



\$52 for a family per year. He further explained this card can be used anywhere it is accepted. He stated it is great for those who travel as they can locate an affiliated dentist no matter where they are through the search engine on the website or by calling the main office. He also stated this is great for college students. He also handed out a report put together by Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders. He stated once enrolled, it takes ten days to two weeks to receive the card. He stated they are endorsed by NYSAC and have been adopted by 14 Counties.

Legislator Albano asked Representative Lanphear to repeat the prices of the card.

Representative Lanphear stated adult children can be included on the family plan. He stated he has brought pamphlets to be distributed throughout the towns in the County.

Chairman Oliverio stated PROACT had done a mass mailing throughout the County to get the word out about their card; he suggested Dentamex do the same.

Representative Lanphear stated they have not done a mailing but they have met with the Health Department and participating dentists in participating Counties. He stated they have put advertisements out on the radio, TV and in the newspapers.

Chairman Oliverio questioned what the Legislature can do to promote the card. He stated again how successful the mass mailing of the PROACT information was.

Representative Lanphear questioned if the County puts out a newsletter.

Chairman Oliverio stated there is a Health letter that goes out.

Commissioner of Health Dr. Allen Beals stated that letter goes out quarterly to physicians.

Chairman Oliverio stated it can be placed on the County website.

Legislator LoBue stated once the County signed up with PROACT, there were competitive companies sending out mailings as well.

Representative Lanphear stated he will take the idea of a mass mailing back to the marketing department.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there was a restriction as far as one's income.

Representative Lanphear stated the card is not income based. He further stated the fee schedule is based on codes that are used by dentists nationwide. He stated they track the numbers based on the code in order to bring integrity to their information. He stated there is no balance billing and no claims to file.

Legislator Tartaro questioned how many participating dentists there were in Florida.

Representative Lanphear gave an example of a customer who was working in Tampa and within a 10 mile radius, there were 400 dentists.

Chairman Oliverio thanked Representative Lanphear for coming to provide an update.

#### **Item #5 - Presentation/Algonquin Pipeline Expansion/ Paula Clair**

Paula Clair stated herself and other local citizens have formed a grassroots group called SAPE (Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion). She stated this proposed expansion poses a danger to the overall quality of life for the residents as it may contaminate water, soil, and air. She stated animals may be harmed and it may harm farmland, property values and cause climate change. She stated the pipeline is 42" in diameter and is high pressure. She stated this is one of the largest pipelines in the US. She further stated the larger the pipeline and the higher the pressure, the more dangerous it will be should it explode. She stated the pipeline intersects with a proposed 1,000 megawatt electrical project. She stated when gas pipeline and electrical pipeline meet, it can cause arcing, which is when the pipeline begins to melt, which then leads to an explosion. She stated the proximity of the pipeline to Indian Point is an issue as well, especially because Indian Point is on two earthquake faults. She stated the risks are explosion, rupture, and fire all of which can cause serious damage. She stated there was recently a 20" pipeline explosion in Pennsylvania which destroyed 10 homes, damaged 55 homes, killed one person and injured seven. She stated explosions are not rare. She stated in 2012 there were 80 large pipeline explosions or fires, 38 of which were classified as significant. She stated there were 59 smaller pipeline explosions. She stated when averaged out, there is one explosion or fire every 4½ days and a large explosion or fire every nine days. She also stated there was an explosion of a 20" pipeline in West Virginia which caused severe damage. She stated there is a 40,000 horsepower compressor station in Southeast which they are looking to upgrade to 53,000 horsepower. She stated these stations emit many toxins into the air and are going 24/7. She stated aside from being noisy, there are health impacts such as nosebleeds, headaches, rashes, etc. She stated these also occasionally explode. She further stated once this project is completed, the emissions will increase by at least 50%. She stated permitting agencies look at each component separately rather than the cumulative project in order to grant permits.

Legislator Albano stated the numbers of emissions on the page handed out are hard to believe.

Ms. Clair stated the numbers came from Spectra Energy.

Legislator LoBue questioned where in Southeast the pipeline is located.

Ms. Clair stated it is on Tulip Road.

A member of SAPE stated the residents are very concerned about Peach Lake as it is three miles away.

Legislator LoBue questioned if they are trying to get close to the Danbury border.

Legislator Gross stated it goes underneath Interstate-684 into Connecticut.

Chairman Oliverio questioned if it was correct that they are looking to expand it to cross the Hudson River.

Ms. Clair stated the Hudson is being crossed to get to Southeast. She stated they are moving it into Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. She stated Southeast is a conduit. She stated the water in New York is excellent and this is due to the wetlands that absorb, clean, and filter water. She stated this pipeline will affect 20 acres of wetlands. She stated the pipeline could disturb vegetation and get foreign material into the soil, which would interfere with the wetland's ability to clean the water.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there had been any comment from DEP.

Ms. Clair stated she was not sure.

A member of SAPE stated that New York City DEP is trying to protect the Croton Watershed.

Legislator LoBue questioned whether there had been comment from the DEC.

A member of SAPE stated they are issuing permits to other agencies.

Ms. Clair stated the DEC must issue an air permit.

Legislator Albano stated based on the sheet they were provided there are 20 tons of emissions per month from the compressor station.

Ms. Clair stated it is 20 tons of emissions per year.

Chairman Oliverio stated the station never stops; it is going 24/7. He stated the energy needed to push the gas through the pipeline is what creates the hazards.

Ms. Clair stated the pipeline will cross 200 feet of stream and during construction; dirt can get into the stream and cause degradation. She stated if the project is completed and there is a problem, the financial responsibility will fall onto the taxpayers. She stated there are also environmental costs if there should be a fire or explosion. She stated climate change is also a possible outcome. She stated fracking emits methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas that is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide over 20 years. She further stated the oversight of these pipelines is problematic. She stated there is 2 million miles of pipeline throughout the US and there are only 137 inspectors.

She stated the agency depends on the operators to report incidents, which makes them practically self-regulating.

Chairman Oliverio questioned what the position of Southeast was.

Ms. Clair stated she is unaware.

Legislator Gross stated the impression he got was that it was already going to happen. He stated as far as he knows it is well monitored.

Ms. Clair stated it is an uphill battle to change anything.

Legislator LoBue questioned if this cannot be stopped is there a way to get safe guards or oversights.

Ms. Clair stated that is hard to do because someone would then be needed to monitor it.

Legislator Tartaro questioned what the guidelines should be per year. He questioned if they have any volatiles now.

Jerry Ravnisky, Resident stated the project has not been approved by any required agencies. He stated the health impact must be taken into consideration, especially the health of the County's children, senior citizens, and expectant mothers.

A member of SAPE stated the agencies who are involved with the permits are looking at numbers of the one compressor station. She stated there are five compressor stations along the route. She stated the potential health and economic impacts are enormous. She stated there are also 25 metering stations along the route.

Chairman Oliverio questioned if there is a timeline of this project.

Jerry Ravnisky, Resident stated it should be completed by 2016.

Chairman Oliverio stated he would like to move a resolution forward asking the various agencies not to expand the station. He stated he is quite knowledgeable on the topic but would like to give his colleagues the time to look over the material that was handed out by Ms. Clair.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated there is already a smaller pipeline going through the area that they are looking to expand and we will carry the burden.

Legislator LoBue stated the Legislature should digest the information and put this topic on the agenda for next month for discussion.

A member of SAPE stated she would like the Legislature to help in promoting the idea to get DEC to run a proper baseline of monitoring and testing.

Chairman Oliverio stated he would like to make a decision by April and have it on the May Full Meeting for a Full Legislature Vote.

Ms. Clair stated the air permit is due by the second quarter of the year.

#### **Item #6 - Discussion/"Run for your Life" 5K Event/ Dr. Beals**

Dr. Beals stated on September 7, 2014 there will be an event called "Run for your Life" which involves a 5K race, a one mile walk, and a kid's fun walk on the campus of the Health Department. He stated the Health Department has received sponsors from all over the community. He stated this is the first year the Health Department is hosting this event, but hopes it will be an annual tradition and it can be built upon each consecutive year. He stated all participants will receive a t-shirt and the sponsors' names will be written on the back and there will be banners hanging.

Legislator LoBue questioned who would be paying for the banners and the t-shirts.

Dr. Beals stated the banners and t-shirts were budgeted for, but the sponsors who have already signed up have covered the costs. He stated there is a lot of enthusiasm within the Health Department and he is hoping to spread that enthusiasm throughout the rest of the County. He stated if there are additional funds, they can be used toward other activities. He stated this event is unique in that it is solely for the well-being of the runner and is part of his preventative agenda. He also stated water tables will be set up.

Legislator Nacerino questioned where the event will take place.

Dr. Beals stated it will be held on the campus of the Health Department.

Legislator Gross stated September 7<sup>th</sup> is Founder's Day in the Village of Brewster, where they are also having a 5K race.

Legislator LoBue questioned if Dr. Beals was set on that specific day.

Dr. Beals stated he would look into changing the date.

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to move the support of this event; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

#### **Item #7 - Carbon Monoxide Detectors/FYI**

Dr. Beals stated it is important to get information regarding carbon monoxide detectors out to the public. They are inexpensive and have the ability to save lives.

**Item #8 - Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities**

**a. Approval/Reappointment/Stan Kahn**

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to approve the reappointment of Stan Kahn; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

**b. Resignation/Jerre J Morton/ FYI – Duly Noted**

**Item #9 - Correspondence/St. Christopher's Inn Fundraising Event/Letter of Support**

Chairman Oliverio stated he would like to send a letter of support from the Health Committee to St. Christopher's Inn.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she would like the Committee to also attend the event.

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to approve the letter of support; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

**Item #10 - Discussion/CVS Pharmacy Banning Tobacco Products**

Legislator Nacerino stated when the topic of banning tobacco products in pharmacies was brought before the Full Legislature in October, she was against it. She stated however, when CVS Pharmacy announced they would be taking tobacco products off their shelves, she realized every reason they gave was the same as what Chairman Oliverio and Dr. Beals had brought forth. She stated she would like the Legislature to reconsider this topic. She stated based on a report by tobacco lobbyists, it was pointed out by Governor Cuomo that the efforts to cut down smoking in teens had been successful. She also stated a report from the State Health Department showed that tobacco sales to teens is at a 14 year low. She stated various Counties throughout New York State are passing tobacco related legislation. She stated Assemblywoman Sandy Galef has brought forth a bill to include electronic cigarettes in the definition of smoking. She stated based on these facts, it is clear that government does play a role in this. She stated she feels this initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Beals and Chairman Oliverio and this makes Putnam County on the cutting edge.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated the tide is changing.

Chairman Oliverio stated it is possible to reintroduce the resolution.

Legislator Gross stated this was a business decision made by CVS. He stated pharmacies are becoming more of a walk in clinic. He stated there is free enterprise and tobacco is a legal product. He stated CVS had the right to make the decision they did and he feels getting involved would be setting Putnam County on a slippery slope. He stated there are currently heroin and obesity epidemics happening and something

should be done about those first and foremost. He stated the results of sting operations found that places such as delis and gas stations were more likely to sell tobacco products to underage teenagers.

Chairman Oliverio stated they are not looking to ban tobacco, but to send the message that a place that provides health and welfare should not also provide a ticket to death.

Legislator Nacerino stated she had her reservations, one being that the government shouldn't be involved in private business. She stated she brought this topic back for consideration because Chairman Oliverio's philosophy matched that of CVS. She stated she agrees with Legislator Scuccimarra in that the tide is changing. She stated social norms have and can be changed.

Legislator Albano stated his agreement with Legislator Gross. He stated he is in favor of the ban where it affects other people such as the ban on smoking in public places.

Chairman Oliverio stated the purpose of the ban is to send the message to the children that Putnam County cares about them and smoking is not right, especially when associated with health products. He stated Putnam County was the first to ban smoking in public places back in 2001. He stated this is a statement; a new norm being created.

Dr. Beals stated it is the government's responsibility to protect the welfare of the constituents. He stated when the seatbelt law was passed; he thought it was an infringement on his freedom. However, that law has saved 48,000 lives per year since it was introduced. He stated this legislation will change the normalcy of the product, because it is not a normal product.

Legislator LoBue stated CVS is policing itself and the government does not need to intervene. She stated if other pharmacies follow suit, that's great and the government did not need to get involved. She stated CVS has changed their business model to more of a clinic environment. She stated she was unsure if the decision to cease the sale of tobacco was based on the wellness of the community, or to change their business model.

Legislator Nacerino stated the statements released by CVS were the same as what Chairman Oliverio had put forth a few months earlier; that tobacco should not be intertwined with promoting health. She stated it would be nice to work with them and let the support of their mission be known. She stated she believes it would be a win-win.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she believes it is the government's responsibility to protect the health of its citizens. She stated there have been things such as fracking brought before the Committee and they were voted against for the health of the constituents and this tobacco ban fits into that category.

Legislator Tartaro questioned if when this was first introduced if there was a legal reaction.

Chairman Oliverio stated there was no legal reaction.

President of the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce Bill Nulk stated he applauds the Legislature for bringing this issue up. He stated he was encouraged when CVS made the decision to ban the products. He stated he believes a law to ban the sale is excessive.

Legislator Albano stated he does not like cigarettes. He stated however, he is not comfortable with the control factor. He stated the drugs sold in pharmacies are for wellness, but they are also for maintenance.

Legislator Gross stated he also does not like cigarettes or their effects.

**Item #11 - Senator Terry Gipson/TickBITE Act/FYI – Duly Noted**

**Item #12 - Update/PROACT/FYI – Duly Noted**

**Item #13 - Other Business - None**

**Item #14 – Adjournment**

There being no further business at 7:45, Chairman Oliverio made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Beth Green.