

## SOCIAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14, 2009 – 3:15 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Sausville; Supervisors Jenkins, Lucia, Raymond, Southworth, Veitch, Wormuth; Wright, Connelly; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Tony Scavone, Employment & Training; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; League of Women Voters Reps (2); Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

Chairman Sausville called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jenkins moved to approve the minutes of the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Lucia seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Scavone requested a **resolution to accept federal stimulus money, as part of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, in the amount of \$360,104.** He said this money will be used for the Summer Youth Employment Program and to run as much training as they can for adults and for dislocated workers to be sent to area colleges for anything there is a demand for in order to get an individual placed. Ms. Raymond said can they just be unemployed or do they have to be laid off from a shut down place. Mr. Scavone said both. He said he will be requesting a Counselor Aide, as they will be looking at 40 slots for the SYEP, and with the TANF money, they will have another 60 kids, and they do not have enough staff right now. He said this Aide will be hired May 4 – September 21.

Mr. Scavone said they are seeing 600 to 800 clients per month, and that is the most he has seen in his 30 years. He said they want us to train as many people as we can. It is two-year money, but they would like us to spend this in one year. He said their total stimulus is about \$553,000, and he will put the rest of the money in the 2010 County budget. Ms. Raymond asked if this was just for Saratoga County, and Mr. Scavone said yes. Chairman Sausville asked how someone from the general public would inquire about this program. Mr. Scavone said from their website, [joblink.org](http://joblink.org) and by calling 884-4170. **Ms. Raymond moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Lucia seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a **resolution authorizing a contract with Shenendehowa Senior Citizens/Care Links Community Caregiver Program for \$30,000.** She said this is just a renewal from last year, and she had overlooked bringing it to the Committee. This programs services Mechanicville, Malta, Halfmoon and Clifton Park, she said. **Ms. Wormuth moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a **resolution Proclaiming May as Senior Citizens' Month.** She mentioned invitations will be going out for the Senior luncheon that will be held on May

28<sup>th</sup> at the City Center. **Mr. Lucia moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a **resolution to contribute towards the purchase of a senior transportation van for the Towns of Waterford (\$20,000) and Hadley (\$15,000). Ms. Southworth moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Lucia seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a **resolution to accept \$43,763 in stimulus money specifically for the nutrition program.** She said this will help them offset the cost of meals and if there is an increase in meals. **Mr. Veitch moved to approve this resolution. Ms. Wormuth seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a **resolution to authorize a contract with GLT, Inc. for the provision of personal emergency response systems at a cost of \$34.95 per unit per month at a total cost not to exceed \$15,000 per year.** She said this is a renewal from last year. **Ms. Raymond moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Lucia seconded. Unanimous.**

Chairman Sausville said Mrs. Johnson brought to his attention that the Rockefeller Drug Laws are being reformed in terms of probation departments, jails and DSS programs. Should we begin to think what the ramifications are when these people are released from jails and allowed to go back into society? Mr. Hellwig said by changing the laws, people convicted will now be processed locally instead of being sent to prison. He stated it may be a couple of years before we see an impact, and he presumes the Public Safety Committee will be looking at this. Ms. Raymond said do we know where a "guest" from the State of New York will end up when they are released from jail? There is no way to measure what the impact will be because a lot of cases come from the New York City area, she said. Mr. Hellwig said if you are in the State system and paroled, the State wants them dumped back into the counties. Ms. Raymond said she is thinking Saratoga County will not be an inmate's first choice. Mr. Jenkins stated they get a lot of them who have families in South Glens Falls, and they stay in the motels up there. Ms. Wormuth said until we get more information, we have to see what they will be using for parameters. She said between now and the next Public Safety Committee meeting, she will talk to some of the departments.

Mr. Jenkins mentioned they had some small motel units that used to be seasonal, and they went to weekly rentals. As a community, we did not do anything about that. We have nothing in our zoning that can do anything about that, he said. If you have motels, you should take a look at your zoning, he said. He said they would never have approved those as apartment units. Chairman Sausville said we have to learn more about this, and maybe we can bring new people to the table to bring us more insight.

On a motion by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Lucia, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann