

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
November 16, 2011

**PRESENT:**

Elizabeth Young, Chairwoman  
Reginald Crowley  
William Hughes, Jr.  
Margaret Robertson  
Jeffrey Braley  
Richard Keaveney  
Edward Cross

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Gail DiCosmo, Clerk  
Kary Jablonka  
Gary Flaherty  
Paul Mossman  
Lynn Kutski  
Michaele Williams-Riordon  
Ronald Caponera

**PRESS: 1**

Chairwoman Young called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING: K. Jablonka**

**Program Update:**

**Program Management:** The HEAP Program has started today This year there is verifying of income (bank statements etc.) the office has mailed out applications to residents.

**.2 Purchase:** Approval to purchase Nutrishield Insulated Bags at a cost of \$1040.00) to transport meals-on-wheels, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Cross, carried.

**.2 Purchase:** Approval to purchase Project Lifesaver equipment at a cost not to exceed \$4500, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by R. Crowley, carried.

**Conference:** Approval for one staff to attend NYS Caregiving and Respite Coalition Conference in Albany on November 17, 2011 (no cost), motion by R. Crowley, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., carried.

**Resolution Request:**

Requesting permission to transfer \$4500.00 from .4 Account A07610144000 to .2 Account A07610002999 to purchase tracking equipment and transmitters to locate lost clients with Alzheimer's and similar ailments, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Cross, carried. Refer to Finance.

**Resolution Request:**

Authorization to Amend Resolution No. 359-2011 to read "Authorizing the Office for the Aging to contract with the Columbia County Healthcare Consortium for One (1) year beginning January 1, 2012 for Medical Transportation Services to Medical Appointments in the amount of \$23,000.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by R. Crowley, carried. Refer to Finance.

K. Jablonka asked for permission to close the Nutrition Sites the day after Thanksgiving, permission was granted by committee.

**VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY: G. Flaherty**

**Update on Vets to Chefs:** This was designed for Veterans, and they did graduate from the class of Chefs.

**Veterans Day Activities:** On Veterans Day G. Flaherty was the guest speaker in Hudson; he was congratulated from the committee for speaking and honoring our Veterans.

On December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> G. Flaherty will be speaking on "Justice for Veterans" then heading to Saratoga and will be conducting with other officials interviews for the Naval Academy and Westpoint, which are then forwarded to Senator Gibson.

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES: P. Mossman**

**Emergency Transitional Housing Proposal:** Focusing and targeting homeless. There are some recommendations of the plan. Shelter Allowance and Supplement have found 6 Apts; the program was explained, and the Department will be sending staff to go with the applicants.

P. Mossman stated right now for Supportive Housing as of November they have 35 individuals, 26 Males, 9 Females; 17 families and 37 children.

P. Mossman distributed the monthly caseload comparisons; noting Applications that have registered are 689; Applications withdrawn 20; and Applications denied 1; as of October 11, 2011.

**DSS Employment Initiatives:** P. Mossman is reorganizing and restructuring this unit. Reassigned an Account Clerk to the Employment Unit, and looking at Job Development and employment coming to Columbia County. P. Mossman is reaching out to K. Flood, Commissioner of Economic Development and the Chamber of Commerce.

As an incentive to the employees, there are 3,000 tickets that need to be sold for the Edith Casey Stocking fund, if the Department can sell them all, Commissioner Mossman will work the switchboard of one day.

**Resolution Requesting** authorization to fill the following vacant, budgeted positions effective December 15, 2011;

One (1) Account Clerk, GR10B, 2011 Step 1 salary \$27,260; vacancy due to internal promotion  
One (1) Senior Social Welfare Examiner, GR13C, 2011 base salary \$42,010, and to fill any vacancies created due to promotion to this position; vacancy due to retirement and Abolish One (1) Part-Time Social Welfare Examiner, GR12, Step 1 salary \$17,738 and Create and Fill One (1) Full-time Social Welfare Examiner, GR12, Step 1 salary \$31,161.00, effective December 15, 2011; this is 60% reimbursable, motion by W. Hughes, Jr. , seconded by E. Cross, carried. Refer to Budget & Salary, if approved, forward to Finance.

Commissioner Mossman expressed his appreciation and the committee's continued support of the Department of Social Services.

The Winter Walk is scheduled for December 3, 2011.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn at 5:53 PM by R. Keaveney, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., carried.

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