



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Monday, October 7, 2019

1:02 PM

DRAFT

Committee Chair: David J. Tubiolo

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

www.westchesterlegislators.com

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting is joint with the Committees on Legislation and Appointments.

With a quorum present, Vice Chair Shimsky called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

Table with 4 columns: Attendee Name, Title, Status, Arrived. Rows include David J. Tubiolo (Chair, Absent), Damon Maher (D10 Legislator, Present), MaryJane Shimsky (D12 Legislator, Present), Alfreda Williams (D8 Legislator, Present), Lyndon Williams (D13 Legislator, Absent), Benjamin Boykin (D5 Legislator, Present).

Others In Attendance: CEO: Steve Bass, Blanca Lopez LAW: Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz, Linda Trentacoste DOH: Dr. Sherlita Amler, Pete DeLucia DCMH: Michael Orth BOL: Melanie Montalto, Dennis Power, Committee coordinators: Jill Axelrod, Yolanda Valencia, James Silverberg, and Brandon Lloyd GUESTS: Matt Callaghan, Carissa Jachcinski, Lisa Siegel, Greg Mihailovich, Cheryl Richter, Carla Bowers, Anna Masopust, Andrea Sadowski, Ann Chiappetta, Maria Samuels, Joe Bravo, Spike Babaian, Maureen Kenney, Elizabeth Hamlin, Michele Lawton, Barry Harrison, Lucy Miller, Leilani Lockett

MINUTES APPROVAL

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

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. ACT-2019-215 Act – Council on People with Disabilities:

An Act establishing the Advisory Council on People with Disabilities

Guests: Michael Orth, Commissioner, Department of Community Mental Health; Andrea Sadowski and Anna Masopust, Office for People with Disabilities; Maria Samuels, Deputy Executive Director, Westchester Disabled On the Move; Joe Bravo, Executive Director, Westchester Independent Living Center; Ann Chiappetta, Vice President, Westchester Council for the Blind Chief Deputy County Attorney Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz and Deputy County Attorney Linda Trentacoste discussed the basis for the law. Commissioner Orth, Ms. Sadowski and Ms. Masopust discussed the need for the Council, and how it should function. Legislator Testaquestioned whether staffing or other additional costs would be needed for the Council to function properly. Mr. Bravo responded that the Council may need liaisons to assist them. Steve Bass, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, advised that there are already people in the County Executive's office to act as liaisons, and he does not foresee a

need for additional staff. Ms. Samuels and Ms. Chiappetta from the Westchester Council of the Blind discussed why the creation of the Council is important to show inclusion. Legislator Shimsky requested to add to the Act on Section 1-A "as" after the word disabilities.

With a motion by Legislator Shimsky and seconded by Legislator Boykin the item was approved with a vote of 4-0.

To view this meeting in its entirety click the link below:

https://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=65

RESULT:

SIGNED BY COMMITTEE

Next: 10/7/2019 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 Shimsky seconded by Legislator A. Williams the Committee adjourned at 2:10 PM.



Committee on Seniors & Constituencies

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, September 24, 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, Chair Tubolo called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM.

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)	Absent	

Others In Attendance: BOL: Y. Valencia, G. Casciato, M. Clark, D. Gomez, Mary Jackson, D. O'Rourke, A. Restiano GUESTS: Joan Nimmo, Debbie Warburton, Abby Salzman

MINUTES APPROVAL

- Monday, September 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM

On motion of Legislator Shimsky seconded by Legislator A. Williams the minutes were approved 4-0.

- Monday, September 23, 2019 at 10:01 AM

On motion of Legislator Shimsky seconded by Legislator A. Williams the minutes were approved 4 - 0.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chair Tubiolo opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Joan Nimmo, LCSW, Care Consultant/Director of Professional Education Hudson Valley, NY Chapter Alzheimer's Association; Abby Salzman, Recruitment Chair, Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer', Alzheimer's Association and Debbie Warburton, Alzheimer's Association joined the committee. Chair Tubiolo mentioned and welcomed a few members of the Senior Council and asked they join the discussion at the table. Ms Nimmo presented a presentation, Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia. Chair Tubiolo briefed the committee on what is Alzheimer's Disease, he went on to say that Alzheimer's is a disease of the brain that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. It is not a normal part of aging. Alzheimer's gets worse over time. Although symptoms can vary widely, the first problem many people notice is forgetfulness that's sever enough to affect their ability to function at home or at work, or to enjoy hobbies. The disease may cause a person to become confused, get lost in familiar places, misplace things or have trouble with language. It can be easy to explain away unusual behavior as part of normal aging, especially for someone who seems

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 24, 2019 10:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

physically healthy. It is recommended, any concerns about memory loss should be discussed with a doctor. Chair Tubiolo recommends keeping active and keeping stimulated and happy. Ms. Nimmo went over her presentation and said there are 5.8 million affected in the US, 50 million world wide and said to affect 14 million in the US by 2050. There are 16.2 unpaid caregivers about 18.4 billion hours. Different types of Dementia consist of Alzheimer's, Vascular dementia (changes in the blood flow of the brain), Dementia with Lewy bodies (specific brain changes throughout the brain) and Frontotemporal dementia (brain cell loss in the front of the brain). Dementia is a general term for collection of symptoms that are severe enough to interfere with daily life; Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia. Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging, it is a progressive brain disease. Alzheimer's causes nerve cells to die, which leads to shrinking of the brain. The brain changes result in changes in memory, thinking and behavior. The greatest risk factor for the disease is age, developing the disease increases at age 65. Family history is also a known risk factor. Risk genes and deterministic genes are two types of genes associated with Alzheimer's. Hispanics, African Americans and women are at an increased risk for Alzheimer's. The three stages of Alzheimer's disease are early, middle and late. They are sometimes referred to as mild, moderate and severe in medical context. Three types of drugs are approved by the FDA to help manage the symptoms, these treatments only address some symptoms in some people, they do not treat the underlying cause of the disease. Advancing research has helped scientists increase their understanding of the disease, clinical studies are needed to find methods of prevention, treatment and ultimately, a cure. Both drug and non drug studies are taking place across the country and online. TrialMatch(alz.org/TrialMatch) is a free clinical studies matching service. Ms. Warburton discussed educational services and advocacy as well as policy changes. She has attended events in Albany during the legislative season, she has advocated for increased funding on the federal level and has been successful. Hopeful that a breakthrough is in the near future to find a cure to know what causes the disease. NYS has been funding and giving grants to support services. Currently she is working on a caregiver tax credit. She asks for advocacy and making Westchester more Dementia friendly. Ms. Saltzman informed the committee of the Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's this Sunday, September 29, registration starts at 8:30 am and begins at 10 am. Walk will be held at SUNY Purchase, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY 10577, to register login at WestchesterWalk.org. Lifestyle changes is key to prevent the disease; diet (Mediterranean or Dash diet), exercise (30 minutes a day 5 days a week), cognitive activity (keeping the brain busy), social engagement is very important to maintain being healthy. Facilities to care for patients are expensive, Medicaid pays for services and Medicare does not. Long term care is available for patients, this is a long illness. A common way for awareness is a family member noticing the symptoms. Geriatrician help and refer patients to resources. Self awareness is difficult, having answers is important.

To view this meeting in its entirety, please click the link below:

https://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=51

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 11:20 AM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 24, 2019 10:00 AM (MINUTES APPROVAL)

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

Your Committee has reviewed “An Act establishing the Advisory Council on People with Disabilities.” Your Committee advises that it is important to protect the rights of people with disabilities, prevent discrimination, provide support and ensure equal access.

Your Committee notes that Westchester County government is committed to improving the quality of life for Westchester County residents and visitors with disabilities. Your Committee further notes that accessibility for people with disabilities is at the forefront of County policies and programs and that Westchester County has made sincere efforts to increase accessibility for all County residents who may be affected by disabilities.

Your Committee is advised that the County of Westchester is committed to ensuring that its residents with disabilities have a direct voice in County government. Accordingly, establishment of an Advisory Council on People with Disabilities will assist the County government in matters concerning the issues, problems, and interests of Westchester County residents with disabilities.

Your Committee is informed that there will be nineteen (19) members of the Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Board of Legislators except as specifically stated. Membership on the Council shall consist of seven (7) members each having certain disabilities such as Intellectual/Developmental Disability, Physical Disability, Blindness/Legal Blindness, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Mental Health Disability, Autism and a Learning Disability or being a representative of an organization that provides services to people with the above referenced disabilities. There shall also be one representative each from the Office for People with Disabilities, Department of Community Mental Health, Department of Social Services, Department of Health and the Department of Emergency Services who shall be non-voting ex-officio members. Finally, four (4) at large members shall be appointed by the CE and three (3) at large members shall be appointed by the Board of Legislators, all requiring County Board of Legislator approval. Each member of the

Advisory Council shall serve for 2 year terms to coincide with the terms of members of the County Board of Legislators.

Your Committee is further informed that the Council shall advise the County Executive and County Board of Legislators on issues relating to people with disabilities including recommending legislation, funding priorities and programs. In addition, the Council shall review county policies, procedures, practices and programs for their impact on people with disabilities and provide input, when appropriate, to improve them.

As you know, this Honorable Board must comply with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"). Your Committee is advised that the Department of Planning has reviewed the applicable SEQRA regulations, and has concluded that this proposed Act is not an action which requires any environmental review. Your Committee concurs with that conclusion.

Your Committee, after careful consideration, recommends the adoption of this Act.

Dated: October 7, 2019

White Plains, New York

Alfreda Williams
Mary Jane Altmann
John S. Just
Benjamin Boykin III
K. J. Carroll

Alfreda Williams
Mary Jane Altmann
Benjamin Boykin III
W. N. Mc...

Margaret A. G...
[Signature]
Nancy Bar...
Mary Jane Altmann
Benjamin Boykin III


Sdk-9/16/19

Legislation

COMMITTEE ON
Seniors & Constituencies

Appointments

TO: Linda Trentacoste
Deputy County Attorney

FROM: David S. Kvinge, AICP, RLA, CFM 
Director of Environmental Planning

DATE: October 3, 2019

SUBJECT: **STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW FOR
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

PROJECT/ACTION: Establishment of an advisory council to advise the County Executive and County Board of Legislators on issues relating to people with disabilities. Responsibilities include reviewing County policies, procedures, practices and programs for their impact on people with disabilities and recommending legislation, funding priorities and programs that prevent discrimination, provide support and ensure equal access to people with disabilities.

With respect to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617, the Planning Department recommends that no further environmental review is required because the project/action:

- DOES NOT MEET THE DEFINITION OF AN "ACTION" AS DEFINED UNDER SECTION 617.2(b)**
- MAY BE CLASSIFIED AS TYPE II PURSUANT TO SECTION 617.5(c)():**

COMMENTS: None

DSK/cnm

cc: Steven Bass, Assistant to the County Executive
Melanie Montalto, Legislative Director, Board of Legislators
Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz, Chief Deputy County Attorney
Norma Drummond, Commissioner
Claudia Maxwell, Associate Environmental Planner

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1.1.c

SUBJECT: Advisory Council on People w/Disabili NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

To Be Completed by Submitting Department and Reviewed by Budget

SECTION A - FUND

GENERAL FUND

AIRPORT FUND

SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUND

SECTION B - EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Expense \$ -

Total Current Year Revenue \$ -

Source of Funds (check one): Current Appropriations Transfer of Existing Appropriations

Additional Appropriations

Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: _____

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses: Annual Amount _____

Describe: An Act establishing the Advisory Council on People with Disabilities.

Potential Related Operating Budget Revenues: Annual Amount _____

Describe: _____

Anticipated Savings to County and/or Impact on Department Operations:

Current Year: _____

Next Four Years: _____

Prepared by: Debra Ogden *DO*

Title: Sr. Budget Analyst

Department: Budget

Date: October 7, 2019

Reviewed By: *[Signature]*

Budget Director

Date: 10/7/19

Attachment: ACT- Advisory Council on People With Disabilities-SIGNED BY COMMITTEE (ACT-2019-215 : Council on People with Disabilities)

ACT NO. -2019

An Act establishing the
Advisory Council on People
with Disabilities.

BE IT ENACTED by the County Board of the County of Westchester as follows:

Section 1. Board Established.

1. There shall be an Advisory Council on People with Disabilities consisting of nineteen (19) members to be appointed by the County Executive with Board of Legislator approval except as otherwise stated, as follows:
 - A. Seven (7) members each either having one (or more) of the following disabilities or being a representative of an organization that provides services to people with such disabilities as:
 - a. Intellectual/Developmental Disability
 - b. Physical Disability
 - c. Blindness/Legal Blindness
 - d. Deaf or Hard of Hearing
 - e. Mental Health Disability
 - f. Autism
 - g. Learning Disability
 - B. Four (4) at-large members;
 - C. Three (3) at-large members to be appointed by the Board of Legislators with Board of Legislator approval;
 - D. One representative from each of the following County Offices and Departments who shall be non-voting ex-officio members:
 - a. Office for People with Disabilities
 - b. Department of Community Mental Health
 - c. Department of Social Services
 - d. Department of Health
 - e. Department of Emergency Services
2. Each member of the Council shall be appointed to two (2) year terms to coincide with the term of members of the County Board of Legislators;

3. The County Executive shall designate one member to be Chairman of the Council;
4. The members of the Council shall serve without compensation;

§ 2. Powers and Duties of the Council.

1. The Council shall advise the County Executive and Board of Legislators on issues relating to people with disabilities including recommending legislation, funding priorities and programs;
2. The Council shall review county policies, procedures, practices and programs for their impact on people with disabilities and provide input, when appropriate, to improve them;
3. Hold meeting of its members at such time and place as the members of the council shall determine.

§ 3. Effective Date.

This Act shall take effect immediately.

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