

PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road, Conference Room A
Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke; Jim Heisler; Dan Ryan; Sandra Salgado; Mary Donner and Anna May Miller. Mary McCann arrived at 8:25a.m. Also present: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Commission and interested public.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Mary L. Donner	James Heisler
Mary T. McCann	Anna May Miller
Daniel Ryan	Sandra Salgado

MINUTES

Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller, to approve the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of November 14, 2008, as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

None

Ms. McCann arrived at 8:25a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance: Committee members reviewed an Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance. Committee members were informed that any recommended changes were underlined. The changes give food operators more options than previously. The food operators have been notified of the changes. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan to recommend approval of the changes to the above ordinance as reviewed. Committee members were informed that the biggest problems seen with the food establishments have occurred because of the lack of training of the staff and the turnover seen in these types of establishments. The intent of the changes was to prevent food borne illnesses because of improper hygiene. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Workforce Network/WIB: Mr. Austin noted that when meeting with the Ferguson Group (the County's lobbyist group) they highlighted the need to continue with additional funding for the successful boot camp program. They have put in a request for \$400,000-\$600,000 for the new fiscal year.

Board of Health: Andy Andresky has been named as the president for the Board of Health. He will be serving a one year term. The Board of Health would like to schedule a joint meeting with the Public Health & Human Services Committee members. Committee members will be informed of the proposed date for the meeting.

Animal Control will be holding a joint adoption event with five other animal rescue organizations. This event will take place on December 13th from 11:00a.m. until 3:00p.m. in the old Walmart Shopping Center in Crystal Lake. The Animal Control division is looking for other ways to promote animal adoptions in the County. They are seeing additional animals being relinquished because of the foreclosure situation. There is a cost of \$60 to \$80 to relinquish these animals.

Mental Health Board: Mr. Heisler informed committee members that he has resigned from the Mental Health Board because of a possible conflict. Another committee member will need to fill this void. State Funding will be a huge issue and they are receiving word that some of the agencies are cutting staff because of these cuts. There will be at least a 10% cut in funding for the coming year and the State has been very late in their current payments.

Housing: Ms. Donner did not attend the last meeting but informed committee members that the Housing Authority is working on their LIHEP meeting because of the increased need seen and additional people requesting services.

Disorderly Conduct/Noise Ordinance: Committee members were informed that the committee may need to look at a nuisance ordinance to address this issue.

Senior Services Grant Commission: The 2009 contracts have been sent to the agencies. The commission needs to come up with some dates for meetings for the coming year as well as closing out contracts for 2008. Committee members noted it might be a good idea to revisit the strategic plan for the commission as well.

VAC: Mr. Iwanicki joined committee members to provide an update on the VAC. He informed committee members that he is working on a grant for eye care. He noted the previous grant was well received. They are waiting to hear if they will receive a grant for the new fiscal year. An additional grant was applied for to obtain funds for specialist opinions as well. These claims are provided by Veteran's Affairs. Mr. Iwanicki informed committee members that there are a group of companies that are going into nursing homes offering to assist families and elders in these homes with filing applications for Aid & Attendance and then charge the family a fee to review the application. These companies also offer additional services for a fee. Mr. Iwanicki reported that this service is free through the Veterans Assistance Commission. These companies are not breaking the law as they can offer these services, but, there is obviously additional education needed for Veteran's so they are not charged for these unnecessary services.

Mr. Iwanicki noted that the transportation pick up points are now in place. The focus is now on North Chicago to provide needed services to the area Vets. There is less need to go to Milwaukee at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance (30 day review)

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