

Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
March 2, 2022 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Phil Barrett; Committee Members C. Eric Butler, Diana Edwards and Chairman of the Board Theodore Kusnierz; Supervisors Tara Gaston, Mark Hammond; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden, Stephanie Hodgson, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Sandra Cross, Office for the Aging; Daniel Kuhles, Public Health; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addiction.

Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the minutes of the February 2, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Butler, to authorize the renewal of contracts for the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP). Unanimous.

Ms. Cross said that this is an annual housekeeping item. The only difference is that they increased the rate from \$24 to \$25 to be competitive.

Ms. Cross said that on St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage will be served at all meal sites. Ms. Cross encouraged all Supervisors to find their meal site to participate. The Senior Luncheon is scheduled for May 6th at the City Center.

Dr. Kuhles said that today is the first day in some time that children and staff are not mandated to wear masks in schools. They have not changed the mandate that staff that are not vaccinated or fully vaccinated submit to weekly testing. Dr. Kuhles said that the partnership between the schools in the County and Public Health is very strong and resilient. They remain fully committed to supporting children. COVID has had a tremendous effect on mental health, social emotional learning. They remain fully committed to our schools, parents and families. The masks may be done, but the impact of COVID is certainly not. Mr. Barrett thanked Dr. Kuhles and his staff for working so closely with the schools through the pandemic. He and other Supervisors have received tremendous feedback regarding the support the schools received from Public Health. Mr. Barrett said that he wrote an op-ed for the Saratogian on Sunday that spoke to how the County led by Public Health was a leader in so many different ways throughout the pandemic.

On a motion made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Clerk of the Board