

ONEIDA COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 27, 2011

Members present: Mr. John Hoffman, Mr. Peter Wolk, Ms. Carol Pederson, Mr. Jim Sharon, Mr. Paul Dean

Staff: Mr. Paul E. Spencer, Jr., Ms. Tara Vandenberg, Ms. Amy Mayo, Ms. Donna Levknecht

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. John Hoffman, Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion made by Mr. Paul Dean, seconded by Ms. Carol Pederson to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Minutes of September 29, 2011:

Motion made by Mr. Paul Dean, seconded by Mr. Jim Sharon to approve the minutes of September 29, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Aging and Disability Resource Center (update report):

Ms. Tara Vandenberg advised the committee that verbal approval was received from the State to proceed however, nothing was received in writing. Advertisement for citizen groups has been done and some applications have been received. Mr. Ted Cushing is the representative for Oneida County. Ms. Vandenberg states that it is hoped that a Regional Manager can be hired by mid-to late January, and could possibly be housed within the Social Services Department. The committee was reminded that the Oneida County Social Services' only role is being the fiscal agent. Further discussion was held.

5. Income Maintenance Consortia (update report):

A handout was provided to the committee by Ms. Amy Mayo. The state requires a new system to be in place in 3 months, which means the 4 counties need to make quick decisions. The state is not doing their part in providing the necessary training to get this in place (i.e. IT training). Caseloads will be very high, but are workable if properly trained and if the computer system is up and running. The new call center will be manned each day, and that could be located in any of the 4 counties. Updates will be provided at next month's meeting.

6. 2011/2012 Energy Assistance Program:

Mr. Paul E. Spencer, Jr. advised the committee that effective November 14th Ms. Amy Mayo will assume the additional duties of supervising of the Child Support unit.

Ms. Mayo provided the committee with a handout on the Energy Assistance Program and what was paid out last year. The program runs from October 1st – September 30th. The agency is not aware as of yet what the benefit paid out will be this year. There will be only one employee handling the fuel program this year, compared to two last year. The employee will be doing in-house and outreach with regular staff also taking applications. The committee was informed that income limits were lowered this year.

7. Income Maintenance Potential Program Changes:

The committee was advised that there are 52 pages of changes for Income Maintenance. Several of the biggest changes were brought to the attention of the committee. 1) BadgerCare Basic premiums increased, and as these premiums increase there will be less people that can afford these costs, and the program will soon be eliminated. 2) Income of all adults in the household will now be counted, even if not married. 3) Eligibility will end closer to actual time, instead of running to the end of the month. 4) Back dating 3 months is no longer allowed. 5) More data match with financial facilities. 6) New law requires entire divestment returned before being eligible. The committee was informed that they will be kept updated of any major changes made in the programs.

8. 2011 Financial/Statistical/Flex Time Reports:

The committee reviewed the Financial/Statistical/Flex Time Reports. It is projected that \$456,168.28 will be returned to the county for 2011. Motion made by Mr. Paul Dean, seconded by Mr. Peter Wolk to approve the 2011 Financial/Statistical/Flex Time reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Audit of Payments/Line Item Transfers:

The bills were reviewed by the committee. There were no line item transfers. Motion made by Mr. John Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Peter Wolk to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Agenda items for the November 22, 2011 meeting:

Next meeting will include updated information on the Aging and Disability Resource Center and Consortia updates.

11. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Ms. Carol Pederson, seconded by Mr. Paul Dean to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be November 22, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Dean, Secretary