

# Health

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Jewel Williams-Johnson

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.  
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
www.westchesterlegislators.com

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**Tuesday, January 24, 2023**

**1:00 PM**

**Committee Room**

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### CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

*With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:12PM.*

*Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Patricia Bax (remote), Susan Lennon, Mary Hartnett (remote), Judith Watson (remote), Sonia Teague (remote); BOL: Marcello Figueroa (remote), James Silverberg (remote) and Shatika Parker*

**Present:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, Legislator Smith and Borgia

**Absent:** Legislator Gashi

### MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Tuesday, January 17, 2023 1:00pm

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Smoking cessation

**Guests:****Patricia Bax, RN, MS, NCTTP, ACB**

Marketing and Outreach Coordinator  
Department of Health Behavior  
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

**Susan E. Lennon CTTS**

Manager | Health Promotions  
American Lung Association/  
Center for a Tobacco-Free Hudson Valley

**Mary Hartnett, RN**

Director of Medical Services for the Health & Wellness Center  
Sarah Lawrence College

**Judith Watson, RN, BSN, MPH, CEO,****Maria Walsh and Sonia Teague**

Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center

*Chair Williams Johnson invited the guests to introduce themselves and asked Ms. Lennon to begin her presentation on the topic. The objectives of the presentation were noting the demographics of smokers in New York State, tobacco and nicotine addiction, the importance of treating tobacco dependence, cessation resources and information on the NYS Smokers Quit Line. The committee members engaged in dialogue throughout the presentation which included questions for Ms. Lennon relating to the information she was sharing. Ms. Lennon also spoke about the chemicals in nicotine products and how they not only affect smokers, but secondhand smokers as well. Another important notation made within the presentation was how nicotine stimulates the brain and dopamine. Some of the smoking cessation products are covered by certain insurances which were also noticed during the discussion. Ms. Bax proceeded with a presentation on the New York State Smokers Quit Line. This presentation included contact details, advertisement efforts for smoking cessation and other helpful information to guide smokers on the path to quitting smoking. Ms. Hartnett shared the efforts made at Sarah Lawrence College to provide their students with the proper tools to quit smoking while enrolled and maintain themselves smoke free post-graduation. She added that although the campus is smoke-free but vaping has been more of a challenge since students on campus think it is not equally harmful as smoking an actual cigarette.*

*Chair Williams Johnson proceeded to conclude the meeting after the overall dialogue was completed on this topic.*

**II. OTHER BUSINESS****III. RECEIVE & FILE****ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 3:52pm.