

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of September 17, 2019

Sue Stango called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Sue Stango, Joy Duva, Barbara Genovese, Brendan Casey,
and Rev. Karl Duetzmann.

Absent: Donna Nunno, Gina Badalamenti, Joan Campbell,
and Aldermen James Tranquilli.

Also Present: Deepa Joseph and Beth Simpson

2. Public Comments

None

3. Minutes

A motion was made by B. Genovese, seconded by B. Casey, that the minutes of 6/11/19 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Youth and Family Services is focusing on increasing partnerships within the community. This summer, Lesley Darling, Program Coordinator, has been partnering with the Downtown Business Association to coordinate four family days at the Downtown Milford Farmers' Market, located at Wasson Field. The intention is to engage children and families in healthy living activities. The programs have been very well received. The final kids day is schedule for Saturday, September 21st.

The Program Coordinator, Outreach Worker, Salvation Army and the United Way collaborated in providing back-to-school backpacks for Milford students. Approximately 400 backpacks were distributed and 100 shoe vouchers were also provided to families in need of school shoes.

The department staff is participating in the Milford Homeless Workgroup (H.U.M.A.N.). The Program Coordinator worked on a sub-committee within this group to organize an educational presentation titled: "Faces of Homelessness." The event was held at the Milford Public Library and was designed to increase community understanding of homelessness and consider effective ways to help.

The Program Coordinator also assisted a Milford's Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) graduate in presenting her PLTI project within the community. The event pertained to refugee awareness and was held in partnership with I.R.I.S. in New Haven and the Milford Clergy Association.

The Clinical Coordinator job remains vacant. With this position open, the Program Coordinator and Deepa have been meeting with administration from Milford Public School to monitor any potential gaps in services.

The Human Services staff is winding down the Renters' Rebate Program. The deadline for these applications is October 1st. This program went smoothly. Many of the applications were taken during visits to the Milford Senior and Disabled Housing sites. Four applications were submitted during home visits. The rest were taken at the office.

In the month of September, the Renters' Rebate and Energy Assistance Programs overlap.

The Human Services staff began scheduling Energy Assistance appointments on September 4th, for appointment slots beginning on September 24th. As in the past few years, TEAM staff will be stationed in Milford to accept these applications. TEAM, Inc. is the Community Action Agency that administers the Energy Assistance program for our area. TEAM staff takes applications in Milford on Tuesdays and Fridays during the heating season. Milford Outreach Workers are available for emergencies and other situations as they arise. Milford residents are also encouraged to apply directly at the TEAM office in Derby, CT, if they are able to do so.

The Outreach Staff continues to provide emergency assistance to Milford residents in the areas of rent & mortgage, utilities and food. Outreach connects residents with the services that they need. The Outreach staff works with multiple agencies within the community to provide services and coordinate efforts.

The staff has also started connecting with key partners to organize Thanksgiving and holiday meals.

5. Old Business

None

6. New Business - Nomination of Officers

B. Casey made a motion to keep officers the same, pending Donna Nunno's acceptance.

B. Genovese seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Donna Nunno – Chairman

Sue Stango – Vice Chairman

7. Adjournment

B. Genovese made a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Casey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

S. Stango adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Simpson
Recorder