New York State Office Of Alcohol And Substance Abuse Services For HealthAlliance Hospital Broadway Campus – Department Of Mental Health

Discussion: This resolution allows for (OASAS), narcotic addiction control - increased funding for the HealthAlliance Hospital to support the outpatient treatment program capacity lift as per the OASAS State Aid letter dated January 28, 2016. There is no increase in county contribution. This is an amendment to the county's contract with the hospital in the amount of \$74.5K. \$22K of the funding will be used to create space for the program. OASAS lifted the cap on the amount of people served, but continues to have a waiting list for methadone treatment. All committee members asked that their names be added to the resolution.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 8 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 149 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio for discussion

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 149 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Department Of Health To Participate In The Childhood Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention Program – Department Of Health

Discussion: Chairman Lopez explained this resolution allows the county to participate in the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program with the NYS Dept. of Health, for the period October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2020 in the amount of \$366.8K. Funding will be used to support and enhance local efforts to reduce the prevalence of elevated blood lead levels in children through screening/testing, diagnostic evaluation, medical mgmt., education and environmental interventions.

Legislator Heppner qualified the program covers marketing efforts.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 9 Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 150 for March 15, 2016 Session

Motion Made By: Legislator Craig Lopez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 150 – Amending The 2016 Ulster County Budget – Appropriating Unexpended Allocation Of Funds From the New York State Office Of Children And Family Services – Department Of Social Services

Discussion: Chairman Lopez noted this resolution covers a two year program supporting the salary and fringe benefits for a contracted behavioral health clinician.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Heppner, Roberts
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

New Business: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Carl Belfiglio, seconded by Legislator Chris Allen, all were in favor. Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Dated March 24, 2016

Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee

Minutes Approved on April 4, 2016