

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of December 16, 2015

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Donna Nunno, Rev. Duetzmann, Karen Barnett, Sue Stango, Joan Campbell

Absent: Scott Moulton, Alan Chapin

Also Present: Christie Roche

Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

2. Public Comments

None

3. Minutes

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

4. Staff Reports

Christie Roche reported the following:

Youth and Family Services

- 203 clients are being treated with therapy services and 553 clients are in prevention based programs.
- Christie and Mindy held a series of meetings with the School Resource Officers on expanding programming and collaboration in the middle and high schools.
- Boosting Family Bonds Parenting Program is running a satellite series at Calf Pen Meadow. It finished up last night. Recent Satellite Therapy Groups began at Calf Pen as well.
- Launched a school wide Substance Use/Abuse Program in collaboration with The Academy and a local licensed Drug and Alcohol Counselor.
- In addition to Calf Pen and The Academy, Therapy Groups and Programs are running at Pumpkin Delight, Orchard Hills and Jonathan Law
- Family Fun Night group attended A Christmas Carol at the Shubert Theater on 11/28. Nine families with children ranging from 5 years of age through seniors in high school attended the event along with support staff from MYFS. A total of 35 people attended this event.
- Mindy attended the Southern Connecticut State University MFT Internship Fair. The department has begun interviewing potential candidates who are looking to start in the Spring/Summer. Mindy is scheduled to attend the Central Connecticut State University fair in January.

Human Services

- Energy Assistance - Since the last board meeting, 145 appointments have been scheduled bringing the total number of Energy Assistance appointments to 625.
- Distributed a total of \$3264.00 from United Way, Salvation Army, St. Mary's and Human Services for a variety of social service needs.
- Served 330 families - for a total of 954 individuals - this Thanksgiving.
- Provided a total of 1,359 Milford residents with Energy Assistance, Food Referrals, Thanksgiving Food Baskets and general case management.
- Outreach services provided this month include: budget sheet counseling, homelessness referrals, utility assistance, housing assistance, employment and training referrals, SNAP, health insurance and referral to the Diaper Bank.
- Adopt-a-family efforts continue. To date, the department has partnered with 22 donors to adopt 45 families in need. With the holiday approaching, the list of families continues to grow this week. The department will be coordinating drop off/pick up/deliveries in the next few days.
- Collaborating with the Elks Club to provide a Christmas meal basket to families in need. Presently 180 families have been identified and are on the list. The baskets will be delivered this Saturday.

Department

- Sean and Christie attended the Thanks for Giving Food Drive on 11/14.
- Sean, Brandon and Christie attended the Social Services Network meeting on 12/4 and gave a presentation on the services they provide to those in attendance.
- On 12/11, the Department held a clinical training - "Minimal Facts" - in partnership with the Milford Rape Crisis Center for therapy staff. The department is looking to conduct this training on a quarterly basis.
- Christie attended the Sexual Harassment Prevention training sponsored by the city on 12/2.
- Christie has started attending the city Wellness Committee meetings.

5. Fiscal Report

Christie reviewed the financial report. A motion was made by Nunno, seconded by Stango to accept the report as presented and carried unanimously.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

Nelson stated that Alan Chapin has not attended a board meeting in several months and that she would be sending him a letter.

At 5:52pm, Nelson stated that the board would be going into executive session to discuss a sensitive issue. Nelson stated that Campbell had a conflict of interest and requested that Campbell leave.

8. Executive Session:

Nelson called for a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a critical business matter and for Interim Director Christie Roche to remain present and for Joan Campbell to recuse herself to avoid conflict of interest.

A motion made by Barnett to enter into executive session at 5:52 pm and seconded by Stango. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion made by Barnett to come out of executive session at 6:25 pm and seconded by Stango. The motion carried unanimously.

Attempted to have Campbell to return to meeting after executive session was over, it was determined that she was no longer in building.

Nelson called for a motion to establish an Ad Hoc committee for the purpose of conducting the search for a permanent director and to explore the idea of merging with the Health Department. The motion was made by Nunno and seconded by Barnett. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Reverend Duetzmann to adjourn meeting, seconded by Barnett to adjourn at 6:27 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christie Roche