

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Meeting Chambers/Zoom

Committee Members Present

Mary Cavanagh, Chairwoman City of Oneida

Brandee DuBois, Vice-Chairwoman, City of Oneida

Alex Stepanski, Town of Stockbridge

Michelle Kinville, City of Oneida

Kyle Reger, Town of Cazenovia – via Zoom

Others Present

Jesica Prievo, Commissioner, Social Services

Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services

Kathryn Hopkins, Mental Health Clinic Treatment Program Coordinator

Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health

Ron Raymer, Director, Veterans Agency

Melissa Felton, Second Assistant County Attorney

Mark Scimone, County Administrator

Samantha Field, Public Information Officer

Cindy Edick, County Treasurer

John Pinard, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Emily Burns, Clerk to the Board

William Nicholson, Director, Community Action Program

Peggy LeClair, via Zoom

Michele Browell, Confidential Secretary, DSS

Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Cavanagh called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m., indicating that there was a quorum for the Health and Human Services Committee.

Approve Minutes

The Health and Human Services Committee reviewed the meeting minutes for January 23, 2024.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kinville to approve the minutes, seconded by Supervisor Stepanski and carried unanimously.

Mental Health

Director Teisha Cook went over some 2023 numbers for the clinics. The school clinics seen 335 kids resulting in 4,921 sessions. There was a total of \$438,000 in revenue received from these sessions within all seven districts. The main clinic seen 1,822 individual clients with 21,692 sessions. This resulted in \$2.6 million in revenue. The crises unit had 489 visits from calls, video, or walk-ins. These visits are non-billed. They have added two new fulltime nurse practitioners. All of these numbers are up from before COVID.

There will be a school grant for all sites with clinics. Director Cook is waiting for more details. There are currently clinics in Chittenango, Cazenovia, Hamilton, and Morrisville. Canastota is in the final stage of planning for a clinic.

Public Health

Director Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Proclamation Recognizing Public Health Week April 1-7, 2024.

This did not require a vote and will be added to the Board agenda.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with CNY Public Health Alliance

A motion was made by Supervisor Kinville to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Stepanski and carried unanimously.

There was discussion on the dates of this agreement. *Eric checked on this and has pulled this agreement and will resubmit for the March Committee meeting.*

Director Faisst informed the Committee that they are currently having a State Compliance audit of weights and measures. Madison is one of nine counties currently having audits. So far, they have noted that there is some equipment that has failed inspection.

Social Services

Commissioner Prievo went over the Commissioners Report. DSS is currently on track with their budget. Some Child and Family Services stats were given. To date there have been 233 CPS reports received, 26 kids in foster care, 6 neglect petitions filed, and 9 kids are currently in OCFS custody.

Burial stats were also given. To date there have been two burials totaling \$6,645.00 with a reimbursement of \$552.00 from the state.

Veterans Agency

Director Ron Raymer said the move to the new Veteran's site at the Northside Shopping Center is now complete. He anticipates a ribbon cutting in the Spring with a date to be announced. If anyone from the Committee would like a tour before then please let him know.

Director Raymer noted that Marie Williams has joined the staff today as a new VOS.

Other Committee Business

Chairwomen Cavanagh brought up the homeless issue currently in the City of Oneida. This has become a growing concern, and this is not the only place that has homeless encampments.

Commissioner Prievo stated that a "moment in time" survey is done every other year in January. This is to try to gauge how many homeless people are in the area and is done by DSS with Community Action Program. Resources are given to anyone in need.

Commissioner Prievo received a phone call last week from Oneida City Police Chief Lowell regarding the homeless encampment in Oneida. He was asking for DSS assistance. This is not something that DSS would normally do but wanted to be helpful. Staff from DSS along with Oneida City Police visited the encampment to inform people of resources available to them. Most are aware of the resources but are not interested. They do have food, and some are receiving SSI. There is an article in the Oneida Daily Dispatch and some of the information is not completely accurate. There is a lot on social media regarding this and is causing some misconception as the people at the encampment have stated that they choose to live there. There will be more to follow on this issue.

Preferred Agenda

It was the consensus of the Committee to allow any eligible resolutions from today's meeting to be added to the Preferred Agenda. All resolutions were voted on and approved by the Committee.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Supervisor Kinville to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m., seconded by Supervisor DuBois and carried unanimously.

Next meeting: March 26, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Browell for Chairwoman, Mary Cavanagh