

**COMMITTEE DAY
LAKE PLEASANT, NY
MONDAY
JUNE 23, 2014**

**TOURISM COMMITTEE
9:30 AM**

Members present: Neil McGovern, Brian Wells, John Frey and Clark Seaman

Also present: Bill Farber, Brian Towers, Phil Snyder, Bob Edwards, Rick Wilt, Dean Nervik and Pete Klein

Mr. Nervik announced that Ms. Carol Joannette and Mr. Jim McKenna could not make it this morning.

Mr. Nervik reviewed the quarterly marketing report that Mr. McKenna had supplied him.

Mr. Nervik reported that they launched the new website. They have some editing issues that need to be ironed out. The great thing about the new website is our new blogs and fresh content which will be put on many times a month. The blogs we have are for paddling, hiking and birding.

Mr. McGovern reported that he met with Mr. Nervik prior to this meeting and stated that the new website is more pleasing to the eye but there are some things that need to be addressed for navigating within the site. Mr. Nervik has been working with ROOST and Ad Workshop on getting this a little more seamless. If any of the Board members have any suggestions please contact Mr. Nervik with them.

Mr. Nervik continued to review the handouts.

Mr. Towers asked, how many businesses have bought into the picture listing. Mr. Nervik stated approximately eight to ten.

Mr. McGovern asked that the quarterly request of \$24,000 for ROOST be approved.

The Birding Festival attendance was down but about thirty percent of the people for the festival spent the night within the County. We have had more day trippers this year than we have had in the past ten years and most were new people.

Mr. Farber stated that ROOST does the marketing for Saranac and his suggestion is to try to have a meeting with Mr. McKenna when he is down this way and maybe a couple of people from Audubon who he is familiar with to brainstorm ways to improve.

**HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE
10:00 AM**

Members present: Clark Seaman, Rick Wilt, Neil McGovern and Phil Snyder

Also present: Bill Farber, Brian Towers, Bob Edwards, Brian Wells, John Frey, Bob Kleppang and Pete Klein

Community Services Director Mr. Robert Kleppang handed out information.

Director Kleppang reported that this is really an overview and pointed out that more than half of the people that they serve are older than 45.

Mr. Towers asked if most of the people they see come from a referral. Director Kleppang stated most come to us from family members or that they know us, schools etc. For school age children we meet monthly with the schools where there is some authority and make services available if needed. The challenge is often the parent's willingness to seek services.

Director Kleppang reported that there has been a lot of change over the last couple of years in regards to revenues. He explained what happened with the Medicaid Reform about a couple of years ago and the possible closure of State hospitals. Then last week he received news that there was an agreement formed with the Governor's office and the Legislature not to close those hospitals but possible downsizing. Possible plans are that a State staffer would follow these individuals into the community and the reinvestment fund would be spent by the State hospitals themselves that were chosen to close to refurbish their facilities. At this point if reinvestment does happen it will probably be minimal at best.

There is another development with a delivery system which is happening very quickly. The federal government announced releasing \$8 billion dollars to provide New York with funding for a five year transformation of benefits. This money will be provided through a grant process where departments within the community forms consortiums to identify strategies and programs that can be used so that in five years they will see a 25% reduction in individuals coming through on emergency programs. Director Kleppang continued to discuss funding.

Director Kleppang reported there are some service gaps such as child psychiatry that continues to be something that we struggle to provide.

Last week he received a call from the Office of Mental Health; they are applying for a grant which if awarded Hamilton County could receive \$20,000.00 for equipment for a child psychiatrist out of New York City.

Mr. Towers asked if that would be from Indian Lake or would it be mobile. Director Kleppang stated from their locations. He does have concerns with the adult population but this might also work for adults. A short discussion continued.

Director Kleppang announced they have a new Prevention Educator that started last week, Mr. Seth Harrington. Family Fun Day will be the first Monday in August. Partnership Day was last week focusing on youth issues, community passion engagement and working on employment issues. Chemical dependency services will be done by North Star who will work out of our Indian

Lake and Speculator offices. They will be doing a Texting and Driving Prevention now that we have more cell service. There was a mock accident in Blue Mountain Lake for the proms that are coming up.

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE
10:30 AM

Members present: Clark Seaman, Rick Wilt, Neil McGovern and Phil Snyder

Also present: Bill Farber, Brian Towers, Bob Edwards, Brian Wells, John Frey, Roberta Bly and Pete Klein

Social Services Commissioner Bly thanked the Sheriff's Office and the Probation Department for helping with some difficult child protective cases they have had over the past few weeks.

As for the employment sector of their department they are always looking for work sites; if anyone in the different townships has a need for someone to come in and do work at libraries, raking etc., please contact them.

Social Services Commissioner Bly reported that there is a slight increase right now in temporary assistance that is due to a couple of pending SSI cases which take a long time and feels they have done a wonderful job getting those cases down.

Medicaid is in a constant flux. Right now we are still working our way through the health exchange. She wanted to give a big thanks to her Medicaid workers because of the work they have been doing for and through the health exchange. As of September 14th we are going to be going into mandated long term health care. This will affect us, Public Health, personal care, the CHHA services as well as long term home health care.

Mr. Farber asked if she had a strategy for how to link with Fidelis to insure that they have a provider network that will actually serve the people here.

Commissioner Bly stated that last week she contacted Maximus, which is a form of Fidelis, and asked to contract with them and they will also do outreach for us.

The Chairman stated that they need to make sure Fidelis will really work. One of the advantages to having two competing insurance companies for people to choose from is that creates the incentive for them to be able to establish that their provider network is richer than the competitors. So as long as the State is changing their stance on this we could use that to our advantage and work with Fidelis.

OneWorkSource has been doing great. They have had two successful trainings and the two that attended the training are already employed. The summer youth money has come in and they will be starting five kids this summer at twenty seven hours and two are placed already.

Child support is coming off of the Medicaid exchange.

Commissioner Bly stated that she has now been with the County for two years this week and she feels the department is where it needs to be.

HONORING SENIORS
11:00 AM

Members present: Bill Farber, Phil Snyder, Brian Towers, John Frey, Bob Edwards, Clark Seaman, Brian Wells, Neil McGovern, and Rick Wilt who left at this time

Also present: Pete and Rose Simons and Pete Klein

The Chairman introduced Mr. Brian Towers to honor our two seniors who are from the Town of Wells.

Mr. Towers stated it is a delight to have both Rose and Pete Simons with us today. The Town of Wells has been a beneficiary of a great many senior citizens who come through these doors and have been honored. We have a very active senior citizens club and these two seniors are very well known in the community for their volunteer service. Collectively he thinks they may have 100 years of volunteer service between the fire company and the ambulance corp.

Pete served on the Town Board for 28 years. This couple is the type that you can go to for information in your community and he appreciates that and has a great deal of respect for the both of them.

The Chairman called for a recess to take the seniors to lunch and will reconvene at 1:30 PM.

INTERNAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
1:30 PM

Employee evaluations