

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of March 19, 2019

Donna Nunno called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Donna Nunno, Gina Badalamenti, Barbara Genovese, Brendan Casey, Joan Campbell, Sue Stango, Rev. Karl Duetzmann, and Alderman Ellen Beatty.

Absent: Kitty Hurley 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 Rev. K. Duetzmann, that the minutes of 11/13/18 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Two employees have been hired since the last meeting. Within Youth and Family Services (YFS), Lesley Darling has been in the Program Coordinator position since December 2018. This is a crossover job between the Health Department and YFS. Dino Morbidelli started on March 4th as a Community Outreach Worker, replacing Kaja Guilmette. The Clinical Coordinator remains vacant. Deepa was in the process of updating the job description for posting, however Department Heads were notified of a spending freeze at the end of last week. As such, it is likely that the Department will have to wait to hire into the remaining position.

Lesley and Deepa have been meeting regularly with Milford Public Schools and Bridges to determine gaps and needs specific to youth and families. This group has worked on developing a Milford Public Schools program titled "Healthy From the Inside Out" to be held on March 27th focused on topics such as anxiety, behavioral issues, and wellness.

Lesley is also currently implementing the Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI). This program takes place on Monday nights from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the First United Church. Additionally, she has met and worked with the Milford Police Department and Milford Fire Department regarding the Diversion Group and Fire Setters Intervention Program.

Deepa met with the Board of Finance for the 2019-2020 budget hearing. Based on the Mayor's proposed budget, there are no cuts proposed at this time.

Within Human Services, the department is approaching the end of Energy Assistance season, as the program will wrap up on May 1st. The staff is preparing for the Renters' Rebate program. Both Community Outreach Workers will attend training for this program on Monday through the Office of Policy Management (OPM). Staff continues to take Outreach appointments as well. Regarding the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), Phase 35 of this grant funding ended on January 31, 2019. The Phase 35 reports are currently being compiled. This past year we were able to transfer funds between two EFSP categories. Approval was given to reclass grant funding from Other Shelter to Utilities, as our residents have had a greater need for assistance with utility payments this past year.

For the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Program Year (PY) 44 began on October 1, 2018. Deepa submitted an application for PY45. CDBG hearings are set for next week.

Holiday Programs were well received. Within the Adopt A Family holiday program, 30 families/126 individuals were adopted with twenty donors participating in this program.

5. Old Business
None

6. New Business
None

7. Adjournment

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

D. Nunno adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Simpson
Recorder