

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 20, 2007

4:00 PM

Conference Room I

Committee on Health & Human Services

***Mike Finnerty, Chair; Joan Cleary, Susan Caldwell, Brenda Frazier, Bob Macey,
and William Robinson - Members***

REVISED

I. Call to Order

Summary: *The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM*

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Dr. Bruce Dixon, Director, Health Department

Pat Valentine, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health

Summary: *Invited guests in attendance: Mr. Flynn; Dr. Dixon; and Amy Kroll for Ms. Valentine.*

Council staff in attendance: John Mascio, Joe Catanese, Jennifer Liptak, Jared Barker, and Jim Karatassos.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Brenda Frazier, Bob Macey, William Robinson, and Michael Finnerty
Absent: Joan Cleary, and Susan Caldwell

III. Approval of Minutes

3403-07 Motion to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2007 Health & Human Services Committee Meeting.

Action: **A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Frazier, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Agenda Items

Resolution

3141-07 A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, urging the Allegheny County Chief Executive and Health Department to consider and, if practicable, arrange for the sale of property currently occupied by the Health Department and in need of significant repair, modernization, or rehabilitation, and to use the proceeds from the sale to benefit and further the mission of the Health Department.

Sponsors: Matt Drozd

Summary: *Mr. Drozd provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would urge the Chief Executive and the Health Department to consider selling one or more of the properties currently occupied by the Health Department. The resolution further asks that any proceeds from the sale be used to further the mission and goals of the Health Department.*

He also said that the some of the buildings currently occupied by the Allegheny County Health Department may be in need of extensive repair and rehabilitation, but notes that some of these buildings may be in desirable locations for potential developers or other

buyers.

The Chair asked Mr. Drozd if he had a chance to read Dr. Dixon's comprehensive facilities plan that he submitted to the committee at a previous meeting. Mr. Drozd said he did not. Dr. Dixon summarized that document for Mr. Drozd and Mr. Drozd said that he would hold the bill since he did not get a chance to read the document. He also said that it seems as if the document addresses many of the issues in the bill.

Action: **Held in Committee**

Discussion Topic:

Mental Health Procedures

Summary: *Ms. Kroll provided the committee with a detailed presentation on Mental Illness as it relates to the Criminal Justice System. She presented a report on the Forensic Diversion Services; the Forensic Support Services; Drug Court; Mental Health Court; the Community Re-Integration of Offenders with Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorder (CROMISA Program); and the State Forensic Support Services. She said that these programs provide the least restrictive but most appropriate alternatives to or transition from incarceration for individuals with Mental Illness or substance abuse disorder who encounter the Criminal Justice System.*

V. Adjournment

Summary: *The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM*