

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Criminal Justice/Public Safety
DATE: June 20, 1996
TIME: 6:30 PM
PLACE: Legislative Conference Room
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Legislators Tantillo, Carle, Noonan,
Smith, Bauer, Provenzano
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Todd
LEGISLATORS ABSENT: Legislators Jennings, Felicello
OTHERS PRESENT: Charlie Mutz, Fire Coordinator's
Office; Ed Brown, Community
Corrections; Charlene Cappillino,
Alternatives to Incarceration; Laurel
Herdman, SANE Program; Nancy Lynch and
Dave Staats, Sheriff's Department;
Legislator Dart

I. E911 MANAGEMENT

Art Snyder was not able to attend the meeting so Legislator Tantillo submitted his monthly report.

The report stated that all FEMA inspections of flood damage in both public and private sectors have been completed.

On May 22, 1996 there was a HAZ MAT incident in Plattekill involving 26 children waiting for their school bus. There was an overspray of pesticides and fungicides from the Apple Orchard across the street. The situation was assessed and all of the children were properly attended to.

Legislator Tantillo submitted a resolution to add two more representatives to the E911 advisory board. The positions will consist of a representative of the local fire service in the form of the President of the Ulster County Fire Chiefs and Line Officers Association and a second civilian. The resolution would also specify that E911 Advisory Board members have an appointed designee that could vote in the members absence and that Ex-Officio members would not have voting privileges. Moved by Legislator Smith, Seconded by Legislator Provenzano. No discussion. Unanimously carried (legislators Tantillo, Carle, Bauer, Smith, Noonan, Provenzano all in favor.)

II. COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Ed Brown submitted a report and gave a brief overview of how the facility operates.

The Community Corrections Program (CCP) is a criminal justice program for adult defendants with substance abuse problems. The program consists of a 16 bed residential dormitory for men and an intensive supervision day reporting program for up to 25 men and women.

Individuals have to be charged with a Felony offense, are non-violent and facing Incarceration. The focus of the program is to get individuals help for their addictions. The facility does not utilize treatment but helps individuals get it. Individuals are brought to AA/NA meetings two times a day. This program is the first of it's nature in New York State.

Brown ended by stating that should the committee wish to hold a meeting there he would be happy to give a tour.

III. ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

Charlene Cappillino began by stating that the program has been in existence since 1986. The basis of the program is community service with treatment referred out. The program attends to approximately 150 individuals a year. Community service is court ordered and monitored daily by staff. Failure to perform may ultimately result in an individuals Incarceration.

Last year approximately 30,000 hours of community service were performed, freeing 42,000 bed days in the Ulster County Jail. There is also a Work Crew that goes out throughout the County 7 days a week under constant supervision of a Crew Supervisor. Alternatives to Incarceration utilizes all Justice Courts throughout Ulster County and transfers from other Counties and States.

IV. SANE UNIT

Laurel Herdman began by stating that the SANE Unit is located in the Benedictine Hospital and is the first unit to exist within New York State.

It is a rape-sexual assault crisis unit where nurses are specifically trained to help the victims through the whole medical process and are there to aid and give support when it comes time for the criminal process. They are also there to

testify on the victims behalf. By having this unit it has dramatically helped in the communications process of the police agencies, nurses, doctors, prosecutors and victims.

Herdman also stated that since the unit has been in effect there has been 28 examinations conducted and that this unit is receiving National publicity from both the New York Times and Redbook magazine. They hope that in the future other hospitals will see the success and necessity of the unit so that more units will be available throughout the County.

Discussion: Legislator Provenzano asked if it would help if this committee formed a Memorializing Resolution to the State asking for some more funding to help the SANE Unit.

Legislator Tantillo expressed concern that the committee was writing too many Memorializing Resolutions. She suggested that a sub-committee be formed to discuss this resolution and that it be brought to a future meeting. Legislators Bauer, Smith and Tantillo volunteered for the sub-committee. End of discussion.

V. SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Nancy Lynch and Dave Staats submitted to the committee two reports regarding Staffing at the Ulster County Jail. They were informed that it would be out of order to discuss this information at this meeting because it was not submitted to Legislator Tantillo by the Monday deadline.
End.

Legislator Tantillo submitted a Resolution for the Public Defender's Office.

The Public Defender's Office is requesting an amendment to the 1996 Ulster County Budget to provide reimbursement for an employee's termination, pay effective June 7, 1996. Therefore the Budget is to be amended as follows: FROM: AA-A-1170-0-1995 Part-time TO: AA-A-1170-0-1996 Employee Terminated. Moved by Legislator Noonan, Seconded by Legislator Bauer. No discussion. Unanimously carried (Legislators Tantillo, Carle, Smith, Provenzano, Bauer, Noonan all in favor.)

Legislator Tantillo opened discussion on the Resolution referred to Committee on CO detectors.

Fire Coordinator Charlie Mutz stated that there are good and bad detectors on the market and it is his job to educate people to which ones are the best. He also stated that there

Minutes pg. 4

are some very good detectors out there on the market now.

After speaking with the N.P. Fire Department and the Fire Advisory Board Legislator Tantillo proposed that the committee consider changing the name of the CO resolution from that of a Memorializing one.

Discussion: Legislator Smith stated that they were waiting on the original resolution until the trainings were done throughout the county. He is willing to hold off one more month until that is done. Made a motion to go to Joe Munster so that he can get a press-release out regarding the trainings. There are 3 more to be scheduled. Seconded by Legislator Bauer.

Discussion: Legislator Provenzano suggested that they have one training here in Kingston and have everyone come to it.

Legislator Noonan disagreed. He felt that it would be more convenient for fire personnel to attend the local training already scheduled.

Legislator Provenzano expressed disbelief that people would hesitate to drive to Kingston for such important training.

Legislator Tantillo stated that it was improper for Legislators to interfere with these training schedules.

Charlie Mutz stated that if the committee wants to go to Joe Munster for the Publication end of it he will agree, but he requests that the committee let him handle the scheduling because he deals with the Emergency Services and Fire Departments.

Legislator Noonan agrees with Legislator Smith to hold off one month so that the Fire Services can get another training in.

Legislator Tantillo suggested that Legislators Noonan and Smith work on a press release and run it by Mutz and Tantillo regarding the upcoming CO training. The next Fire Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 1996 at 8:00 PM. Tantillo asked everyone who wanted to discuss the proposed CO resolution with the Fire Advisory Board to attend that meeting. End of discussion. Unanimously carried (Legislators Tantillo, Carle, Smith, Noonan, Provenzano, Bauer all in favor.)

Motion to adjourn meeting by Legislator Bauer, seconded by Legislator Tantillo. No discussion, Unanimously carried.

Time end: 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

00806

Fawn Tantillo, Chairman
Criminal Justice/Public Safety Com.