



## Committee on Environment, Health & Energy

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

1:00 PM

Committee Chair: Nancy Barr

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

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### CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Chair Nancy Barr called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Nancy Barr	Chair	Present	
Catherine Borgia	D9 Legislator	Absent	
Kitley Covill	D2 Legislator	Present	
Catherine Parker	D7 Legislator (Majority Leader)	Present	
MaryJane Shimsky	D12 Legislator (Majority Whip)	Present	
John G. Testa	D1 Legislator (Minority Leader)	Absent	
Benjamin Boykin	D5 Legislator (Chairman)	Present	

Nyle Salley - Westchester County Department of Emergency Services (WC-DES), Michael Volk - WCDES, Jennifer Miller - American Heart Association, Alice Schoen - Saving Active Hearts, Dana Colasante - Saving Active Hearts, Davide Colasante - Saving Active Hearts, Steven Schoen - Saving Active Hearts, Sherlita Amler - WC Dept. Health, Kenny Bantov - PortChester Rye Rye-Brook Emergency Services, Christine Peters - Senator Shelley Mayer's Office, Steve Bass - County Executive Office, Copper Crane - County Executive Office, John hynes

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion on Saving Active Hearts, an initiative to develop school-based CPR/AED programs including cardiac emergency response plans for young athletes.

Chair Barr opened the meeting a gave a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting and also invited the guests to the table and the members of Saving Active Hearts to make their presentation to the Committee.

[Click here to view the presentation.](#)

Chair Barr asked the guests if there were any additional points they would like to add.

Dr. Amler added that she agrees with the members of SAH and that Automatic Emergency Defibrillators (AED) and that everyone should be trained in CPR and in fact at every game there should be at least two people trained in CPR because the person who is trained may be the person who need CPR. Also because it's also exhausting people can last a lot longer because they are sharing the work load with another person. And in order for CPR to be

effective the person administering the CPR has to keep a specific rhythm and it is difficult to do so if they are exhausted. Dr. Amler also added, every coach in youth athletics should also be trained in CPR and how to put on an AED.

Ms. Miller from the American Heart Association also agreed with the statements made by both the members of SAH and Dr. Amler and stated that the AHA advocated to Albany to make CPR a requirement of receiving your High School Diploma and in 2016 it became a requirement. The AHA continues to advocate for bystander CPR to increase the number of people within a community to be trained or at least have some knowledge on how to perform CPR.

Mike Volk, Chief EMS & Communications Division of DES stated that since 2000 Westchester County has had a public access defibrillation program. There are 160 defibrillator's out in the field including all of the County owned parks. Since 2000 1,600 County employees have been trained to administer CPR and operate an AED. The training are offered continuous. Mr. Volk added there are additional responsibilities beyond just receiving the AED there's reporting that needs to be done the batteries need to be checked and changed, so there is a maintenance component and the person who is trained is usually the person charged with those tasks.

Dr. Almer mentioned an additional program the Board could explore which is called Stop the Bleed which is a program is turnkits placed with AED's. Because during an incident or an accident these turnkits are life saving because in order for the heart to continue beating there needs to be blood and a certain amount of blood.

Nyle Salley, DES added that where the AED's are located are also Stop the Bleed kits and when a refresher CPR - AED course is requested a stop the Bleed training is also conducted at that time.

Legislator Borgia asked how many municipalities in their recreational facilities or schools have AEDs?

Ms. Colasante responded that all schools by law have to have an AED but the challenge is the signage of the AED and the people who use the facilities don't always know where to find it. So the physical building will have an AED but if know one knows where it is or how to use it that's when problems occur.

Dr. Amler asked DES if defibrillator are also placed at all of the County pools?

Ms. Nyle responded that it depends on access and security but the AED's are typically held in the office and the people in the offices are trained.

Legislator Parker commended the County for having AED's available at all County owned Parks and asked if Ward Pound Ridge Reservation had an AED.

Ms. Salley responded that the majority of the County owned parks have AED's if there are staff people at that location. That particular park does not because it was left to the individual departments to request an AED so if they want one they simply have to make a request. A staff person would have to be trained prior to receiving an AED.

Legislator Parker asked how much does an AED cost?

Ms. Salley responded about \$1,500 for a base model.

Legislator Parker asked how can the Board mandate the schools districts?

Ms. Schoen responded that SAH is not asking the school districts because they already have an action plan the void is in the recreation programs of the municipalities.

Legislator Covill suggested ensuring all County Employees who want to be trained in CPR be trained when they are first hired.

A brief conversation ensued and the members will discuss the possibility of implementing that with the necessary departments.

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Parker seconded by Legislator Covill the Committee adjourned at 2:17 PM.