

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of November 15, 2016.

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

1. Roll Call

Present: Sue Stango, Karen Barnett, Joan Campbell, Brendan Casey, Rev. Karl Duetzmann, and Aldermen Ellen Beatty

Absent: Donna Nunno, Kitty Hurley, Scott Moulton, and Alderman Anthony Giannattasio.

Also Present: Deepa Joseph and Beth Simpson

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Minutes

A motion was made by K. Barnett, seconded by B. Casey, that the minutes of 09/14/16 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Human Services:

Prior to the start of holiday programs, the Department of Human Services (DHS) held a meeting with leaders of various organizations. The goal of DHS is to stretch resources and to avoid duplication of donations and services. DHS began coordination of the annual Thanks for Giving Program with the Boy Scouts and other community partners. This past weekend the Boy Scouts collected canned goods and delivered over 250 turkey baskets. They also raised money for gift cards. DHS coordinated the names of the families in need of these donations. Tom Mercaldo, head of the BSA Thanks for Giving Program, emailed Mayor Blake, Deepa Joseph, Sean Maccauley and Brandon Hall to let them know that the program was a huge success.

Energy Assistance is in full swing. DHS has been taking 28 applications per week. The staff has also seen an increase in utility shut off notices, increasing the need for outreach appointments.

Rev. Duetzmann mentioned the Thanksgiving Prayer Service to be held on Tuesday, November 22. At this service, a collection is taken for heating assistance. Rev. Duetzmann is working with DHS to ensure that the statistics regarding the number of Milford residents provided with heating assistance is included in the bulletin.

Human Services staff has also been collaborating with other agencies in the community such as Bridges, Department of Children and Family and Birth to Three.

Youth and Family Services:

Mindy Natale and Christie Roche have connected with staff at the Milford Public Schools (MPS) to start up therapy groups. There are currently groups being held at four schools within MPS and there is a therapist on site at Jonathan Law High School.

Regarding program, two groups are in place at the Academy. Family Fun Night (FFN) started in October. There have been two programs this school year. A calendar of events for FFN has been prepared for the remainder of the year.

M. Natale and C. Roche participated in the City's Annual Health & Wellness Fair, by staffing a YFS table.

Youth and Family Services continue to partner with the Juvenile Diversion Program. One intake was received from this coordination.

5. Old Business

None.

6. New Business

None.

7. Adjournment

Rev. Duetzmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. K. Barnett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

S. Stango adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Simpson
Recorder