

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Room

Legislative Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Carol A. Ferratella, Chair Hilda T. Lando, Vice Chair K. Michael Hanna

STAFF: Jack K. Wheeler Mitchell Alger Patty Baroody
Darlene Smith Kathy Muller Jennifer Prossick

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Dan C. Farrand Kelly H. Fitzpatrick
Robin K. Lattimer John V. Malter Robert V. Nichols

ABSENT: Steve Maio Randy Weaver

OTHERS: Jim Bassage, Steuben Prevention Coalition
Norm McCumiskey, Steuben Prevention Coalition
Colleen Banick, Steuben Prevention Coalition
Mary Perham

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Mrs. Baroody to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2017, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Office for the Aging

1. **Contract Amendment** – Mrs. Baroody informed the committee that they have a Receptionist who is retiring. They have a contract with ProAction for support help and she requested authorization to include a Receptionist in the contract, with no change in the dollar amount of the contract.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH PROACTION TO INCLUDE A RECEPTIONIST POSITION AT NO ADDITIONAL COST MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Steuben Council on Addictions

1. **Legalization of Recreational Marijuana** – Mr. Bassage stated thank you for giving us time to speak to you. He stated he represents the Prevention Coalition and as part of our work, we attempt to raise and increase awareness about substance abuse use. He stated he is here today to review our effort against the legalization of recreational marijuana in New York State. Mr. Bassage stated that he submitted for review their position paper and he asked that the County support this paper and forward this to the Legislature to take a stance against it. We have three Legislators who have spoken in favor of this paper; Legislators Ferratella, Lando and Schu.

Mrs. Ferratella asked what happens if we support this paper? Mr. Bassage replied if you support this, we will provide the names and addresses of individuals this should be sent to at the State. This should go to our Senator and Assemblyman as well as other individuals in Albany. Mr. Wheeler commented if you choose to, this would be a memorializing resolution.

Mrs. Lando commented that she has asked several people and every one of them has said they are against the legalization of marijuana. She stated that she is in favor of a memorializing resolution. Mr. McCumiskey stated people are not knowledgeable about impacts that legalization has on states. If you are interested in receiving more information, he will send it to the members. This is about quality of life and safety. He encouraged the Legislators to really look into it. Mr. Bassage commented every other year we do a needs assessment in the schools and the two issues that come up the most are alcohol and marijuana. Every year we also conduct an adult survey and there is strong support for not legalizing marijuana.

Mr. Wheeler commented his perspective is that we need to draw a line between recreational and medical marijuana. Recreational use is separate from medical use. Mrs. Lando commented we have been gearing up to deal with the opioid issue and this would make that problem even more so. Ms. Muller commented about 70 percent of our cases have drugs involved. This is a huge problem across the State and it is continuing to grow. Mr. Wheeler stated one of the legal impacts is if there is a Federal ban on controlled substances and the State legalizes it, then how do you handle things. Discussion followed.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE IN OPPOSITION OF THE LEGALIZATION OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

Mr. Hauryski stated recently there was an article on welfare and the proposed Federal cuts. How many people in our County are generational welfare? Ms. Muller replied she does not have the answer, but she will look into it. She would say that there is a high percentage of generational welfare overall. Mr. Hauryski asked how will State and Federal budget cuts impact you? Ms. Muller replied the biggest impact will be the raise the age and foster care block grant reductions. Mr. Wheeler commented the impact on Medicaid is that we will either be paying more or paying nothing. Mrs. Ferratella asked what is the percentage of cases that are sanctioned due to drugs and/or alcohol abuse? Ms. Muller replied between 15 – 20 percent.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

****NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Wednesday, August 2, 2017
9:00 a.m.**

**Please send your agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, July 26, 2017.**