

Minutes of the H.R.D. Board of Directors meeting of February 13, 2008.

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Diane Candido, Alan Chapin, MaryLou Kecko, Rev. Osmun and Gary Johnson.

Absent: Ray Ferguson.

Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Minutes

A motion was made by Rev. Osmun, seconded by Johnson to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Staff Report

- HRD served 249 individuals equaling 593 family members; Youth and Family Services had 101 cases equaling 334 people; Programs served 123 family members.
- FEMA funding cuts - Lisa reported that they received word that there would be no FEMA funding this year. Johnson reported that for 25 years the United Way has been the fiduciary for \$20 – 25,000.00 to assist in emergency needs to agencies. The system has changed and now each agency is to apply for funds individually. HRD, The Senior Center and the Beth El Shelter have applied for funds. HRD and the Senior Center were denied, the Shelter was approved. Lisa called the United Way of New Haven and spoke to them. She received a call back and was told that HRD did not have supplemental funds in their budget to match the grant request and this is what was lacking for approval. The amount of money does not have to be matched but there has to be funds allocated to supplement the grant. Lisa reported to the United Way that the Board approved at the last meeting to designate \$2,500.00 for emergency needs. These funds need to be specifically designated per FEMA uses. The original grant was for \$8,000.00. There is \$4,300.00 left and this was reapplied for and submitted three weeks ago.
- The No Freeze Shelter opened as of 2/11/08. This is a 2 week pilot program and to date no one has accessed it. The staff at the Soup Kitchen spoke to patrons about it; the Police, Fire and Health Departments were all notified of the opening. If there is no access from now until Sunday then it probably will not stay open for the second week. Per the Shelter and the Soup Kitchen, there are homeless people that are sleeping outside. This will be offered next winter as well. This came about due to walk-ins at both the Fire Department and HRD. A discussion followed on the Shelter process and supportive housing was briefly discussed.
- There are currently 4 Interns from Quinnipiac University; 2 of which are Psychology Majors and 2 are Sociology Majors. Lisa is trying to engage 2 of them in the Human Service side of the Agency. All 4 are great and very eager. Mindy is supervising them and has reengaged Quinnipiac. In the past, we had utilized Quinnipiac for internships. However, the previous youth coordinator at MYFS did not access the

program from Quinnipiac. Mindy re-instated the program. Two of the interns we presently have applied to Masters program in the Family Therapy field.

- The Move – the move to the Milford Academy building may take place in April. Lisa is looking at estimates for furniture. Per the last meeting donations will be worked on. Lisa has requested that the small therapy room at Parsons be kept as a satellite office.
- Budget – the Board of Finance meeting is tonight. The budget was distributed for review.
- The visiting staff member was introduced. Melissa Dubiel introduced herself reviewed that she has been working on the transition from Joel to Lisa with the finances; helping Mindy with Family Nights and assists everyone in the office. Lisa reported that she is a great asset to the Agency.

4. Financial Report

The financial report was reviewed and a motion was made by Chapin, seconded by Johnson to approve the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Old Business

- A motion was made by Kecko, seconded by Candido to allocate \$2,500.00 for emergency use of one time assistance with rent or mortgage payment or a shut off notification on a utility bill. The motion carried unanimously.
- Name Change – the Ordinance Committee approved the Agency's name change and then it went before the Board of Aldermen and they unanimously approved the name change. Now the Agency official name is the Department of Human Services.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit, Recording Secretary

MaryLou Kecko, Secretary