



Sullivan County

Health & Human Services

Meeting Minutes - Final

Chairman Catherine Scott
Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips
Committee Member Brian McPhillips
Committee Member Amanda Ward
Committee Member Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Thursday, March 21, 2024

9:30 AM

Government Center

Special Meeting

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Scott called the Special Meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee meeting to order at 10:20AM.

Roll Call

Joseph Perrello, Nicholas Salomone, Luis Alvarez, Nadia Rajsz
Joshua Potosek, Michelle Huck, Robert Freehill, Tom Cawley, Nancy Buck, Kathleen Lara, Sharon Jankiewicz, Karen Holden

Alex K., Ken Walter Lou Setren, Lise Kennedy, Moreen Lerner

Present: Catherine Scott, Matt McPhillips, Brian McPhillips, Amanda Ward and Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Special Meeting Notice

Chair Scott read the Special Meeting Notice.

1. Special Meeting Notice

[ID-6298](#)

Attachments: [Special Meeting Notice HHSMarch21](#)

Public Comment

Lou Setren read a letter dated March 11, 2024 to NYSDOH from five legislators. He wondered why the five legislators could sign off on something like this when they have been telling you what is going on at the facility and to the staff at the facility.

Abe Rudman made a public comment regarding the Public Health Order. He thanked the legislature for having the meeting to explain and discuss the Public Health Order. Ms. Ward thanked Mr. Rutman for encouraging to have open dialogue between everyone.

Luis Alvarez, Chair of the Public Safety and Law Enforcement Committee presented a Certificate of Special Recognition for their Accreditation by New York State to Liberty Chief of Police Steven D'Agata who then spoke briefly.

Matt McPhillips moved to recess, seconded by Brian McPhillips at 10:35AM

The Health and Human Services Committee meeting reconvened at 10:41AM. Please note that there are two videos but this is the only set of minutes for the Special and Recessed.

Unfinished Business

The below two items were moved from March 21, 2024 Full Board agenda to this agenda.

Outside Auditors - Care Center

County Treasurer Nancy Buck thanked the Legislature for listening to the outside Auditor's presentations on the Adult Care Center. Chris McCarthy of O'Connor Davies and Matt Montalbo of Drescher & Malecki. Mr. McCarthy gave a verbal presentation and Matt Montalbo highlighted the attached presentation. (1 hour)

Former Charter Review Commission

Nadia Rajsz thanked the Charter Review Commission for their many years of work

Larry Richardson stated that the review process started in 2015 and they all thought it would last six months and we finished in 2017. He stated that the following names were members of the Charter Review Commission:

**Bruce Ferguson
Brian McPhillips
Paul Burckard
J. J. Hanson
Steve Altman
Mike Levinson
Bill Liblick
Norm Sutherland
Sara Johnson Fields
Ken Walter
Peggy Harrison**

Mr. Richardson then highlighted the Charter Revision Commission's 2017 Final Report and its recommendations.

**Staggered Terms for members of the Sullivan County Legislature vote was 10-0
Elected County Executive vote was 9-1**

At this point, Bill Liblick spoke about the Charter Review Commission

At this point, Norm Sutherland spoke about the Charter Review Commission.

At this point, Ken Walter spoke about the Charter Review Commission and why he voted against an Elected County Executive.

At this point, Brian McPhillips spoke about the Charter Review Commission.

At this point, Peggy Harrison spoke about the Charter Review Commission.

Larry Richardson wrapped up the presentation. Chair Rajsz thanked everyone for coming

today and stated the purpose of coming here today is to move forward in discussion with County Executive and staggered terms. In 2019, she was close on putting the Staggered Terms on the referendum but it was voted down by one vote.

Bill Liblick made another comment.

Ken Walter made another comment.

Drescher & Malecki

[ID-6521](#)

Attachments: [Drescher & Malecki March 21](#)

Adopt Public Health Order #1 of 2024

[ID-6301](#)

Attachments: [Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for age 18 years or younger, United States, 2024](#)

Chair Scott stated she would like to amend the version of (Karen Holden amended version) which are highlighted in yellow. There was no motion for this version (attached marked Karen Holden)

At this point, Terry Bernardo read the amendments in her version of the Public Health Order, seconded by Amanda Ward.

At this point, Social Services Commissioner John Liddle made a comment.

At this point, Amanda Ward made a comment. She also stated that yesterday's meeting was very important.

At this point, Matt McPhillips stated we are making a positive move on Public Health.

Chair Scott stated she disagrees. She thinks the risk is just as great. She feels that this amendment is dangerous.

At this point, Joe Perrello made a comment.

After much discussion, this version was adopted. Moved by Terry Bernardo, seconded by Matt McPhillips, put to a vote 4-1 on the amendments, on the amendment to the amended version with Chair Scott opposed.

A motion was made by District 9 Legislator Terry Blosser-Bernardo, seconded by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be carried at Committee as Amended to the County Legislature meeting on 3/21/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 3 Legislator McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

Nay: Chairman Scott

Enactment No: 196-24

Karen Holden version amended

[ID-6523](#)

Attachments: [Karen Holden Amended Version](#)

Adjourn

Brian McPhillips stated what it not being realized is that the hard work of that department, our ranking was raised from 60 or 61 to 57. He commends the department for all their hard work to bring that rate up and if we continue to work collaboratively, he feels we can continue to raise that number. Members of the Legislature concurred.

There being no further business, Terry Bernardo moved to adjourn, seconded by Amanda Ward. .
The Special/Recessed Meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee was adjourned at 12:54PM.