

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of April 09, 2014.

1. Roll Call

Present: Kitty Nelson, Alan Chapin, Diane Candido, Rev. Duetzmann, MaryLou Kecko, Sue Stango and new member Joan Campbell.

Absent: Donna Nunno.

Also Present: Mindy Natale and Dora Kubek, Aldermen liaison.

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

Nelson welcomed and introduced new member Joan Campbell, Labor Representative, Director of Nursing with the Health Department.

2. Minutes

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

3. Staff Report

Youth Services – 484 therapy clients were provided services this month. Referrals are still up this month and calls are continually coming in from interns who are looking to come for their graduate work for next year; several new people have been interviewed. There were 645 clients provided services for in the program aspect this month. Christie took the Family Fun Night on the road and they attended STOMP at the Shubert. The Boosting Family Bonds Collaborative program is going strong as are the Art, Yoga and Social Drama programs.

Human Services – 99 intakes for Energy; which assisted 198 clients in the household and 136 clients for case management services. 28 food referrals were completed this month.

Mindy and Ana participated in the Community Health Fair at St. Ann's Church the last weekend in March.

The Energy Program will be ending at the end of this month. Renter's Rebate begins at the same time and site visit dates to the Senior and Disabled Housing Sites are being scheduled. As always, there are individual appointments in the office as well. The state held a training session for Outreach Workers on the Renter's Rebate Program the week of March 24th. There are some changes to this year's program. The biggest, most positive change is that no one is exempt this year from applying; whereas, last year only those that had applied the previous year were eligible to apply.

All programs at the schools are still running strong, as are the Prevention based programs. Individual and Family services held on site at schools; Laurelton Hall and Harbor Side just started programs which increases appointments in the office as well.

Lisa will be attending the BOA budget hearing on April 17th. The Board of Finance did not recommend any increase to the budget that was requested and held firm to the Mayor's recommended cuts; so the city mandated insurance costs are not being funded. A discussion followed regarding this. Rev. Duetzmann suggested the Board drafting a Resolution to the Mayor. Nelson suggested Board members attending the budget hearing. Mindy will confer with Lisa on this. A discussion followed regarding staffing and that any reduction is not possible. There are so many programs, people served and collaborations within the community. Nelson stated that Human Services serves at risk people within the community which contributes to its' low crime rates as well as High School drop out prevention.

The Mayor's Youth Awards will be on May 1st.

4. Fiscal Report

None.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit,

MaryLou Kecko,
Recording Secretary