

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

Chair Stein called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM at the Old Courthouse then temporarily appointed Legislator Davis to sit in for Legislator Young who was out of town. The minutes of the July 31, 2017 meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.

Office for the Aging Director Ruth Spink stated the OFA is one of a few beneficiaries of an estate which has been settled. The OFA is slated to receive \$7,927. She related that people close to relatives of the donor indicated they hope funds will be used in coordination with the Marshall Fund to provide more substantial services. Funds will be incorporated into the 2018 OFA budget. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Next, Ms. Spink described that the OFA was approached by a local artist looking to apply for GO-ART! grant funds to work with OFA participants and ARC participants. If approved, a design will be created for a mural on the outside wall of OFA – facing GO-ART!. Ms. Spink identified that Committee and Legislature approval of the mural design would be sought prior to painting. This was approved upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink next described her request for a budget amendment due to a decrease in state supplemental NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement and Direct Care Worker funds. She further explained that due to a shortage of Home Care-givers, funds from that budget line will be used to cover the expected shortfall. The total budget amendment is for \$46,628. This was referred to Ways and Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.

Chair Stein thanked OFA Director Spink for hosting US Senator Gillibrand last week where members of the public had an opportunity to speak with the Senator about Aging and other issues.

Mr. Pettit requested permission to apply for a grant for Retail Program Standards administered by the Food & Drug Association. He explained that the County has applied two times in the past, receiving approval once. Funding would be used for training to enhance conformity with the national food regulatory program standards. If approved, the County can be awarded up to \$6,000. This was approved upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Davis, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pettit explained the next resolution for a grant acceptance from New York State Department of Health and Health Research, Inc. for the County's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program in the amount of \$52,096. The County has applied for and received funds for 14-15 years. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Davis seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Lastly, Mr. Pettit requested the committee review and approve of a contract for services to eligible children in the Preschool Supportive Health Services Program. The contract will be with Liberty Post for special education itinerant teacher services, classroom services and evaluator services. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator DeJaneiro seconded by Legislator Deleo carried unanimously.

Veterans Services Agency Director William Joyce confirmed he has been busy serving both Genesee County and out-of-county veterans. He expressed his commitment to veterans and identified that he spends vacation time coming into the office to sign off on required paperwork since he is accredited. He identified that he could take earned vacation time if a part-time or on-call accredited staff were available to cover and process paperwork. He further stated his preference is to have a part-time employee who can be trained to eventually replace him in the office although he is not looking to retire anytime soon. Mr. Joyce also stated he is unable to call veterans out of the country on the office telephone. While this is not a regular occurrence it does happen and he must use his personal phone and incur charges. Committee members thanked him for his dedication to veterans and agreed that the County is fortunate to have him serving as the Veterans Director.

Department of Social Services Director Eileen Kirkpatrick reviewed her written annual report which is her last before retiring next month (October 2017). Ms. Kirkpatrick highlighted the following; Medicaid weekly shares won't change since the administrative cap has not been reduced. The 2017 Public Home appropriation was enough to cover outstanding bills from 2016 and DSS is now out of the Public Homes business. Child Care Costs continue to remain high. At present, the county has 15 children in some type of residential care which is costly yet necessary. Foster families are needed, especially those who are able to manage youth with more severe behavioral issues. Safety Net program had 295 cases=529 people keeping within the projected 2017 budget thus far. Ms. Kirkpatrick cautioned that much consideration should be given if the State offers to take over administration. Her concern is with stringent performance measures that may not be achieved/reached therefore reimbursements would be lost. She recommended proceeding with caution. Regarding trends; she discussed the Raise the Age matter and that Genesee County has a work group that includes the appropriate people/positions. Ms. Kirkpatrick is working closely with the newly appointed commissioner to ensure a smooth, seamless transition. Dates have been identified when he will come in for training and time to meet employees as well as move into his office prior to his start date of 10/16/17. Lastly, she expressed the slight downturn in retirements although there is a

potential for 10 retirements in the next 3-4 years. Chair Stein thanked Mr. Kirkpatrick for her thorough report and presentation to the committee.

The Clerk reported the next meeting of the Human Services Committee is Monday, October 2, 2017. And, there is an opening to conduct the Audit scheduled for Monday, September 11th.

Chair Stein updated the committee on the Opioid Lawsuit Resolution. A resolution was provided to Inter County and NYSAC Fall conference is scheduled for next week where discussion and more information are expected. She explained that the county attorney has conducted some research on law firms and has it narrowed down to two who have relevant experience. She expects the matter will come back to the Human Services Committee next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator DeJaneiro, carried unanimously.



Rochelle Stein, Chair
Human Services Committee
Submitted 9-6-17 phl