



Health & Human Services Committee

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<http://www.cortland-co.org>

Draft Committee Meeting

~ Minutes ~

MaryAnn Discenza

Thursday, March 17, 2016

9:00 AM

Room 304

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Amy Cobb	Legislative District 2	Present
Sandra Price	Vice Chair	Present
Luke Snyder	Legislative District 5	Present
Mary Ann Discenza	Chair	Present
Raylynn Knolls	Legislative District 7	Present
James Denkenberger	Legislative District 16	Present
Christopher Newell	Legislative District 11	Present
Donnell Boyden	Chair of the Legislature	Present
Mark Thayer	Director of Community Services	Present
Diane Wheaton	Employment and Training	Present
Rob Ferri	Workforce Development	Present
Kristen Beard	Child Advocacy Center	Present
Catherine Feuerherm	Public Health Director	Present
Kristen Monroe	Commissioner of Social Services	Present
Rebecca Canzano	Youth Board	Present
Karen Howe	County Attorney	Present
Peggy Mousaw	Budget and Finance Director	Present

MINUTES

Thursday, February 11, 2016

RESOLUTIONS

Chair

1. Resolution (ID # 3346)

Urging Support of New York State Senate Bill S6755 Relating to Transportation of Medicaid Recipients

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. Price said the Chairman asked for the County to weigh in on this legislation and that although it would not resolve all issues relating to the changes made by the State regarding medical transportation of Medicaid recipients it is moving in the right direction. She also said the Transportation Advisory Council has put forth a great deal of effort to bring attention to the problems that resulted from the changes. Ms. Monroe said previously the Department of Social Services acted as a pass-through for the State of approximately \$400,000 a year. Mr. Denkenberger spoke of the difficulty individuals residing in rural areas of the County have due to limited public transportation services. Ms. Discenza and Ms. Price Also noted the changes made by the State resulted in Madison and Tioga Counties closure of their public

transportation programs due to reduced revenues and noted Assemblywoman Lifton has been a strong supporter of amending the program to more appropriately provide service.

Mr. Thayer said the action is not in support of enhancing public transportation and said there are difficulties with having a route for all needing the service. He said it is another way the State is attempting to gain control and now if an individual is within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile they need to take a bus. The goal is to retain local control to be sure the transportation provided meets clients' need and that sometimes the least expensive transportation may not be the best for a client.

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Amy Cobb, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Area Agency on Aging

2. Resolution (ID # 3265)

Accept Bids/Authorize Purchase Area Agency on Aging/Nutrition Miscellaneous Groceries and Frozen Foods

ATTACHMENTS:

- Food APR 2016-JUN 2016 (XLSX)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sandra Price, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Christopher Newell, Legislative District 11
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Monthly Report

Ms. Haskins provided updates on the following items:

- March for Meals - Friendly's restaurant donated twenty percent of the proceeds of March 14th to the Office for the Aging's nutrition program.
- Strike out Hunger Bowl-a-Thon - this event that will include bowling, a bazaar, and bake sale will take place on March 22nd at Cort-Lanes.
- Community Champions Week - three responses have been made regarding this activity that provides the opportunity for participants to see how the Meals on Wheels Program operates and its value to the clients and provide opportunities for additional funding.
- The Department has partnered with SUNY resulting in their offering free passes to individuals 60 and older to attend Red Dragon events. Thus far fourteen passes have been provided and additional advertising should increase the number.
- The Department has been working with Social Services' Adult Protective Services to provide

information that would assist emergency responders/hospitals when the caretakers of people with special needs (dementia, mental health, physical, etc.) are hospitalized. She shared information on a recent call that required an emergency responder to stay with the spouse and eventually call for an ambulance, which will ultimately result in a very large bill that the couple will be responsible for. She said New York Connects is talking to others about emergency preparedness and how it is critical to know what to do within the first 48 hours.

- Cortland County's New York Connects Program was one of only three used as an example of working with partner agencies.
- The Grab and Go books have been a large success and Ms. Haskins expressed appreciation to Ms. Price for bringing the information forward to the Wellness Committee.
- The Department has two openings in its Nutrition Program.
- There will be a change in the Department's database that will result in a one-month blackout period. The latest information is that this may not happen until the end of the year which would affect the Department's budget and could require a request for additional funds.
- There are currently five people that are nearly homeless working with the New York Connects staff and Ms. Haskins said there is a continual need to help elderly individuals who are having difficulty due to the financial climate.

Mr. Denkenberger spoke of working with the Emergency Readiness Training group and said it is not necessarily aimed at particular individuals but is something available for people who "fall through the cracks" for assistance with medical/dental, etc. He said this is a \$1.3 million grant that should cost the County \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the insurance and meals of those providing services. Ms. Haskins said her Department is working on being involved and have sixteen volunteers enrolled. She hopes that staff will be allowed to support the program and play a role in it. Ms. Monroe asked whether staff would be allowed to go on County time to assist in the program. Mr. Denkenberger said the full Legislature will hear about the program and will decide what will happen.

Health Department

3. Resolution (ID # 3268)

Resolution to Support Fluoridation of All Community Water Systems Within the County

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Newell said that he is personally in favor of fluoridation, however, does not believe the County can make other municipalities do something they do not want to; because of this he will not support the resolution.

Ms. Price does not support the resolution for the same reasons, noting often the County disagrees with the State setting mandates. She also noted there would be a question of who would be responsible for the necessary testing of water.

Ms. Mousaw spoke of a municipality contracting with an outside firm for a water and sewer project since they did not want liability and spoke of the problems in Flint, Michigan. Ms. Feuerherm said the problems were lead related and not fluoridation. She said water is continually tested with all

results being reviewed by the Health Department. In addition, there would be no cost to the County and the Board of Health supports fluoridation.

Mr. Denkenberger noted the resolution only states “encourages”, however, he does not believe the County should take a stand that may not be received well. He has not fully decided on whether to support the resolution.

Mr. Snyder spoke of the need to look at the entire issue regarding fluoridation and how it relates to the statistical information on the beneficial aspects to improve dental hygiene.

[Later in the meeting Ms. Price noted that Chairman Boyden had voted on the resolution and questioned whether it passed. Ms. Howe then provided an opinion that it had not.]

RESULT:	FAILED [3 TO 5]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, Chair
SECONDER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5
AYES:	Luke Snyder, Mary Ann Discenza, Raylynn Knolls
NAYS:	Cobb, Price, Denkenberger, Newell, Boyden

4. Resolution (ID # 3271)

Accept Funds Health Department Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN Grant) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, Christopher Newell
SECONDER:	Raylynn Knolls, Legislative District 7
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

5. Resolution (ID # 3272)

Accept Funds Health Department Environmental Health Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA Grant) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, Raylynn Knolls
SECONDER:	Christopher Newell, Legislative District 11
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

6. Resolution (ID # 3273)

Accept Funds Health Department Health Education (Healthy Neighborhoods Program Grant) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sandra Price, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

7. Resolution (ID # 3274)

Accept Funds Health Department Nursing (Lead Poisoning Prevention Grant) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Luke Snyder, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Sandra Price, Vice Chair
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

8. Resolution (ID # 3281)

Authorize Agreement Health Department/Administration Emergency Preparedness Training Ebola/Communicable Disease Cayuga County Health Department (Bio-Defense Network)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, James Denkenberger
SECONDER:	Sandra Price, Vice Chair
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

9. Resolution (ID # 3283)

Authorize Agreement Health Department/Children with Special Needs VMC Consultants, LP, Group Auditor (Transporting Children)

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sandra Price, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Raylynn Knolls, Legislative District 7
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Youth Bureau

10. Resolution (ID # 3326)

Accept Funds Health Department/Youth Bureau Resource Allocation Plan NYS Office of Children and Family Services

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Amy Cobb, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	Raylynn Knolls, Legislative District 7
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

11. Resolution (ID # 3335)

Appoint/Re-Appoint Members Cortland County Youth Bureau

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sandra Price, Mary Ann Discenza
SECONDER:	James Denkenberger, Legislative District 16
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Health Department Continued

12. Resolution (ID # 3332)

Amend 2016 Budget Health Department/Emergency Preparedness (Ebola Grant/Zika Virus Preparedness and Response Activities)

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

It was MOVED by Ms. Discenza, seconded by Ms. Price, and unanimously adopted to add the resolution entitled Amend 2016 Budget Health Department/Emergency Preparedness (Ebola Grant/Zika Virus Preparedness and Response Activities). MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Mousaw stated she requested modifications on the resolution that were not complete at the time the agenda was put together.

At this time Ms. Price asked whether the resolution relating to flouridation of water had passed or failed as a result of Mr. Boyden's vote. Ms. Howe excused herself temporarily to review the issue.

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, James Denkenberger
SECONDER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Monthly Updates

Ms. Feuerherm said her Department is working with the IRT staff to inform them of the major health issues facing residents of the County. In addition, they are working on providing educational materials regarding oral health, obesity, and smoking cessation. In addition, information on why individuals may not take prescriptions as directed will be reviewed. She noted the Seven Valley staff will assist in providing information on appropriate agencies to speak to regarding concerns.

Ms. Feuerherm said there will be a rabies clinic on March 30th. Normally there are 450 vaccines

estimated for the clinic but it is believed there will be more vaccinations this year. In addition, information on spaying will be provided.

Ms. Price spoke of the IRT event having been made possible through the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council. Ms. Cobb noted that Mr. Denkenberger and Mr. Dineen have worked very hard on the IRT event.

Mental Health

13. Resolution (ID # 3328)

Increase Budget to Cover Increased Cost of Medent Software Mental Health Department

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Thayer explained the resolution is a precautionary measure to ensure adequate funding for this project. He said the quote is for \$79,000, however, it is preferable to have additional funds earmarked in the event it is necessary to purchase additional hardware to meet the program's requirements.

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 0]
MOVER:	Mary Ann Discenza, James Denkenberger
SECONDER:	Raylynn Knolls, Legislative District 7
AYES:	Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN:	Donnell Boyden

Monthly Report

DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

Legal Opinion Regarding Chairman's Vote

Ms. Howe, County Attorney, informed the Committee that the Chairman of the Legislature may vote to break or make a tie vote. When the vote is tied, the action lost, therefore, the vote the resolution in support of flouridation failed.

Child Advocacy Center

Ms. Beard said she previously reported to Judiciary and Public Safety Committee, however, it was determined a more appropriate Committee is Health and Human Services. She provided brochures that outline the work of the agency and explained its operations. This program is fully-funded by the State Office of Children and Family Services. Ms. Beard said April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and there will be many activities to call attention to the work done in this area.

Mental Health, Continued

Mr. Thayer reported he State has completed the 2009 audit and their exit conference that indicated there were items in question. The rebuttle to their determination has been submitted, noting that the items were clerical errors. He said a consultant and lawyer have been put on retainer and there is ongoing work with other counties on the difficulties counties are experiencing as a result of the audit process. Ms. Price asked if NYSAC has enacted any type of lawsuit regarding the audit

process and was informed by Mr. Thayer that they have not as of yet.

The Committee discussed the upcoming audit results and have decided to have additional information brought forth at the next meeting.

Veterans Services

Mr. Bullock was not present.

Workforce Development

Mr. Ferri reported Grant Administration is working with the New York State Department of Labor to establish a firewall between Grant Administration and Employment/Training concerning the funding. He said a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be prepared by July to address concerns. Ms. Howe recommended having it completed by mid-May to allow adequate time to review the document. Mr. Ferri said it may be difficult since it would involve other communities as well. He said the Federal government has not yet provided the final documents needed although they had been expected in January, which may result in amending the timing of the RFP.

Ms. Wheaton said there has been a great deal of training, development of summer programs, and new on-the-job training with firehouse operators. In addition there have been recruitment efforts from Therm and Lowes.

Social Services

Ms. Monroe said the Home Energy assistance will close the program on April 8th. She then requested ten to fifteen minutes at the April meeting to provide an overview of a report. Following a brief discussion it was determined to start the meeting at 8:45 a.m. to provide adequate time for the various topics to be covered.

Discussion Item (ID # 3285)

January Center Attendance

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This item was provided for information only.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.16 center attendance (XLSX)

RESULT:	COMPLETED
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Discussion Item (ID # 3343)

2014 AHCF Cost Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This item was provided for information only.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Cortland Final AHCF 2014 (PDF)
- Opcert 1101200_CPA_2014 (PDF)

- [Opcert1101200_CEO_2014](#) (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion To: enter into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

An executive session was entered into at 9:58 a.m. Open session continued at 10:08 a.m. No action was taken during the session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [7 TO 0]
AYES: Cobb, Price, Snyder, Discenza, Knolls, Denkenberger, Newell
ABSTAIN: Donnell Boyden

ADJOURNMENT

On motion the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.