

SPECIAL HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

August 19, 2008

Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Ed Kubicki, Jeff Gentz, Dick Kessler, Terry Rose, Jennifer Jackson, Andrea Vagnoni, Jaron Arbet

Staff Present: John Jansen, LaVerne Jaros, Sue Prostko

Others Present: Martha Sanchez, Denise Lockwood-Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Ed Kubicki, Chairperson.

2. Citizen's Comments - None

3. Approval of Minutes - 8/5/08

MOTION to approve minutes by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Approval of County Executive Appointment of Martha Sanchez to the Commission on Aging

Ed Kubicki and Jennifer Jackson thanked Ms. Sanchez for coming to this meeting. Ms. Jackson noted that Ms. Sanchez has a lot of community involvement and asked why she wanted to be on the Aging Commission. Ms. Sanchez replied that LaVerne Jaros has been trying to get her on the commission for years.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. Andrea Vagnoni and Jaron Arbet voted 'yes' to this motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Resolution in Support of a Legislative Change Requiring the State of Wisconsin to Pay County and Municipal Nursing Homes at Least \$37.1 Million Annually Under the Supplemental Payment Program

Sue Prostko, the Brookside Fiscal Manager, stated that this resolution is being presented by every county in the State of Wisconsin. We are trying to get the State to pay the county the federal match dollars they generate from the county's nursing home losses. The State currently puts it into its Medical Assistance trust fund. We are asking that the \$37.1 million be the minimum instead of the maximum amount. Only 'county' nursing homes generate these funds, through Title 19 patients, back to the State. We feel this money should be coming back to us. This is where it belongs. In 2006, Brookside generated \$687,378 back to the General Fund; in 2007, it was \$765,604, and as of July, 2008, it was \$858,973. The 2008 amount is higher because the feds said the State had to give it back to the counties. The amount is based on our Medicaid losses. We are reimbursed \$126 per day, but \$230 is the cost. That loss is the difference. Any Title 19 resident generates a loss. We will always have losses at Brookside. The payment always goes back to the County's General Fund because it was tax levy that paid it.

Terry Rose asked if the State retains any of this money. Ms. Prostko replied that they have been using it to supplement their Medicaid, but we want a bigger piece of the pie. All counties are working on passing this. Bob Pitts, Chair of the Brookside Board of Trustees, was very involved in getting this going.

MOTION to approve by Terry Rose, seconded by Dick Kessler. Andrea Vagnoni and Jaron Arbet both voted 'yes'. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law

John Jansen stated that on Oct. 7th, the County Executive will be presenting the 2009 budget to the full County Board. DHS has a large meeting scheduled on Oct. 15th at the Job Center to present the DHS budget. Last year, Judy Rossow suggested that we meet with the Human Services Committee prior to this large meeting to highlight any budget changes. We would like to hold this meeting on Oct. 8th or 9th. Ed Kubicki said he will talk with the other members to agree on a date and time and let Sharon Davis know.

8. Committee Members Comments

Jennifer Jackson said that she received an e-mail from DOT regarding the I-94 construction project. They will be holding meetings on 8/25, 11:30 a.m., Gateway in Racine; 9/22, 11:30 a.m., Kenosha County Job Center; and 10/27, 11:30 a.m., Gateway in Racine. If anyone is interested in attending, there will be 200 - 300 jobs available for low income people looking for jobs. There will be free re-training available and we want to be sure Kenosha County gets our piece of the pie.

9. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Terry Rose. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin8-19