

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM #318
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

(Chairwoman Scuccimarra, Legislators Gouldman & Sayegh)

Tuesday

February 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairwoman Scuccimarra who requested that Legislator Gouldman lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Gouldman, Sayegh, and Chairwoman Scuccimarra were present.

Item #3 - Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2017 & December 14, 2017

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4 - Discussion/Dutchess County Polystyrene Ban/ Recycling Coordinator Victoria DiLonardo

Recycling Coordinator Victoria DiLonardo gave the attached PowerPoint Presentation. She stated the closest place capable of recycling polystyrene is in Yonkers. She stated a lot of the times there is food or food residue which attaches to other items being recycled and makes them less valuable. She stated Polystyrene is not used in other food packaging after it is recycled, due to sanitation concerns. She stated this means if polystyrene is going to continue to be used as food packaging, more is going to need to be made. She stated it is petroleum based and petroleum is a finite resource. She stated there are three (3) options to dispose of polystyrene. She stated it can go into a landfill, where it supposedly takes hundreds of years to decompose. She stated polystyrene has only been around for less than 100 years so it is truly unknown how long it takes. She stated there is only a finite space for landfill. She stated some of the garbage in Putnam goes to an incinerating plant. She stated when polystyrene is burned it emits greenhouse gases which is a problem. She stated since polystyrene does not decompose and just breaks down into smaller pieces, it could be harmful to animals and it breaks down until it becomes a dust, which could work its way into the soil and water. She stated the Dutchess County ban affects all chain food service establishments with 15 or more establishments nationwide. She stated if Putnam County enacted a similar law there would be 23 establishments affected. She stated also County facilities would stop using polystyrene.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra noted that in 2015 the Legislature established a law that no County facility would use polystyrene. She stated McDonald's is looking to stop using polystyrene by 2025.

Legislator Gouldman noted that Dunkin Donuts is also looking to stop their use of polystyrene.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated most large chains are considering halting the use of polystyrene but this law would be a push to get it done sooner.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo listed the benefits of reducing the use of polystyrene.

Legislator Gouldman requested more clarification on the Dutchess County ban.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated food packaging made from polystyrene is not allowed. She stated businesses were given a year to find an alternative and if an alternative is not used there will be fines imposed.

Legislator Gouldman questioned who would be enforcing the law.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that is something Putnam County needs to figure out.

Legislator Gouldman questioned who enforces it in Dutchess County.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated she believes it is their Health Department.

Legislator Gouldman stated if Putnam County were to have the Health Department enforce this law, it would be an additional cost.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated yes, but there are compliance checks for other recycling matters and the checks for polystyrene foam would be part of those checks.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the proposed ban affects food service establishments with at least 15 locations nationwide. She explained the packages included. She stated New York City is working on a similar ban. She stated Suffolk County and Albany County have moved forward with similar bans. She stated there are multiple counties in various states who have passed bans. She stated there is a trend of moving forward with a ban on polystyrene.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if there was an entire state that has decided to move forward with a ban.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated not at this time.

Legislator Gouldman stated Dutchess County has six (6) counties that border it. He questioned what would happen if someone had a Styrofoam cup and brought it into Dutchess County.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated nothing would happen.

Legislator Sayegh stated this ban is not on possession of polystyrene.

Legislator Gouldman stated many people do not shop in Putnam County, they shop in Westchester or Dutchess County. He stated this would not change people from bringing polystyrene into Putnam County and it would just hurt small businesses.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it would not hurt small businesses because this ban only applies to chains with 15 locations nationwide. She stated she hopes once other businesses realize that

polystyrene is detrimental to our environment and our health, they will decide to stop using polystyrene.

Legislator Gouldman stated many chains are privately owned franchises. He stated it could be a “mom and pop” operation using a big name.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if franchises like Legislator Gouldman mentioned would be subject to this ban.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated they would be.

Legislator Gouldman stated but the individual owner does not own more than 15.

Legislator Sayegh stated they are not corporately owned. She stated there is a difference between the corporately owned locations and the franchised locations.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would look into it but she believes they would still be subject to the ban.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if grocery stores would be included.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated grocery stores are not considered food service establishments.

Legislator Sayegh stated the recycling program in Carmel allows recyclables numbered one (1) through six (6). She stated now based on what has been said, it appears they are not all recycled.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated it does go through the recycling process and then whatever is left is thrown away. She stated the problem is the polystyrene foam. She stated it is difficult to recycle. She stated there are a lot of issues with it. She stated it breaks apart easily and there is concern that it could be a danger to the people working in the recycling plant.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there are any measures being taken by the State or other counties in the Hudson Valley. She stated it is a good step but what is the real impact, because many restaurants will still have the polystyrene. She stated the bigger corporations are being proactive in their approach. She stated Dunkin Donuts announced that they will phase out Styrofoam cups by 2020 she believes. She stated she is more for awareness than for bans. She questioned the overall impact of the law if it is passed.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated the larger corporations would not be using polystyrene.

Legislator Nacerino stated there are not many who would be affected. She stated there is one (1) Applebee’s and Dunkin Donuts has already announced their intentions.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated there could be smaller businesses that may choose not to use polystyrene.

Legislator Nacerino stated she feels raising awareness and incentivizing people to realize the perils that come with using polystyrene is the right way to go, rather than banning it from a small percentage.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it would be a start in the right direction.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if New York State is looking into similar legislation.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo state the State is not currently considering it.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if Westchester County is.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Westchester is.

Legislator Jonke questioned how long the law has been in effect in Dutchess.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it is not yet.

Legislator Jonke stated it is just a proposed law.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it is in effect but they are giving businesses a year to be in compliance.

Legislator Jonke stated they are not enforcing it until next year (2019). He questioned if he could expect to go to a Dunkin Donuts in Dutchess County in 2019 and not get a Styrofoam cup.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes and the companies have a year to look at other alternatives whether it is paper or something else. She stated this is fair to the companies that they will not have to change over right away.

Legislator Sullivan stated he believes the use of Styrofoam is a problem for all the issues mentioned. He stated he does not believe the alternatives are costly to the companies. He stated companies are already preparing for it. He stated the year delay of enforcement gives them a lot of time to find alternatives. He stated if companies are already looking into alternatives, passing this law would speed them up. He stated he does not believe it is a big hardship for the companies.

Legislator Albano stated it is a small step in the right direction. He stated it can help raise awareness about the issues regarding polystyrene and there are simple alternatives. He stated gradually, over time, this potential problem will be corrected.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes and it is a step to clean up the environment of this carcinogenic material.

Legislator Addonizio stated she would never drink from a Styrofoam cup. She stated there have been studies that show when a hot drink is placed in Styrofoam cups, it is then ingested by the person drinking.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated many people microwave the Styrofoam clamshells that leftover food is put in.

Legislator Addonizio stated we need to increase awareness.

Legislator Nacerino stated she supports this ban because it is a step in the right direction but she does question the overall effect. She stated every little bit helps. She stated schools have already banned Styrofoam in cafeterias. She stated raising awareness is always the key to success.

Bill Nulk, Chairman of the Putnam County Industrial Development Agency, stated many of the smaller businesses already converted to using paper or other alternatives. He stated he prefers raising awareness as opposed to bans. He stated the businesses this ban would affect are probably already getting ready to switch to alternatives. He stated this ban may give the impetus that this is a national trend. He stated he believes this is not an onerous burden on the businesses. He stated while he would rather see more public education he believes this would instill more education.

Legislator Castellano questioned the proper way to recycle a carton of eggs, because he has always put in in the recycling bin.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated it is technically garbage.

Legislator Castellano questioned if that includes cartons that are Styrofoam.

Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo stated Styrofoam is garbage. She stated cardboard cartons can be recycled or composted, and hard plastic ones can be recycled.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the eggs also absorb the polystyrene.

Armanda Famiglietti, resident, stated many people have stated they would prefer to have awareness than a ban, but there can be both. She stated she knows Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo does a great job. She stated it would be a nice badge of honor for Putnam County to pass this ban, even though the actual decrease of polystyrene foam may not be much. She stated it shows that Putnam County recognizes the problem and wants to protect its citizens.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that was very well said and thanked Ms. Famiglietti for her comments. She thanked Recycling Coordinator DiLonardo for her presentation and discussion. She stated requested clarification from Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Diane Trabulsky on the next steps for potentially passing this ban.

Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Diane Trabulsky stated Clerk of the Legislature Diane Schonfeld and Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo will work together to mirror the Dutchess County law and then it would be forwarded to the Law Department for review.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if any cost increases for enforcing the ban be looked into.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would look into it.

Item #5 - Discussion/New York Health Act/Commissioner of Social Services Michael Piazza

Commissioner of Social Services Michael Piazza stated he did not know about this until Chairwoman Scuccimarra's January 11th memorandum. He stated the New York Health Act (NYHA) is really universal health insurance. He stated it appears to merge all healthcare costs. He stated it is different than the Affordable Care Act (ACA) because the ACA kept insurance plans in plans, while this law would effectively do away with insurance companies. He stated one of the cons of this law is that many jobs would be lost in the health insurance sector. He stated some complaints about the NYHA are that taxes would go up, but he is not clear exactly on how the funding works. He stated the aspects he would support are; everybody would be covered, nobody would pay copays or deductibles, and it would probably increase healthcare jobs. He stated he is not clear on the details of how it would function. He stated it has been passed by the State Assembly and has gained traction in the State Senate, but not made it out of committee in the Senate.

Lillian Jones, resident, stated it only needs one more vote for it to pass out of committee.

Commissioner Piazza stated the New York Public Welfare Association (NYPWA) has taken no position on the NYHA. He stated the NYPWA is similar to NYSAC (New York Association of Counties) for Social Services Departments.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra she is under the impression that the NYHA mirrors the healthcare system in Canada.

Ms. Jones stated she believes it is similar. She stated she had some more information she could pass out.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Ms. Jones stated she is representing the League of Women Voters (LWV). She stated she Chairs the Health Committee for the LWV. She stated there are two (2) other members of the LWV in attendance, Phyllis Hoenig and Armanda Famiglietti. She stated they would like the Legislature to pass a memorializing resolution of the NYHA. She stated the County's cost of Medicaid would be eliminated if the NYHA were passed. She stated the average cost of employer based health insurance is \$17,500 and the family deductibles average approximately \$2,200 per year. She stated 98% of New Yorkers would spend less on health care than they do now. She stated it is a complicated program with parts she is unsure of, but she is sure the County would save its \$9

million Medicaid expense. She stated if the Legislature would like to know more about the NYHA, the LWV could put together a program and present it to the Health Committee. She stated, as Commissioner Piazza stated, there would be a problem with jobs in the health insurance industry, but there would still be administrative work through the State for the program. She stated it would be a tax burden but it would be a lower cost than it currently costs for healthcare. She stated everybody would have the same insurance and it would cover eye, mental health, and more things that are not typically covered in a lot of current insurance plans. She stated the people who would not have their healthcare costs decrease are those making over \$400,000 a year. She stated the financial aspect of the NYHA is important but another aspect is that people who really need health insurance will be able to get it. She stated about one (1) third of the people who need insurance do not get it due to the cost. She stated another big savings at the State level is that the State would be able to negotiate the prescription drug aspect of the health insurance. She stated, theoretically, the State would be able to negotiate the cost of medication down. She stated with the Federal Government making many changes to how reimbursements go back to the State, the program is a moving target.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned why the State should start this program instead of waiting for a Federal program. She questioned if the State does go through with the NYHA, what is going to stop people from coming to New York to take advantage of the healthcare system.

Ms. Jones stated the status of any sort of Federal program is unknown. She stated the NYHA is a lot different than the ACA. She stated New York could be on the forefront on this kind of healthcare. She stated Massachusetts has a healthcare system that is similar to the ACA. She stated she believes California is working on a similar program. She stated New York currently has very generous Medicaid laws but she does not know of any people crossing state lines to take advantage of that.

Phyllis Hoenig, resident, stated she does not believe Massachusetts had a problem with people going there to take advantage of the healthcare and they have had their system in place for many years.

Legislator Nacerino stated the NYHA is very comprehensive, complicated and convoluted. She stated Assemblyman Kevin Byrne voted no on this program. She stated she would like to hear some feedback from him.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she also has a call in to Senator Sue Serino to find out her opinion.

Legislator Nacerino stated she is concerned because it sounds like the NYHA is socialized medicine in a sense. She questioned if there could be clarification on that.

Ms. Jones stated she is unsure of the exact definition of socialized medicine. She stated everyone would have healthcare and could pick their own doctors.

Ms. Famiglietti stated socialized medicine means that the government would take over the healthcare business and that is not the case with the NYHA. She stated all the practices and

hospitals would still be private. She stated this is “one insurer for all”. She stated there is concern that people will come to New York to take advantage of the healthcare, but New York is losing population. She stated business might flood New York because, right now, health insurance is very expensive for employers. She stated under the NYHA employers do not pay anything towards insurance.

Ms. Jones stated that is not the case. She stated employers would pay through their taxes. She stated employers would pay 80% and people would pay 20%.

Ms. Famiglietti stated but employers would pay much less than they are now.

Ms. Jones stated yes it would be a smaller amount.

Legislator Nacerino stated it would be controlled by the government.

Ms. Jones stated no.

Legislator Jonke stated it was stated that the government would administer it.

Ms. Jones stated yes the government would administrate it.

Legislator Jonke questioned which agency at the State would administer this or is another agency being created.

Ms. Famiglietti stated she believes it is a fund that would be set up. She stated since there would be a new administration, it means others would most likely be phased out.

Legislator Jonke stated if there is a new agency there is another bureaucracy, which is expensive. He requested clarification on Ms. Jones’ statement on the effect for people making over \$400,000.

Ms. Jones stated 98% will have less cost for health insurance. She stated Medicare is paid for in the same way, with people paying a set price. She stated it all depends on income. She stated it would be a sliding scale.

Legislator Jonke stated he believes more material is needed. He stated overall, healthcare should be provided, especially to those who do not have access to it.

Commissioner Piazza stated it is confusing. He stated he saw a report that said money would be taken out of the Veterans Affairs system. He stated he is unsure on how. He stated his department has always supported a single payer system. He stated it was thought the ACA would go that way, but it could not. He stated there are a lot of questions.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would reach out to Assemblyman Byrne. She stated the Legislators would look through the information Ms. Jones handed out.

Ms. Jones stated she belongs to the Hudson Valley Access to Healthcare group and one of the other members keeps her up to date on what is going on with healthcare. She stated it is constantly changing. She stated it is a moving target right now.

Legislator Jonke questioned how many issues the LWV support, such as the NYHA.

Ms. Jones stated they do not get behind a lot, but when they do, it means they have studied the issues at the State level.

Legislator Jonke questioned which issues.

Ms. Hoenig stated a lot of them are women's' issues. She stated another is early voting. She stated they study the issues and let the public know. She stated they have forums, including four (4) last year.

Legislator Jonke questioned if it is more about raising awareness than actually supporting an issue.

Ms. Hoenig they support the issues.

Legislator Jonke questioned if the LWV takes a position.

Ms. Hoenig stated yes and there is an advocate in Albany.

Ms. Jones stated there are approximately 50 different organizations looking to pass the NYHA, including the LWV.

Ms. Hoenig explained how she has talked to constituents about the NYHA.

Legislator Jonke questioned if the fundraisers the LWV has are for supporting initiatives.

Ms. Hoenig stated they are for the initiatives and that the LWV is non-partisan.

Legislator Jonke stated that was his understanding.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra thanked everyone for their input.

Item #6 - Discussion/Pharmacies Take Back Medications/Westchester Local Law

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she was excited that the State was requiring certain pharmacies to take back medication but when the initial list came from the DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation), it only includes a limited amount of pharmacies and they are not local. She stated the County has eight (8) medication take back days in different locations. She stated it makes sense for people to be able to return their unused medicine to the pharmacies because that is where they bought it. She stated this law would increase the number of places where people can return their unused medicine. She stated this would prevent pharmaceutical

drugs from getting into the water. She stated it would require pharmacy chains with more than three (3) stores in Putnam County to take back medication.

Deputy Commissioner of Social Services Joseph DeMarzo stated it would help the environment and those with addictions.

Legislator Addonizio questioned where it would be held in the pharmacies.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there are receptacles.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if people would be able to get into the receptacles. She questioned if it would be like the ones in police departments.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated people would not be able to get into it. She stated there could be lockboxes or taken behind the counter.

Legislator Addonizio stated people knowing the drugs are there could cause a problem.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated since it is a pharmacy, people would know there are medications there anyway. She stated it would be locked up or behind the counter.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if it would be a private company who pick up the medication, and not the Sheriff's Department. He stated currently with the various medication lockboxes throughout the County, the police are already overwhelmed with picking up the medication.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it would be a private company.

Legislator Nacerino stated the pharmacies would be responsible for the cost.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes. She stated the law makes sure the cost is not pushed onto the consumers.

Legislator Nacerino stated it would be the larger chains such as CVS and Rite Aid.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes the large chains.

Legislator Sullivan questioned how many other counties in the State have a similar law.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she just knows that Westchester County has done it.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how long the law has been in existence.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated within the past year.

Legislator Albano stated it is similar to the plastic bags, if you supply them, you should take them back and if you sell medications, you should take them back.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that has always been her thoughts and that it makes sense. She stated she is sure they have medication that is expired that they have to get rid of. She stated this would also go the same route as the proposed polystyrene law.

Item #7 - Approval/Fund Transfer Request 18T008/Health Department/Fund EHS Aide in Temporary Line

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to move Fund Transfer Request 18T008/Health Department/Fund EHS Aide in Temporary Line to the Audit & Administration Meeting; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #8 - Verbal Update/Blue Green Algae/Chairwoman Scuccimarra

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated this committee has spoken about Blue Green Algae before but she had no idea how toxic it is. She stated there have been pets that have died due to swimming in it and licking their fur. She stated it is very harmful. She stated there are five (5) lakes in the area that have confirmed cases of Blue Green Algae. She stated the lakes are Roaring Brook Lake, Lake Carmel, Lake Cassias, Lake Peekskill and Croton Falls. She stated the State knows about the confirmed cases but they do not know why it appears.

Legislator Albano stated it appears in many places so it is not unique to the area, but they are investigating it. He stated it has been around for a long time but it is a health hazard that everyone has to know about.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated many people have been upset when beaches are closed due to the algae but it is too toxic.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there have been any action from municipalities.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated now there will be funding to take action.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if it has been addressed at the local level with the Town Boards.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes, she believes the Health Department has reached out.

Legislator Albano stated it is a natural occurrence and nobody knows how to deal with it yet.

Legislator Addonizio stated many solutions have been attempted but they have not worked. She stated aeration is needed. She stated Governor Andrew Cuomo has awarded Lake Carmel and Putnam Lake each \$500,000 to fight the algae. She stated when she was in Albany for the NYSAC conference she thanked the Governor.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is a big problem, especially for kids.

Legislator Albano stated Senator Terrence Murphy was very instrumental in the funding.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Senator Murphy does a great job.

Item #9 - Verbal Update/Meeting on Possible Ban on the Sale of Synthetic Drugs/Chairwoman Scuccimarra

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she is still working on this. She stated the State has a program to ban synthetic drugs. She stated the County could wait for the State or come up with its own ban.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it is very complicated. He stated all that has to be done is to change a molecule to make the synthetic not illegal. He stated Australia recently banned 19 molecules so the scientists who make the drugs created 10 molecules that mask the banned molecules, which makes the drug not illegal. He stated Australia wrote into their law that “substances intended to mimic better known drugs, i.e. Marijuana” and now they are banned that way. He stated that is something for the County to consider. He stated the Law Department would need to be involved in that. He stated there are currently two (2) laws on the books. He stated the Federal Government banned all synthetic drugs in 2012. He stated there are new drugs and molecules that have not been identified yet. He stated most of the synthetic drugs that are being purchased online are being bought with Bitcoins.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned how the Town of Carmel and Westchester have laws banning synthetic drugs.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated the question is how it is enforced. He stated who is taking the drugs to the lab to see if it has the chemicals that are banned. He stated the same person who started synthetic drugs also created LSD. He stated Kentucky’s law seems to have good ideas.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if it would be beneficial to have some sort of law on the books.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it cannot hurt, but it is potentially unusable. He stated there are many laws on the books that are not enforced. He stated he agrees that something needs to be done but he is not sure what that is.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that is why this has been talked about for so long.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated the majority of synthetics are sold online.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned how that could be combated.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated he does not know, and that is where Bitcoin comes into play because it is not traceable.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra thanked Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo for his input.

Item #10 - Approval/Establish One Army in the War on Addiction Task Force

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she will Chair this task force. She stated it will be collaboration with all the County Departments that deal with the opioid epidemic. She stated they will meet periodically to discuss issues that have come up recently. She stated she is also inviting a representative from Drug Crisis In Our Backyard. She stated she just had a meeting with the new CEO of St. Christopher's Inn. She stated she would have a representative from Arms Acres. She stated it is treated like the Commission on Fiscal Vision and Accountability, so it has to be approved by the Legislature.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is a proactive solution.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated we can never do enough.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is a good way to communicate and collaborate.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated after the Task Force meets, she will come back to the Health Committee to give an update.

Legislator Nacerino stated the schools should be involved as well.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that is an excellent idea.

Legislator Gouldman made a motion to approve the Establishment of the One Army in the War on Addiction Task Force; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #11 - Other Business

a. FYI/Department of Social Services/Grant Application/Child Advocacy Center

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to waive the rules and accept the other business; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Commissioner Piazza stated \$45,000 was applied for through the CAC (Child Advocacy Center). He stated it is for the purchase of equipment to update the video and recording equipment at the CAC that is used for investigations of sexual assault. He stated also Sheriff's Investigators will be going to training for the equipment. He stated the grant is not for salary or any new staff. He stated it is a very competitive grant.

Deputy Legislative Clerk Trabulsy questioned if there is a County match for this grant.

Commissioner Piazza stated no.

Item #12 – Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:48PM, Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to adjourn: Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Ed Gordon.

Polystyrene Foam Ban in Dutchess County

February 13, 2018

Prepared by:
Victoria DiLonardo
Public Health Program Assistant

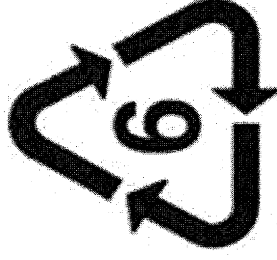


Putnam County Department of Health



Polystyrene Foam

- * Petroleum based foam plastic
- * Commonly known as Styrofoam
- * Low cost to produce and ship
- * Lightweight and good insulator



PS

Polystyrene Foam Recycling

- * Not accepted at any local Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs)
- * High contamination rate
- * Pieces can easily be pushed out of curbside bins by the wind or animals
- * Recycled polystyrene foam cannot be used for food packaging

Polystyrene Foam Disposal

- * Takes hundreds of years to decompose in a landfill
- * If incinerated, Polystyrene may release toxic gases
- * Left in the environment, Polystyrene will break down into smaller and smaller pieces until it becomes dust

Dutchess County Ban

- * In Dutchess County, all chain food service establishments and County operated buildings and facilities are affected.
- * Hardship exemption for establishments with a gross income under \$500,000 and are unable to find a cost-neutral alternative
- * Associated Penalties:
 - * First Offense: up to \$250 fine
 - * Second Offense: up to \$500 fine
 - * Third and Subsequent Offense: up to \$1,000 fine

Putnam County

* If a similar ban is enacted in Putnam County, 23 food service establishments would be affected

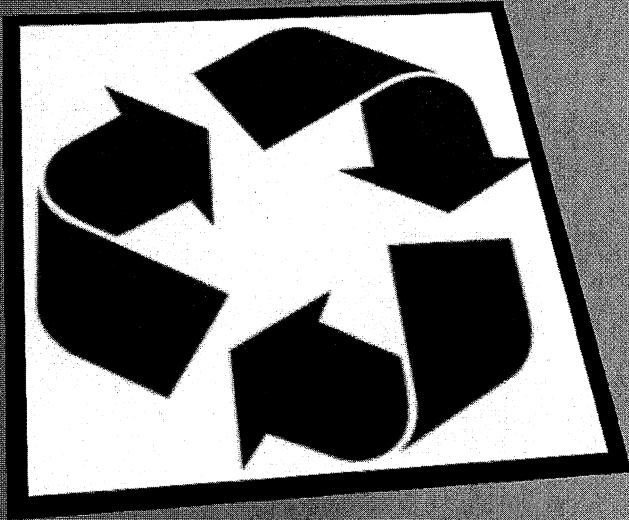
Brewster	Carmel	Cold Spring	Mahopac
Applebee's	Carvel	Dunkin Donuts	Carvel
Burger King	Dunkin Donuts	Kent	Dominoes
Carvel	KFC	Dunkin Donuts	Dunkin Donuts
Dunkin Donuts (3)	McDonalds		McDonalds
McDonalds	Salsa Fresca		Patterson
	Starbucks		Dunkin Donuts
	Wendy's		Papa Johns
	Zoup		

Benefits of Reducing Polystyrene Use

- * Less garbage generated
- * Less litter
- * Lower exposure to possible carcinogens

Alternatives to Polystyrene Food Packaging

- * Polystyrene Foam cups can be replaced with recyclable paper cups or reusable mugs
- * Polystyrene Foam food packaging can be replaced with aluminum, recyclable plastic or compostable paper food packaging



Questions?

Victoria DiLonardo

Public Health Program Assistant

845-808-1390 ext. 43125

Victoria.dilonardo@putnamcountyny.gov

www.putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam