

Present: Legislators Stein, Deleo, Young, DeJaneiro, Also Present: Legislators Cianfrini, Clattenburg, Davis, Torrey, Clerk LaGrou, County Manager Jay Gsell, OFA Director Ruth Spink, Health Director Paul Pettit, Mental Health Director Ellery Reaves, County Attorney Kevin Earl, John Hilchey, Daily News Reporter Mallory Diefenbach, Howard Owens, The Batavian.

Chair Stein called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM in the Legislature Conference Room at the Old Courthouse. The minutes of the September 5, 2017 meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Health Director Paul Pettit explained that he is requesting Genesee County establish a Volunteer Alliance Linking Our Resources (VALOR) to assist with any natural or man-made disaster that may result in a public health emergency. He described how Orleans County has an established VALOR program. Individuals who volunteer are already trained health care professionals therefore no excessive training is required (that would potentially deter volunteers from being active with the program). The program was established after 9/11. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pettit next explained the request for a contract renewal for grant funding from the NYS Department of Health for the Administration of the County's Early Intervention Program. Contract amount is \$25,681 for October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mental Health Director Ellery Reaves described how Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc. was being awarded additional state money in the amount of \$25,200. Mental Health Department has a contract with Cazenovia therefore the funds pass through the county resulting in no budget impact. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.

Human Services Committee Chair Stein asked Mr. Reaves to explain that a more thorough review of the contract for the Mental Health Department to apply for State Grant money is required. Mr. Reaves had originally requested the matter be included on the agenda and confirmed that it can wait until the next Human Services Committee Meeting. He expressed that he has taken the lead with a 6 county collaborative and now that the State has put out an RFP, he wants to apply for grant monies. He expects to bring the matter to committee on October 30, 2017 which will allow enough time to make the application deadline.

Office for the Aging Director Ruth Spink began her department review by explaining that the OFA County Share for the 2018 Budget is higher this year. She reviewed critical needs which include home healthcare aide availability (very limited at present), influx of baby-boomers, keeping up with providing support and useful information relative to

helping seniors manage rising health care costs, supporting HIPPA related requirements/regulations, housing options and full spectrum continuum of care-housing. Ms. Spink explained the Alzheimer's Caregiver Respite Grant has been a challenge to manage and administer and went on to explain there has been talk of Catholic Charities pulling the grants and keeping the funding to administer the program themselves. Ms. Spink explained that OFA services and programs are not mandated. When grant funding is secured though, OFA is obligated to deliver programs and services outlined in the approved application.

Ms. Spink explained her request for a contract with the Center for Elder Law & Justice, Inc. for the provision of required legal services through the OFA. Attorney fees are \$55/hr and para-legal services are \$40/hr at an amount not to exceed \$8,400. This was approved upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink next described how the OFA has meal sites located throughout the County. Each site requires an agreement and proof of insurance. The Corfu Presbyterian Church, located on Alleghany Road in Corfu is a once per week meal site for the OFA with an annual \$600 stipend to the Church for use of the facility. This was approved upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink explained how other meal site locations include the East Bethany Presbyterian Church also with a \$600 annual stipend. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink next described how a meal site arrangement with Leisurertimers Apartments and People Inc. for January through December, 2018 with a stipend amount of \$450 was requested. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Deleo carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink next requested approval of an agreement with Genesee Valley Rural Preservation Council, Inc. 5861 Groveland Station Road, Mount Morris for a senior meal site operation at Havenwood Congregate Apartments for the period of January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018, with no payment to Genesee Valley Rural Preservation Council, Inc. for services rendered or received. Participant contributions will be forwarded to the Office for the Aging for meals provided. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo carried unanimously.

Next, Ms. Spink explained the need for an agreement with ARC for OFA room set-up and rearrangements based on scheduled programming. The rate is \$25/day for a morning and/or mid-day set up depending on the needs of the Office for the Aging activity schedule with a not to exceed amount of \$4,200 for the period of January 1, 2018 –

December 31, 2018. This was approved upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.

Lastly, Ms. Spink requested permission to apply for identified State and Federal funds for 2018. She referenced the chart provided to committee members which lists all of the funding streams and the expected differences in amounts from 2017 to 2018. A motion for permission to apply for all federal and state grants was made by Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kevin Earl explained that he has researched law firms to determine which would be suitable to retain for purposes of the County filing a legal claim against the manufacturers and distributors of opioid-based medications. The County is providing additional law enforcement, social service related services, treatment, and elevated jail services as a result of the opioid overdose epidemic. The two firms researched are Napoli & Shkolnik and Simmons Hanley Conroy. Napoli has been working with NYSAC and also have the following NY counties signed on; Rensselaer, Nassau, Niagara, Schuyler, Cattaraugus, Chemung and Chautauqua. Mr. Earl stated he is satisfied with the fee percentages which will be computed on the net sum recovery after deducting allowable expenses advanced by the Firm. The lawsuit is expected to be filed in the months following the County signing on. Mr. Earl stated he expects this will be similar to the tobacco settlement in terms of how long it will take for a decision and award. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Director Bev Mancuso reviewed highlights of her department review which included a downward funding trend. However, there is some revenue growth with program generated fees and contracts. Program changes and updates include Leadership Genesee has the largest class since it began in 2001, 4-H Youth Development continues with their focus of strengthening and growing the program and the Regional Ag teams have been active throughout the year. CCE is celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017 with a special annual meeting & celebration scheduled for October 17, 2017. Ms. Mancuso introduced Libby Eiholzer, a bilingual team member for Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops team. Recently, she conducted a survey of farms and learned that 70 percent had half or more Hispanic workers. She explained that after talking to farmers they felt like they couldn't speak up without fear of a visit from ICE. She further described how 1,000 farms in New York State are at high risk of losing employees. However, those farmers who have completed all necessary paperwork for migrant workers have ensured that proper taxes are withheld including Social Security tax. Libby is sharing the survey results where ever possible to ensure people become more educated on farming and the impact immigration policy has on the industry.

County Manager Jay Gsell explained how Genesee County is preparing to shut down the AmeriCorps program due to lack of funding. The loss will be significant since 400

members have worked at 80 host site locations throughout the County. Members have the benefit of gaining work experience, being paid and earning an educational stipend which may be used by themselves or a family member. Genesee County Youth Bureau had administered the program locally however their application for \$136,000 was not selected for funding. He further explained there must be state-level changes in place before Genesee County can apply again in the future. Mr. Gsell then presented a resolution in support of AmeriCorps at the Federal level and encourages the NYS Commission to continue to allocate grant funds to successful programs throughout the state. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo carried unanimously.

The Clerk reported the next meeting of the Human Services Committee is Monday, October 30, 2017.

Chair Stein asked the committee for support of a resolution to increase state support for Cornell Cooperative Extension County Associations statewide. State funding has remained stagnant for seventeen years. The proposed resolution supports increasing the State appropriate to \$8 Million. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39 PM upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.

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Rochelle Stein, Chair  
Human Services Committee  
Submitted 10-5-17 phl