

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of December 10, 2014.

1. Roll Call

Present: Joan Campbell, Alan Chapin, Donna Nunno, Sue Stango and Kitty Nelson.

Absent: Diane Candido, Rev. Duetzmann and MaryLou Kecko.

Also Present: Lisa Diamond-Graham.

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

2. Minutes

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

3. Staff Report

The Thanksgiving Program provided 370 families with food baskets this year. The Holiday Adopt a Family Program has begun and it is being announced at the Board of Aldermen meeting (thanks to Alderwoman Kubek) as well as an email being sent out city wide (thanks to Julie Nash, Community Development). There have been more donors this year as well as more requests from families. A pilot program is being worked on with the Milford Public Schools, Community Development and Youth Services on a city wide Internship Program with students. More information will follow as this is developed. Also, a hearing impaired couple was able to be accommodated by partnering with the State to provide an interpreter for them that came to the office.

Youth Services provided 432 clients with prevention based programs this month and 331 clients with therapy services. The Satellite Therapy Program continues to expand in the schools and includes individual, family, group therapies, art therapy and grief support services.

Lisa and Beth had the budget meeting with the Mayor and Finance Director yesterday. They requested the same amount as last year. If all funding and costs stay the same as what they are currently, there will be a shortfall of \$17,000.00. The Mayor suggested trying to get additional grants which is being done. However all grants that have been looked into are for clients' services/needs, not for department or salary costs. There are some reserves funds, however these are finite amounts and Lisa is concerned with sustainability. Chapin suggested applying for a United Way grant for a program through their community development program. Lisa stated that the United Way gave \$2,500.00 for the Senior Center Thanksgiving for meals and gift cards and further stated that it would be helpful to get gift cards for food referrals for those that have special dietary needs or when the food bank is not open.

Lisa reported that per Rev. Duetzmann they were unable to have the Thanksgiving Eve service due to the weather; so all churches chose to donate one day's service donations. From this; Kingdom Life donated \$500.00, Mary Taylor donated \$717.00, United Church of Christ Devon donated \$375.00 and Windermere Church donated \$155.00; which was great and a letter of thanks will be sent.

4. Financial Report

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

5. New Business

Lisa reported that Diane Candido will not be seeking reappointment due to a conflict in scheduling/obligations.

A motion was made by Stango, seconded by Campbell to accept the meeting schedule for 2015: Meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. for 10 meetings. There will be no meetings in January or August. The motion carried unanimously.

Nelson asked about the panhandling in Milford. Lisa stated that she is on the committee for this and cards with information for services are being distributed by Outreach Workers from the Shelter. It was also discussed that a bill board has been put up notifying residents of where they can donate to these services.

Nunno suggested developing other programs for youth such as – kids need sneakers for gym class. She noted that some kids don't participate in gym due to this. This suggestion was well received. A discussion followed regarding donations/discounts from stores as well as this being a positive message for youth to be active. Nunno will chair the committee of herself, Campbell and Stango. The committee will meet with Christie and Lisa and present information to the Board at the February meeting. A motion was made by Chapin, seconded by Stango that the Board contributes \$500.00 from their fund to start up this project. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit,

MaryLou Kecko,
Recording Secretary