

# Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of March 11, 2015.

## 1. Roll Call

Present: Karen Barnett, Joan Campbell, Scott Moulton, Kitty Nelson and Sue Stango.

Absent: Alan Chapin, Rev. Deutzmann, MaryLou Kecko and Donna Nunno.

Also Present: Lisa Diamond-Graham and Beth Simpson.

Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

## 2. Public Comments

None.

## 3. Minutes

A motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Campbell to accept the minutes of the April meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## 4. Staff Report

387 clients are being treated with therapy services on the Youth Services side and 450 clients were provided prevention based programs. New programs this month is a Parenting Program that Christie and Mindy are running together; it is called Developing Capable Young People. Lisa ran this program 28 years ago out of the Red Cross building. This is the second parenting group that is now being run. There has been a great response to this program and there are fathers, single parents and couples that are attending. Also, a stress management program was provided at the Library this past month. The Library contacted Lisa to conduct this.

On the Human Services side 215 people were provided energy assistance this past month. 104 additional clients had Case Management services. Beth is trying to obtain dollar amounts of assistance given. Campbell asked about a Solar Program she has heard about. Beth stated that T.E.A.M. sends out information on all energy programs and that is not part of the Energy Assistance program. The last date for applications for the Energy Program is 4/30/15.

The Rent Rebate Program will be beginning in April. Staff is attending a training session for this program this month.

The request forms for the Sr. Farmers Market Food Voucher Program from the CT Department of Agriculture have been received. This program will be starting as well.

Cuts in the Governors budget for Youth Services are proposed. Pam Staneski contacted Lisa; Youth Services are currently under Education. The Governor wants to put it under D.C.F. The Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$7,400.00 has been zeroed out. This is

used for programmatic needs. Lisa will keep the board updated. Beth and Lisa went before the Board of Finance for the budget and will go before the Board of Aldermen next.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Youth Award will be on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Nomination forms are available now.

FEMA grants are being applied for. This is for rent/mortgage and utility assistance. No information has been received for the Neighbor to Neighbor grant as of yet.

## **5. Financial Report**

Beth reviewed the financial report. A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Barnett to accept the financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## **6. Old Business**

Christie and Lisa met with Dr. Feser and Kathy Bonetti from the Board of Education. They are very excited about the Sneaker Program and feel that it is extremely needed. They would like it to be a back to school program. They would like to do a pilot program with J.F.K. and Pumpkin Delight elementary schools and recommended grades K – 5.

Christie reached out to school Principals as well as the Recreation Department. Christie has also contacted the Valley United Way and has not heard back yet.

It has been suggested that the Margaret Egan Center be the distribution site with family involvement; karate and yoga. The pilot program will be for approximately 75-100 kids which will cost approximately \$5,000.00. A list of potential sponsors was discussed; retailers, local business as well as community groups. Nelson suggested that the Board sponsor \$1,000.00 for starting the project. Lisa stated that Dr. Feser suggested sneakers and socks. A motion was made by Barnett, seconded by Campbell to allocate \$1,000.00 for the start up of this program. The motion carried unanimously.

A discussion followed regarding how to get kids shoe sizes, shoe selection, how to identify kids. Giving vouchers was also discussed. Lisa will discuss these issues with Dr. Feser for her input.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit,

MaryLou Kecko,  
Recording Secretary