

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Directors meeting of March 12, 2008.

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Alan Chapin, Ray Ferguson, Rev. Osmun and Gary Johnson.

Absent: MaryLou Kecko, Diane Candido and Ross DeLeonardo.
Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Minutes

A motion was made by Rev. Osmun, seconded by Johnson to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Staff Report

- HRD served 235 individuals equaling 484 family members; Youth and Family Services had 100 cases equaling 296 people; Programs served 208 family members. The DSS Auditor came today to check the site for the Energy Program and stated that it was the nicest site visited and saw no problems.
- Update on the No Freeze Shelter – the shelter stayed open for 5 weeks. There was a total of between 4-6 people per night (with 6 as a maximum capacity). \$15,000.00 has been applied for in City funds for next year through the Fire Department budget. (Lisa and Tony Dolan will support the budget process for these funds).
- There has been no response regarding the FEMA funding from the New Haven United Way. Lisa will call them. There was a response from Jim Marsh from DSS and there was a slight increase in COLA in the amount of \$356.00. Funding went from \$11,914.00 to \$12,271.00.
- Letters were sent out to the Service Organizations requesting donations from funds to purchase furniture for the new building per the discussion at the last meeting. In those requests was the proposal to name therapy rooms after the organizations that made the donations. There will be a walk through at the new building on Thursday 3/20/08 at 8:30 a.m. those that are interested can meet at the building.
- All other programs are running strong.
- TEAM is having a fund raiser called Men Who Cook on 4/5/08. TEAM is the Community Action Agency that oversees the Energy Program. The tickets are \$50.00 each. Joel used to be on this board and when he left the Mayor appointed Lisa to replace him. Lisa requested that the agency purchase 2 tickets for staff to attend. Lisa purchased two tickets herself. A motion was made by Rev. Osmun, seconded by Chapin to purchase two tickets for this event with funds from the therapy money account. The motion carried unanimously.
- Lisa is beginning to rewrite Job Descriptions for staff; they are very general and very outdated.
- Lisa introduced Mindy Natale, Program Coordinator. She has been with Human Services for 6 years; first as a Therapist. She runs two programs; the Social

Exploration Program and the Family Fun Night. The Social Exploration Program serves 9 – 12 year olds with a 1 to 5 ratio and currently has 15 kids participating. They meet monthly and Yale University Art Gallery was the most recent trip and was a wonderful day. The kids are from a variety of programs and are a great group and have already expressed interest for summer. The Family Fun Night builds positive interaction and appropriate structure in the family. Families network; there are currently 6 families participating and it is hoped to increase the group size with the new building. The Mayor's Youth Award is coming up. This program awards outstanding community services for youth. Lisa and Mindy met with the New Superintendent of Schools this week to discuss promoting nominations. The Mayor presented plaques to Cub Scouts for their participation in the Thanksgiving food drive at the last Board of Aldermen meeting. This was positive recognition for youth and it was not covered by the media. Lisa created the Mayor's Youth Award and the origin was to recognize kids and give positive accolades. Increased participation is hopeful; all nominees are invited to the ceremony and given certificates. Interns have been participating in these programs and Milford Transit and Winkle Bus Company has been the transportation. Mindy also has a caseload and is doing Supervisor Training. It was noted that there is great office/staff support.

4. Fiscal Report

The financial report was reviewed and upon review, the mileage account will be looked into. A motion was made by Chapin, seconded by Johnson to accept the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

There will be a fundraiser for the Rape Crisis Center on 4/27/08 – Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit