



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~AGENDA~

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

10:00 AM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM
2. Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM
3. Monday, March 25, 2019 at 10:01 AM
4. Monday, April 01, 2019 at 10:01 AM

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Guest: Marci Lobel-Esrig, Founder of SilverBills, a service that helps seniors deal with their bills to ensure that their bills are paid correctly and on time.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

10:00 AM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

1
DRAFT

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Legislator Tubiolo called the meeting to order at 10:16 AM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
David J. Tubiolo	Chair	Present	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Absent	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Whip)	Present	
Alfreda Williams	D8 Legislator (Vice Chair)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: BOL: Leg. L. Williams(on phone), D. Linhardt, M.Bateman GUESTS: S. Geffen, E. Charles, M. Callahan, M. Fuller, R. Boone, J. Velasquez, J. Pici, Mr. & Mrs. A. Gorges, C. Milano, D. Lindholm, L. Reichgott, D. Chen, C. Nielsen, L. Reyes, V. Pinto, E. Doty,

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Monday, January 14, 2019 at 10:01 AM

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the minutes were approved 2 - 0.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion of the New York State budget and how it will affect senior citizens.

Guest: Maria Alvarez, Executive Director, New York StateWide Senior Action Council

Chair Tubiolo opened the meeting and introduced our guest, Maria Alvarez, Executive Director of the New York StateWide Senior Action Council. He noted that there are a few issues that are facing seniors with the State and federal budgets, it's a balancing act and we want to make sure senior citizens and their needs are not forgotten.

Ms. Alvarez announce that May 14 was their day to visit Albany and talk to our state representatives.

She briefly discussed the changes in Albany and with Senator Stewart-Cousins as the Senate Majority Leader, which is a great plus because she has been a great advocate for

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senior services, health care and living in place. Ms. Alvarez noted the services that the Council provides such as: Medicare health and prescription drug coverage counseling with free unbiased advice through their help lines. They also have a new helpline they have is for Medicare fraud prevention and are currently looking for volunteers to help spread this information.

She then went on to discuss the budget.

Statewide Programs:

Patients Rights Hotline and Advocacy Project- need to add an additional \$100,000 appropriation.

Managed Care Community Assistance Program (MCCAP) - Increase funding for our MCCAP counseling services to improve community outreach.

NYS Office for the Aging:

Community Services for the Elderly (CSE)-They have increased the appropriation by \$1million from last year. This includes all services you would get in the community in order to keep the elderly in their homes.

EISEP (Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly)-People who want to live at home still need home attendants to assist them at home. There are two new programs that cause concern for us-adding \$15 million to the EISEP program while granting expanded authority to NYSOFA to adjust budget lines. We prefer that \$15 million be moved to the CSE section, distributed equitably throughout the state and allowing local Aging Commissioners the ability to determine where the need is highest.

Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage - The governor's budget reduces benefit funding by \$11,223,000, the justification for this cut is that the Affordable Care Act continues to phase-out the Medicare Part D coverage gap. We believe rather than cut the funding, include all Medicare enrollees in the program to offset Medicare prescription drug costs by including persons with disabilities younger than age 65, so that EPIC works for everyone on Medicare regardless of age.

Department of Health

She noted that the charts which were kept for the last for years show that funding was kept flat except for a few programs. The StateWide Senior Action Council also opposes changes in the Medicaid Reduction in Fiscal Intermediaries for the Consumer Directed Program, Medicaid Spousal Refusal Authority, Medicaid Prescription Drug Coverage. They are also in favor of Universal Coverage and opposes cuts to the Elderly Pharmaceutical Coverage(EPIC). She stated that the state needs to create incentives for the recruitment and retention of home care workers which currently has shortages in caregivers.

A question and answer period followed.

Ms. Alvarez handed out brochures on various issues important to senior citizens and spoke briefly on Medicaid Fraud Prevention.

To view this meeting, please go to:
<http://westchestercountyny.iqm2.com/Citizens/default.aspx>

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Shimsky seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the Committee adjourned at 11:31 AM.

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Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

10:00 AM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

DRAFT

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Legislator Shimsky called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
David J. Tubiolo	Chair	Absent	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Absent	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Whip)	Present	
Alfreda Williams	D8 Legislator (Vice Chair)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Absent	

Others In Attendance: SENIOR PROGRAMS & SERVICES: J. Pici BOL: d. Linhardt, M. Jackson
GUESTS: C. Canusher(PWJC), R. Goodman(PWJC), T. Milano, S. Geffen, M. Callegan, D. Cheng.

MINUTES APPROVAL

- Monday, February 25, 2019 at 10:00 AM

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator A. Williams, the minutes were approved 2-0.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion with the Pace Women's Justice Center about the Center and the services provided through their Elder Justice Unit.

Leg. Shimsky, Acting Chair, explained that Leg. Tubiolo was not able to be here today because he is in Albany. Leg Shimsky began by noting one of the many issues that unfortunately our seniors have to deal with is abuse, fraud with hired caregivers or relative who are caregivers, roommates etc. Ms. Kanusher, Executive Director of the Pace Women's Justice Center stated that they are thankful to the Legislature which has funded the Pace Women's Justice Center and particularly the Elder Abuse Program that has been operating since 2005. She noted that the Women's Justice Center serves around three thousand across all of their programs and have three offices. They also have a new walk-in legal clinic where they are getting around 70 people a month that are victims of elder abuse, sexual assault or domestic violence. This has made their services more accessible.

Roberta Goodman, Elder Justice Attorney, Pace Women's Justice Center discussed the kind of cases they see. Despite their name they serve both men and women over the age of 60. Since 2005 they have more than 1300 residents of Westchester County. Many of these

legal issues result in shame, denial and isolation which prevent these people from coming forward, even though they have suffered financial loss, possibly loss of housing, physical abuse or emotional abuse. These legal issues which are compounded by abusive living conditions, dysfunctional family relationship, mental health issues. This is what elder abuse looks like. They get a lot of their referrals from senior centers, not for profits, senior nutrition centers and law enforcement.

Ms. Goodman noted that elder abuse does not discriminate by gender, what your socio-economic status is, how educated you are and it happens in every community in the county. Once an older person has suffered physical and emotional abuse, they are unlikely to recover to the point that they were at.

She stated that she is a member of the highly regarded Westchester County Multidisciplinary Elder Abuse Team. Other members include Jean Pici from Commissioner Carpenter's Office is on the team as well. This team meets monthly. Its' purpose is to coordinate care and create solutions for the growing number of the complex cases in the community. The other members of the team are, the District Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, Dept. of Community Mental Health, Family Services of Westchester, Adult Protective Services Case Supervisors and Managers. They sit in this confidential setting and discuss the case and the best way to proceed and help solve the problems. She gave examples of solution to help the victims move forward. The Elder Justice Unit also goes out into the community to educate and reach out.

She also is a member of the geriatric mental health collaborative where they talk about the ways in which older person in the community are suffering. They help by holding forums to educate and inform.

She proceeded to give examples of these kinds of abuse and how they help the people who come to them for help.

Leg. A. Williams asked what they do about scams aimed at Older Americans. Ms. Goodman said that they go out in the community to let people know about scams.

Leg. Shimsky asked how the legislators can help make seniors more resistant to scams and the services that Elder Justice Unit provides. Ms. Goodman replied that they could give a paragraph or two in their newsletters to describe their services. There was a discussion of how the legislators can help to get information about scams.

Leg. Shimsky asked the audience if they had any questions. A discussion ensued. Leg. Shimsky suggested e-blasts to warn about scams. Ms. Goodman stated if you don't know the person calling, don't answer the phone and discussed other methods to check these calls, letters, or emails from strange callers.

To view this meeting, please go to:
<http://westchestercountyny.iqm2.com/Citizens/default.aspx>

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Mar 19, 2019 10:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Monday, March 25, 2019

10:01 AM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

3
DRAFT

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is joint with the Committee on Budget & Appropriations.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
David J. Tubiolo	Chair	Present	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Present	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Whip)	Present	
Alfreda Williams	D8 Legislator (Vice Chair)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Present	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: SENIOR PROGRAMS & bSERVICES: M. Carpenter, J. Pici, R. Pasquale, BUDGET: L.Soule BOL: LEG. N. Barr, Leg. C. Borgia, Leg. M. Cunzio, Leg. C. Parker, D. Linhardt, J. Boxhill, E. Hendrickx, A. Restiano, T. Limengo.

MINUTES APPROVAL

- Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **ACT-2019-49 Act – NYSOFA-Older Americans Act Grant Funds:**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into grant agreements with the New York State Office for the Aging to accept grant funds under Titles III-B, III-C, Nutrition Services Incentive Program ("NSIP"), III-D and III-E of the Older Americans Act and also to enter into inter-municipal agreements with local municipalities for services to be funded by said grants.

Acting Chair Shimsky opened the meeting. Commissioner Carpenter, Rose Pasquale and Jeanne Pici from the Department of Senior Programs & Services came before the Committee to discuss an Act to authorize the County through its Department of Senior Programs & Services to enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging to accept grant funds made available to the County under Titles III-B, III-C, the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP), III-D and III-E of the Older Americans Act (OAA) in the not to exceed amounts as listed in the legislation and also to enter into inter-municipal agreements with local municipalities for services funded with the grants received by NYSOFA under OAA.

Comm. Carpenter asked how to handle additional funds that they have received and noted that the IMA monies had increased slightly. Leg. Borgia replied that we can amend the current legislation. Comm. Carpenter noted that the monies are distributed throughout the County based on weighted population formulas. The Title III-B amount increased from

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\$271,486 to \$290,486 and the Title III-C & NSIP amount increased from \$1,494,834 to \$1,495,464. The Legislators amended the legislation. Commissioner Carpenter explained that the Title III-B addresses transportation and legal and referral services, some in home services but primarily the information and referral services, Title III-C, which is their highest amount is for the nutrition programs They service 15 municipalities and they have home delivered meals in sites throughout the county. Title III-D addresses chronic disease and health care management. In response to questions, Comm. Carpenter explained how the nutrition program works in the nutrition sites and home delivery. She stated that they just rolled out their Matched-up Housing program and explained how that will work. A discussion ensued. Title III-E addresses the caregiver program, adult daycare programs and project lifesaver for dementia and Alzheimer patients.

With a motion by Legislator Maher and seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the item was approved with a vote of 6 - 0.

RESULT: SIGNED BY COMMITTEE

2. ACT-2019-48 Act – NYSOFA-State Grant Funds:

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into grant agreements with the New York State Office for the Aging to accept grant funds from New York State ("State") under the Community Services for the Elderly Program, the Congregate Services Initiative Program, the Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program, the New York State Transportation Program, the Wellness in Nutrition Program and the Nutrition Services Incentive Program and to also enter into inter-municipal agreements with local municipalities for services to be funded by some of said grant.

Commissioner Carpenter, Rose Pasquale and Jeanne Pici from the Department of Senior Programs & Services came before the Committee to discuss an Act to authorize the County through its Department of Senior Programs & Services to enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Office for Aging (NYSOFA) to accept funds made available from NYS under the Community Services for Elderly Program (CSE), The Congregate Services Initiative Program (CSI), the Caregiver Resource Program (CRC), the Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP), the NYS Transportation Program (NYSTP), the Wellness in Nutrition Program (WIN), and the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) and also enter into inter-municipal agreements with these corporations located within Westchester for services to be funded by the State grant. The amounts may increase once the NY State Budget has passed but currently they are as listed in the legislation. The Agreement will begin on April 1, 2019 and continue through March 31, 2020. The term for NSIP will begin retroactively to October 1, 2018 and continue through September 30, 2019. The monies are distributed throughout the County based on weighted populations. The program is in 15 different municipalities. Comm. Carpenter explained that seniors are not able to sustain their circumstances any longer. They are trying to get them into housing and nutrition programs. She explained that low income housing is not available and they have started a program called "Matched Housing" to deal with the housing needs of the seniors who can no longer sustain their current living situations. She also mentioned that the in-home delivery service is becoming more popular due to the changing needs of the community. They are looking to get increases for the programs from the State for all the programs, specifically the adult daycare programs and the nutrition program. Last year these programs over spent. Comm. Carpenter explained that the municipalities will not turn away a senior and most of these programs have waiting lists.

With a motion by Legislator Maher and seconded by Legislator A. Williams, the item was approved with a vote of 4 - 0.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Shimsky seconded by Legislator A. Williams, the Committee adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Mar 25, 2019 10:01 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Monday, April 1, 2019

10:01 AM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

DRAFT

Committee Room, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is joint with the Committee on Budget & Appropriations.

With a quorum present, Legislator Tubiolo called the meeting to order at 10:15AM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
David J. Tubiolo	Chair	Present	
Damon Maher	D10 Legislator	Present	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Whip)	Present	
Alfreda Williams	D8 Legislator (Vice Chair)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: SENIOR PROGRAM & SERVICES: M. Carpenter, R. Pasquale, J. Pici YOUTH BUREAU: D. Harris-Madden, B. Dean BOL: Leg. M. Cunzio, Leg. J. Testa, Leg. C. Parker, Leg. C. Borgia, Leg. N. Barr, G. Casciato, J. Boxhill. D. Linhardt, A. Restiano, Y. Valencia, M. Clark.

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. ACT-2019-52 Act – IMA-Services to Seniors-Municipalities:

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into inter-municipal agreements with one or more local municipalities for the provision of various services to seniors to be funded with County tax dollars.

Chair Tubiolo opened the meeting and asked the guests to come to the table.

Commissioner Mae Carpenter, Rose Pasquale and Jeanne Pici from the Department of Senior Programs and Services began the discussion. This Act will authorize the County to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with one or more municipalities for the provision of various services to seniors, to be funded with County tax dollars for a term commencing on January 1, 2019 and continuing through December 31, 2019 in a not-to exceed amount of \$30,000. The programs provided under the IMA include, the Livable Communities Regional Host program which enables them to participate in and access programs and services provided by the Department. The program will also provide public information and education forums and events informing the community of the many services provided by the Department designed to enhance the quality of life for seniors.. Comm. Carpenter explained that this IMA services 16 municipalities and provides mostly transportation to and from nutrition sites as well as transportation for seniors to and from food shopping.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Apr 1, 2019 10:01 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the item was approved with a vote of 5 - 0.

RESULT: SIGNED BY COMMITTEE

2. ACT-2019-53 Act – IMA-Tarrytown-Sleepy Hollow Summer Day Camp-Tarrytown:

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Tarrytown (the "Village") for the purpose of reimbursing the Village for the operation of the Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow Summer Day Camp in the amount of THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$35,000) DOLLARS.

Chair Tubiolo stated that we will discuss Item #11713- IMA Tarrytown-Sleepy Hollow Summer Day Camp-Tarrytown.

Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden, Executive Director and Bernie Dean from the Youth Bureau began the discussion. Dr. Harris-Madden stated that this legislation would authorize the County of Westchester to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Tarrytown for reimbursement for the operation of the Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow Summer Day Camp for a period of July 2, 2018 through August 10, 2018 The camp is for youth ages 3 through 11 years and includes arts and crafts, theatre, games, swimming, and summer activities. The County will provide assistance to the Village in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

With a motion by Legislator Shimsky and seconded by Legislator Maher, the item was approved with a vote of 5 - 0.

RESULT: SIGNED BY COMMITTEE

II. OTHER BUSINESS

Unfinished Business and any other agenda items to come before the Committee.

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator A. Williams, seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the Committee adjourned at 11:20AM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Apr 1, 2019 10:01 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)