



Committee on Seniors, Youth & Intergenerational Services

~AGENDA~

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

10:00 AM

Committee Chair: Jose Alvarado

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

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 11:00 AM
2. Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 1:30 PM
3. Friday, February 07, 2020 at 11:00 AM

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Guest:

Eva Roszkowski, Community Engagement Manager & Young Professionals Alzheimer's Council Advisor, Alzheimer's Association, Hudson Valley, NY Chapter

Presentation, Young Professionals Alzheimer's Council

Overview of mission, activities, and future events

Presentation, Dementia Conversations

Provide tips on how to “break the ice” and have the most common difficult conversations if you see a change in your loved one

Help you plan ahead and build a care team that communicates well

Touch on the most effective ways to communicate with loved ones in the early stages of the disease

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, October 29, 2019

11:00 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, Chair Tubiolo called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM.

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

Others In Attendance: BOL: Y. Valencia, D. Gomez, D. O'Rourke GUESTS: Commissioner Kevin McGuire, DSS; Jane Velazquez, DSS David Chen, Ann M. Kessler, Muriel Fuller, Matt Callaghan

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 10:00 AM

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

2. Monday, October 07, 2019 at 1:02 PM

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

3. Monday, October 21, 2019 at 10:01 AM

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

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chair Tubiolo opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Commissioner Kevin McGuire and Jane Velasquez, Director of Temporary Assistance from the Department of Social Services joined the committee and discussed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Commissioner McGuire noted that the name was changed from what was called "Food Stamps" to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Congress changed the farm bill to make clear that it was supplemental based on a study done to determine the percentage of how much people spend on food. The study showed that most people spend 1/3 of their income on food and upwards to 50% on their rent, most

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Oct 29, 2019 11:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

households do not have enough income for food. This program will supplement to avoid food insecurity or better know as hunger. Trying to prevent hunger and allow better nutrition for families. This program is also for seniors and people that are disabled. Good nutrition is essential for good health. Chair Tubiolo asked how many seniors are on this program, the department will follow-up and send this information. Commissioner McGuire noted that a survey was done in Maryland and noted that many seniors did not feel they needed this service. The eligibility is adjusted based on your income, the more money you make the benefit may decline. Any amount is a benefit and helps people budget their expenses. Commissioner McGuire noted and has participated in the SNAP challenge, eating healthy on a budget. Issues in purchasing healthy foods is a challenge, especially for seniors, the cost is expensive and getting to the source is a challenge. He noted "food deserts" in poor communities. These communities are required to go out of their way to travel and purchase healthy foods out of their neighborhoods. The Commissioner encourages anyone on benefits to take advantage of free meals at school or community base organizations. Chair Tubiolo asked if the Federal Government is considering cutting back on these benefits. The Commissioner is concerned, they made a change on the welfare reform category on Able Body Adults without children, adults that were healthy and only receive benefits for six months and would have to find a job. Communities began to give waivers during the recession and the last few years have determined to only give to real needy communities. With the exception for a few exempt locations in a few zip codes in Mount Vernon and Yonkers, single adults are exempt from working, this excludes people that are healthy and people that are homeless. A new roll out from the USDA has communicated that eligibility on rules for Broad Base Categorically (CatL) people that are eligible for one program will allow you to benefit for another program. This will make the application process a lot easier, cutting back on time and eligibility determinations. The county is responsible to administer this program, therefore the county does not receive any assistance from the state in this process. It is more expensive to manage this account and administer the program as it exists. Commissioner McGuire mentioned that in the last 20 years the USDA has made things easier for the application. Commissioner McGuire discussed the new regulations about public charge, The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is regulating who is eligible to receive benefits when people come to the US and are able to provide for themselves. A draft came out last year, this pertains to people who are legal in the country. Applying for benefits may disqualify you for becoming a citizen, this is a current policy. If a resident of American born children receive benefits, they may be deportable due to public charge. Comments were received and reviewed and a new public charge policy was put in place. Children of American citizens would not be considered a public charge, non citizens are not eligible for any cash assistance. Resident Aliens may be considered a public charge. A federal judge has blocked the public charge and it is on hold. Community Based Organizations are assisting the community to understand these changes. American families are eligible but many families are mixed, where members may be residents, citizens, etc. The parents are the payees not the recipient, most are working class citizens who qualify for benefits. DSS does not share information unless it is ordered by a court. Every two years there is a requirement to re certify to see eligibility. Department of Homeland Security monitors applications, they must have a waiver to discuss matters when applying for citizenship, a person applying must disclose if they have received benefits and may be disqualified. Legislator A. Williams mentioned the education from non profit agencies are helpful. Dr. Chen mentioned that many who don't speak English are effected. Westchester County is diverse, Commissioner McGuire is able and willing to speak to communities of other ethnicities with translation.

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II. OTHER BUSINESS

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

III. RECEIVE & FILE

1. **(ID # 11359) Communication – HON. DAVID J. TUBIOLO: IrishCentral.com Article - "Yonkers City Council first to adopt McGuinness Principals":**

Forwarding an *IrishCentral.com* article entitled, "Yonkers City Council first to adopt McGuinness Principals."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

2. **(ID # 11360) Communication – DAVID J. TUBIOLO: IrishCentral.com Article - "Top Senator Chuck Schumer signs on to McGuinness Principles":**

Forwarding an *IrishCentral.com* article entitled, "Top Senator Chuck Schumer signs on to McGuinness Principles."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

3. **(ID # 11515) Communication – LEGISLATORS TUBIOLO, PEREZ, MAHER, BARR, COVILL, JOHNSON AND BORGIA: Boston Herald Article - "Body Shaming a Problem on and off the Web":**

Forwarding a *Boston Herald* article entitled, "Body Shaming a Problem on and off the Web."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

4. **(ID # 11626) Communication – LEGISLATORS TUBIOLO AND MAHER: New York Times Article - "NYC to Ban Discrimination Based on Hair":**

Forwarding a *New York Times* article entitled, "New York City to Ban Discrimination Based on Hair."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

5. **(ID # 11678) Communication – HON. DAVID J. TUBIOLO: USA Today.com Article - "Retirement Planning: Here's how much money you should have saved":**

Forwarding a *USA Today.com* article entitled, "Retirement Planning: Here's how much money you should have saved at every age."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

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RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

6. **(ID # 11718) Communication – HON. NANCY E. BARR: NYTimes Article - "Teenagers Say Depression and Anxiety Are Major Issues Among Their Peers":**

Forwarding a *New York Times* article entitled, "Teenagers Say Depression and Anxiety Are Major Issues Among Their Peers."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

7. **(ID # 11912) Communication – HON. DAMON R. MAHER: Journal News Article - "Breaking the school to prison pipeline; Yonkers' MBK grant to fund program":**

Forwarding a *Journal News* Article entitled, "Breaking the school to prison pipeline; Yonkers' MBK grant to fund 'model' program in jail."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

8. **(ID # 12003) Communication – HON. DAVID J. TUBIOLO: The Washingtonpost.com Article - "How the Opioid Crisis is Leading to Elder Financial Abuse":**

Forwarding a *Washingtonpost.com* article entitled, "How the Opioid Crisis is Leading to Elder Financial Abuse."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

9. **(ID # 12041) Communication – HON. DAMON R. MAHER: NACO Article - "Transition Center Offers 'One-Stop Shop' for released inmates":**

Forwarding a *NACO* article entitled, "Transition Center Offers 'One-Stop Shop' for released inmates."

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

10. **(ID # 12109) Communication – HON. DAMON R. MAHER: Correspondence re: Dominion ICE voting machines:**

Forwarding correspondence received from Joseph Bravo, Executive Director of the Westchester Independent Living Center, Inc., regarding Dominion Imagecast Evolution (ICE) voting machines.

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

11. **(ID # 12240) Communication – HON. CHRISTOPHER A. JOHNSON: Memo to create a pilot program entitled S.A.V.E. - Students Achieve Via Education:**

Forwarding a memo requesting that the appropriate County departments research and draft a proposal to create a pilot program entitled S.A.V.E. - Students Achieve Via Education, for 2020 which will create and fund college savings accounts with the beginning amount of \$50 for up to 5,000 kindergarten students in the City of Yonkers.

With a motion by Legislator A. Williams and seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the item was approved with a vote of 2-0.

RESULT: RECEIVED AND FILED

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator A. Williams seconded by Legislator Tubiolo the Committee adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Oct 29, 2019 11:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

1:30 PM

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting is joint with the Committee on Social Services.

With a quorum present, Chair Tubiolo called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM.

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

Others In Attendance: BOL: Y. Valencia, M. Clark, Legislator Nancy Barr, Legislator Kitley Covil, J. Axelrod, M. Jackson, L. Burton GUESTS: John Befus, DSS Deputy Commissioner; Kevin McGuire, DSS Commissioner; Rev. James O'Hanlan, St Paul Church; Rachel Simon, LGBTQ Advisory Board; Robyn Schlesinger, LGBTQ Advisory Board; Marykay Capasso, DSPS; Michael Sabatino, Councilman, City of Yonkers;

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 11:00 AM

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion on Trump administration proposing a rule that would allow faith-based foster care and adoption agencies to exclude LGBTQ families and others from their services based on religious beliefs.

Chair Tubiolo opened the meeting, the Department of Social Services was called to join the committees. Commissioner McGuire discussed how the proposed rule targets children and how they may feel about LGBTQ. Deputy Commissioner Befus noted that LGBTQ parents are more likely to adopt children, and they play an important role in the life of these children, the messaging from this LGBTQ proposal is harmful and detrimental. Mr. McGuire stated his concern was getting families who have a caring and responsible homes to be foster parents. Legislator Barr mentioned that this rule is the opposite of what government requires. Mr. Befus said he would get the regulations that are attached to Chair Covill. There was one case where a religious organization sued the state for the religious exemption. Chair Covill invited Jim O'Hanlon and Michael Sabatino from the LGBTQ advisory board to speak about the issue. Mr. O'Hanlon spoke about the historical stance of Christianity and the impact it has had. Mr. Sabatino spoke about his own personal experience in relating to adopting a child and the difficulties that LGBTQ parents faced to get to this point. Chair Covill asked

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Nov 19, 2019 1:30 PM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

DSS to explain a family first policy. Mr. Befus detailed the policy and noted that NYS has taken a two year waiver. Legislator Barr said that this proposal starts a slippery slope and dangerous precedent and that this is a violation of separation between church and state.

Legislator A. Williams said that this proposal stigmatizes children and it's horrible to propose. Robyn Schlesinger was invited to speak and wanted to make a note that narrative being spun is that more families will be able to participate from religious groups. The real issue is that there's not enough foster/adoptive families for these children. Rachel Simon was invited to speak and explained the number of LGBTQ students are feeling bullied by peers, families and teachers. Chair Covill said she would change the proposed letter and email a copy to the LGBTQ advisory board.

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 Tubiolo the Committee adjourned at 2:05 PM.



CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Chair Alvarado called the meeting to order at 11:28 AM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jose Alvarado	Chair	Present	
David J. Tubiolo	D14 Legislator (Minority Whip)	Present	
Alfreda Williams	D8 Legislator (Vice Chair)	Present	
Lyndon Williams	D13 Legislator	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Others In Attendance: BOL: Yolanda Valencia GUESTS: Ann Darcy, WCDSPS; Marikay Capasso, WCDSPS; Jeannie Pici, WCDSPS, Paul Schwars, Sr Council Dist 5; Tiny Milano, Coyne Sr.Center; Daryl Lindholm, Yorktown Sr. Council; David Chen UCD

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 11:00 AM
2. Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 1:30 PM

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Organizational Meeting for the 2020-2021 Legislative Term:

- Setting a Meeting Quorum (2)
- Setting a Voting Quorum (2)
- Selection of Committee Vice-Chair (Legislator Lyndon Williams)
- Setting Meeting Date and Time (3rd Tuesday of Month,10:00 AM)

Guest: Ann Darcy MS, RDN, CDN- Coordinator - Nutrition, Health & Wellness, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services

Ms. Darcy came before the committee and discussed item 12378.

1. **(ID # 12378) Act – Amend Grant Agreement-NYSOFA-Title III-C:**

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Feb 7, 2020 11:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

AN ACT to authorize the County to retroactively amend a 2019 grant agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) and intermunicipal agreements with local municipalities (IMAs) to reflect an increase of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED NINE (\$55,209) DOLLARS in the total amount of Title III-C funding received by the County from NYSOFA to provide nutrition services to the elderly.

With a motion by Legislator Tubiolo and seconded by Legislator A. Williams the item was approved with a vote of 3-0.

RESULT:**SIGNED BY COMMITTEE****Next: 2/24/2020 7:00 PM**

II. OTHER BUSINESS

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

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Tubiolo seconded by Legislator A. Williams the Committee adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Feb 7, 2020 11:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)