HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING Held in Room 318 Putnam County Office Building Carmel, New York 10512

(Chairman Oliverio, Legislators Scuccimarra & DiCarlo)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Oliverio. Legislator Scuccimarra lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon Roll call Legislators Scuccimarra, DiCarlo and Chairman Oliverio were present.

#3) Approval/Minutes from February 12, 2013

The Minutes were approved as submitted.

#4) Resolutions from NYSAC Conference (Standing Committee with Children with Special Needs)

a) Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #1-Urging The New York State Department Of Health To Implement The Statewide Fiscal Agent Initiative Successfully To Match The Original Intent Of The Law To Relieve Fiscal and Administrative Burdens On Local Governments While Maximizing Reimbursement And Ensure Access To Services For Eligible Children

Chairman Oliverio Made a Motion to Approve the Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #1-Urging the New York State Department of Health to Implement the Statewide Fiscal Agent initiative Successfully to Match The Original Intent of the Law To Relieve Fiscal And Administrative Burdens on Local Governments While Maximizing Reimbursement And Ensure Access To Services For Eligible Children. Seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

b) Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #2 – Urging The Governor And The State Legislature To Enact Meaningful Reforms To The Preschool Special Education Program To Increase Program Oversight and Accountability While Continuing To Provide Essential Services To Pre-School Children With Special Needs

Legislator DiCarlo stated that if we do not understand this, it then becomes somewhat problematic. The Federal Government has cut the money to the State of New York stating that they had overpaid for all these years, and now they are cutting back. This is compounding things.

Legislator LoBue asked if a Resolution could be prepared for consideration at the May Full Legislative meeting requesting the Governor to restore funding for the PARC Pre-School Program.

Chairman Oliverio stated we can do this Resolution through the Committee. This evening we support this NYSAC Resolution as well as adding on the new Resolution requesting that the Governor restore the funding for the Pre-School Program.

Legislator DiCarlo stated moving forward, what are our cost obligation and what is the cost going to be for this new program to restore the funding for the Pre-School Program? He questioned what the cost was that the County was currently paying, and what were the costs going to be in order to see what the difference would be.

Commissioner of Social Services, Mike Piazza stated that the Pre-Schools are closed due to the reimbursement rate and this has been going on for twelve years. The additional two million dollar cut to Putnam County programs drew NYS OPWDD (New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) which also effects PARC and UCP (United Cerebral Palsy). The numbers are \$1.2 million for PARC and \$800,000 for UCP, which came from the take back by the Federal Government. The Chairman of Transportation Taskforce, Vincent Tamagna will have the number for the increased transportation costs.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to memorialize the NYSAC Resolution and also a resolution requesting the Governor to restore the funding for the Pre-School Program. Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

NYSAC Resolution #1 (Standing Committee on Public Health & Mental Health)

c) Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #1 – Calling On The Department Of Health And The Governor Of The State Of New York To Reinvest A Portion Of Savings From Medicaid Managed Care Reforms And Medicaid Redesign Initiatives To Support The Community Mental Health System

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to approve the Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #1 – Calling On The Department of Health And The Governor Of The State Of New York To Reinvest A Portion Of Savings From Medicaid Managed Care Reforms And Medicaid Redesign Initiatives To Support The Community Mental Health System. Seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

NYSAC Resolution #2 (Standing Committee on Public Health & Mental Health)

 Memorialization NYSAC – Resolution #2 – Calling on the Legislature and the Governor of the State of New York to Enact Legislation Requiring Standardized claiming Procedures for Behavioral Health Clinic Services Billed to Medicaid Managed Care Organizations.

Commissioner of Social Services Mike Piazza stated that the Clinics in the state are having a difficult time. He definitely supports this Resolution.

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to memorialize the NYSAC – Resolution #2. Seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

e) Memorialization NYSAC Resolution #3 – Urging Statutory and Administrative Relief Related to Processing of Article 6 State Aid, Supporting Increases to the Base Grants Under the Article 6 Formula, and Opposing Certain Proposals That Would Eliminate or Restrict Eligibility for Certain Services or Expenses Under Article 6 Formula, And opposing Certain Proposals that Would Eliminate or Restrict Eligibility for Certain Services or Expenses under Article 6 and Other Public Health Categorical Funding As contained In The 2013-14 Executive Budget Application

Legislator LoBue feels it is unfair that the Governor has slashed funding for Mental Health.

Chairman Oliverio agreed.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to Approve the Memorialization NYS Resolution #3 – Urging Statutory and Administrative Relief Related to Processing of Article 6 State Aid, Supporting Increases to the Base Grants Under the Article 6 Formula, and Opposing Certain Proposals That Would Eliminate or Restrict eligibility for Certain Services or Expenses Under Article 6 and Other Public Health Categorical funding As Contained In The 2013-14 Executive Budget Application. Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

NYSAC Resolution #3 (Standing Committee on Public Health & Mental Health)

f) Memorialization NYSAC – Resolution #3 – In Opposition to New York State Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services for Recent Significant Changes to the EMS Training Standards

Eric Gross, Reporter for the Putnam County Courier stated that he had spoken to one of the Nurses in Putnam Hospital and it was told to him that the rules are more stringent to become an EMT than to become a Nurse at this time.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to approve the Memorialization NYSAC Resolution - #3 In opposition to New York State Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services for Recent Significant Changes to the EMS Training Standards. Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

NYSAC RESOLUTION #3

(Standing Committee on Children with Special Needs)

g) Memorialization/NYSAC Resolution #3 - Urging The Governor And The New York State Legislature To Continue To Reform The Early Intervention Program So

That It Is Accountable To The Children It Serves And To The Taxpayers Of The State Who Fund It.

Legislator DiCarlo made a motion to memorialize the NYSAC Resolution #3 – Urging The Governor And The New York State Legislature To Continue To Reform The Early Intervention Program So That it is Accountable to the Children It Serves And To The Taxpayers Of The State Who Fund it. Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

#5) Drug Disposal Measures

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she was so taken back by the amount of people who are flushing unused or outdated Medication down the toilets or down the drains. In looking at some statistics, 80% of our waterways have found traces of low levels of antibiotics, hormones, steroids etc. in our Rivers. Fish and aquatic life are being affected. Every 60 thousand young children wind up in the Emergency Rooms because they have gotten into some sort of medication. She also has gone on-line and seen that the FDA is still in favor of flushing these medications down the toilet, as they feel they are so dangerous that they do not want anyone to get into them accidentally, and this is going into our water systems. There is a real problem with unused or unwanted medication.

Ms. Scuccimarra is proposing some sort of lock box alternative that people can use to drop off their unused or unwanted drugs.

#6) Other Business

Commissioner Piazza made an announcement that on April 30th 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Lakeview School, there will be a Health Forum called **Hope Forum VIII** "**Protecting your Child: Lessons Learned from Offenders**" and wanted to remind everyone of the event. A Nationally known speaker and expert in Offender Management will share why child-focused prevention programs are ineffective. This is a **FREE** Workshop open to all Putnam County Parents, Community Leaders, Teachers, Coaches, and Youth Group Leaders.

#7) Adjournment

Being no further business to discuss, Chairman Oliverio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Claire E. Muller/Administrative Assistant.