

At a Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Supervisors
Held in the Social Services Conference Room on
Wednesday, June 10, 2020 – 9 a m

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

C. Eric Fly, Sr.
Wayne O. Jones
Susan M. Seward, Ex Officio
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

STAFF PRESENT

Larry Hughes, Interim County Administrator
Mark Flynn, County Attorney
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/Deputy Clerk

Item 1. Call to Order/Determine Quorum (9:04 a.m.)

The June 10, 2020 Finance Committee meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Seward, as ex officio.

Supervisor Fly participated virtually.

Item 2. The Invocation

The invocation was offered by Supervisor Tyler.

Item 3. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Item 4. Agenda Amendment

There were no agenda amendments.

Item 5. Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR TYLER and carried:
RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the June 10, 2020 Finance Committee meeting agenda as presented.
All members present voted aye.

Item 6. Discussion of Sussex County Youth and Adult Recreation Association (SCYARA)

Mr. William Ricks (President), Ms. Renita Jenkins, and Mr. Malcolm Manning, all of SCYARA, were in attendance.

Supervisor Fly, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the meeting is a further discussion of the Board of Supervisors' June 4th, 2020 Budget Work Session of whether to fund the Waverly pool or SCYARA; and if so, at what level. Supervisor Fly stated that funds are limited. There are other groups that are providing services to the youth in that area of the County. The organization has not proven itself capable of producing any type of programs for the children. SCYARA says they are going to, but in three (3) years, they haven't.

Supervisor Fly stated that he would recommend to the Committee, that the Committee recommend to the Board to take the \$6,000 allocation from the Waverly pool line item, and divide the \$6,000 between the Green Machine and Jessica A. Moore Foundation—who have a track record of producing programs in the Waverly area. Supervisor Fly stated that he doesn't want to get into a big discussion of the books. In the short term, may need an audit from SCYARA. The County may need to perform the audit themselves, because SCYARA did take a considerable amount of the County's money and it's unaccounted for.

Supervisor Fly stated that he wanted to make it two (2) separate issues. A possible audit to try to find out what did SCYARA do with the taxpayers' money one issue. And, make the transfer of the \$6,000 from the Waverly pool line item to other organizations in that area a separate issue.

There was a discussion of having SCYARA make a presentation and so that a more definitive decision can be made.

Mr. Ricks gave a brief presentation to the Finance Committee. Mr. Ricks stated that in November 2019, SCYARA was requested to submit documents to show how money was used. Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA raised more than \$21,000. There was a \$25,000 Capital Improvement to replace the filtration system—after 40+ years.

There was inquiry of whether the \$21,000 included funding from the County. Mr. Ricks noted that it was stated that the \$10,000 from the County was money from the Reserve Funds and not in the budget. The money was to be held to see what SCYARA was going to do. He stated that SCYARA came back to the County for the money in September, at which time the money was released. Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA had planned to have some free activities for the kids and the citizens. He stated that the free activities didn't happen because they found out in the process of getting ready to open, there was an issue with the lighting around the inside of the pool. He stated that the \$10,000 received from the County was used to help purchase materials. He stated that supplies were stored and not laying around. Tiles, caulking and coping were bought. Mr. Ricks stated that the Board, including the new members, was given a Pool Refurbishing Timeline that showed everything that was done and what they wanted to do. He noted that a statement was listed at the top of document stating what had happened.

Mr. Ricks stated they have not stopped working and preparing. Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA was not asking for \$10,000, they were asking the County to not take SCYARA out of the budget.

There was inquiry of providing a breakdown of the \$10,000. Mr. Ricks stated that he didn't have a breakdown of the \$10,000 because he said the \$10,000 was included in the General Fund. The money was put their account and was used as they saw fit. After inquiry of the \$21,000 and the \$10,000, Mr. Ricks stated that there was \$5,000 left. There was inquiry of a list of proposed expenditures. A copy was provided.

There was inquiry of how much money it would take to open the pool. Mr. Ricks stated that it would take approximately \$17,000 to safely open the pool, which does not include sandblasting, painting, etc. There was inquiry and discussion of the funding source of the money. There was inquiry of chance of the pool opening this year. There was also inquiry that if the County was to have an agreement with SCYARA and allocate \$6,000 and the pool didn't open, would the money to be returned to the County. Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA would not ask for the money if the pool could not be opened.

Supervisor Fly noted that the budget needed to be finalized. He noted that funds could be taken out of the budget and do a supplemental appropriation some time later in the year. SCYARA could come back to the Board for appropriations should the situation warrant it.

Supervisor Fly stated that he recommends that the Finance Committee makes recommendation from the Committee to the Board to remove the line item. Then, it would be incumbent upon SCYARA when they reach the point that the pool could be opened, to come back to the Board for funding.

There was discussion of previous funding to SCYARA from other sources. There was discussion of having to do something for the kids.

Ms. Renita Jenkins, a SCYARA Board member, stated that when she volunteered at the pool, the kids loved the pool. The pool is needed. The kids don't have anywhere to go. They walk to the pool and love there.

There was discussion of the condition of the water. Mr. Ricks stated that the water cannot be taken out of the pool. The water has to remain in the pool until a cover is purchased. The water is taken out and cleaned, and water is put back in the pool. There was discussion of the bill. There was discussion of SCYARA raising \$21,000 or \$23,000.

There was continued discussions of whether the pool could be opened this Summer and what is needed to open it.

SCYARA was requested to provide an itemized updated listing of what and how much is needed to open pool.

Item 7. Discussion of CARES Micro Grant Program

Interim County Administrator Hughes stated that one of the objectives of the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act program extended by the Federal Government is to

authorize local governments to do grants to small businesses. The County is proposing to set aside \$100,000 in grants for Sussex County small businesses and is asking to extend to \$150,000 if there is the demand. The grants will be for businesses with 1-20 employees a maximum of \$5,000 and businesses with 21-50 employees a maximum of \$ 10,000. Administration is requesting the Board to include non-profits in the eligible businesses.

There's no payback or match. Money will go through the Industrial Development Authority Board of Directors. The deadline has not been determined yet. County funds will have to be spent by December 30, 2020.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that Sussex County Finance Committee hereby recommends the CARES Micro Grant to include eligible non-profit small businesses to the Sussex County Board of Supervisors; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED that the grant can be extended as necessary or demanded.

Voting aye: Supervisors W. Jones, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Abstained: Supervisor Fly

Item 8. Committee's Recommendation

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Finance Committee hereby requests the building officials from the Towns of Wakefield and Waverly and Pool Crafters or pool expert meet at the Waverly Pool site to determine the costs and provide an itemized listing of what is needed to get the pool up and running and have it ready for the June 18, 2020 regular Board of Supervisors meeting. All Finance Committee members voted aye.

Item 9. Citizens' Comments

- William Ricks (SCYARA) – Waverly Pool/SCYARA; Recreational Plan for County
- Alfred G. Futrell (Waverly District) – Recreation Project; County get on one accord to help one another.

Supervisor Tyler stated that there will be a Black Live Matters peaceful unity march in Waverly on Saturday, June 20th at 10 a.m. starting at Rosa Sharon, ending at the Charlie Caple Building, sponsored Delegate Tyler as a concerned, community leader to bring people together.

Item 10. Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby adjourned the June 8, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting at 10:20 a.m.