

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of June 12, 2013.

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Diane Candido, Alan Chapin, Rev. Duetzmann, Donna Nunno and Sue Stango.

Absent: Gary Johnson and MaryLou Kecko,

Also Present: Alderman Bob Nunno, Lisa Diamond-Graham, Sean Macaulay and Melissa Dubiel.

Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Minutes

A motion was made by Chapin, seconded by Candido to accept the minutes of the April meeting as presented. Nunno noted that it was reflected in the minutes that Erica and Ronaldo Bento were present and that they were from the general public and therefore; do not have to be listed as in attendance. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Staff Report

Sean Macaulay was introduced to the board. Sean stated that he interned with Human Services for 3 years and left in 2010 and worked in Probate. He is thrilled to be back and loves the work. He is working with both the Youth Services and Human Services and Lisa is thrilled to have him back and stated that it is working out well.

Lisa reported that Kitty Nelson presented/received a donation from the St. Mary's Guild in the amount of \$500.00 for the Agency.

Youth and Family Services saw 416 clients in therapy services. It was noted that a new way of tracking statistics is being looked at due to the people being served in satellite programs. Therapy intakes are steadily increasing and it may be at capacity. On the program side of Youth Services there were 1,155 people that participated in May's programs. May was a big month for Youth Services due to the Mayor's Youth Award, the final Family Fun Night and Rent A Kid starts to increase due to the warmer weather. Cycle 5 of the Diversion Program with the Police Department has begun as well as the regular programs.

Human Services – 137 clients were served for case management and 34 for rent rebate. Of note, 87 people were assisted by food referrals to the Milford Food Bank, 25 babies by the Diaper Bank at United Way and 13 people by referrals made to Employment and Training.

The rent rebate site visits start next Tuesday; the dates and sites were distributed.

Staff from Human Services and Youth Services all attended and staffed the Milford Health and Wellness Fair at Parson's this past week.

In May, the 25th Annual Mayor's Youth Award was held at Parson's Auditorium. Christie Roche did a great job and it was a huge success. There were approximately 625 people in attendance; pictures were distributed.

Last night, Lisa, Mindy and Christie attended the 4th Annual Awards Dinner for the Boys and Girls Club. Milford Youth and Family Services received the VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR award. Senator Schlossberg, State Representative Rose and Alderman Anderson were in attendance and said a lot of wonderful things about the kids and their families. A Thank You card was distributed that was received by Erica from a client that was assisted in the storm.

All other programs are status quo with the exception of the Back to School Backpack Program and part of the Human Services outreach portion that deals with disaster case management. Lisa has run the Back to School Back Pack program in conjunction with the Salvation Army for over 15 years. Salvation Army purchases the majority of the back packs for the program and then Youth and Family Services staff facilitates the logistics of the program. It is truly a collaboration of the community churches, organizations, businesses and individuals. This year, Peggy Kelly and Lesley Darling informed Human Services that they and the Salvation Army board will take the lead and be running the program. Rev. Duetzmann stated that the program has changed radically from the clergy perspective which has been very supportive of the program and continue to do so; but logistically it has radically changed. He stated that form letters were dispersed to the churches with bags from Trader Joe's to put donations/supplies in. The churches used to receive a personalized letter and contact from Christie and had a very strong partnership over the last few years that is not recognized at all and when this was questioned it was met with a troubling exchange. Parishioners enjoyed filling back packs and shopped all year for supplies and felt a strong sense of giving to the community by doing so. Lisa has instructed staff to cooperate fully with the Salvation Army and the board directed Lisa to pursue this with the Salvation Army.

The other significant change is that Erica has been reassigned, by the Mayor, to work out of the Red Cross building on Mon., Wed. and Fridays on a new collaboration for Storm Sandy assistance with the City, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. Each entity will assign one case worker and the Mayor assigned Erica. There are concerns as to how this will impact other programs as well as staff.

4. Personnel

Chapin reported that the Nominating Committee met and the nominations are as follows:

President – Kitty Nelson

Vice President – Gary Johnson

Secretary – MaryLou Kecko

A motion was made by Rev. Duetzmann, seconded by Nelson to accept the Nominating Committees report. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Fiscal Report

Melissa reviewed the financial report. A motion was made by Nunno, seconded by Chapin to accept the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Nunno, seconded by Rev. Duetzmann to enter executive session for personnel issues. The motion carried unanimously. The Board entered executive session at 6:10 p.m.

The Board left executive session at 6:40 p.m. A motion was made by Chapin, seconded by Rev. Duetzmann to reconvene and adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit

MaryLou Kecko,
Recording Secretary