

Minutes of the Human Services Board of Director's meeting of June 11, 2019

Sue Stango called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Sue Stango, Joy Duva, Barbara Genovese, Brendan Casey, Joan Campbell, and Rev. Karl Duetzmann.

Absent: Donna Nunno, Gina Badalamenti, Kitty Hurley, Alderman Ellen Beatty, and Aldermen James Tranquilli.

Also Present: Deepa Joseph and Beth Simpson

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Minutes

A motion was made by J. Campbell, seconded by Rev. K Duetzmann, that the minutes of 3/19/19 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Within Youth and Family Services (YFS), the Clinical Coordinator remains vacant. The Mayor has just lifted the spending freeze. Deepa is meeting with the Mayor and plans to start recruiting for this position. The City is converting over to a new payroll system. This process should be complete in August.

The Program Coordinator, Lesley Darling, has increased community partnerships and is gaining an understanding of the types of programs needed for youth in Milford.

The annual Mayor's Youth Award was held on April 30th. There were 349 students that received awards. The winners are listed in the YFS report and on our website.

Lesley managed Milford's Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) —a 20 week program for individuals to learn skills to advocate on behalf of children in the community. Graduation was held at City Hall on May 20th. PLTI is a statewide program. The state will hold a graduation, for all participants, at the Legislative Office building on June 19th.

Lesley has been working with the Downtown Milford Business Association to coordinate Downtown Farmer's Market family days this season.

The Program Coordinator also attended the Connecticut Youth Services Association (CYSA) annual conference and participated in sessions which included coping strategies for youth.

Milford has created a work group to address unsheltered individuals. It is the first group of this kind in the state. Deepa and Jenn Paradis, Director of Beth-El Center, co-chair. This is a multidisciplinary group addressing mental health issues and other factors contributing to this situation. The YFS and Human Services staff are heavily involved in the group and participate in outreach for this population.

Human Services (HS) has wrapped up Energy Assistance and has rolled into the Renters' Rebate season. The staff started taking Renters' Rebate applications on June 3rd. They are beginning housing site visits next week.

Winter protection ended in May, therefore utility shut-off notices were sent out. The HS staff is working with those residents that need help paying for utilities.

The staff is also working on providing rent and mortgage assistance to residents, when needed.

Human Services worked with the Milford Recreation Department in awarding scholarships to children planning to attend Camp Happiness. This year, 9 students received scholarships for the camp. The HS staff also distributed Arciuolo's shoe gift cards to those campers.

Human Services partnered with the Knight of Columbus and the United Way to provide 16 families with spring holiday gift card baskets.

The HS staff participated in a conference call to prepare for 2019 Senior Farmers' Market Nutritional Program. These farmers' market vouchers should be available to qualifying seniors by the mid-June.

The department budget remained flat, with no cuts. We should be fully staffed this year.

5. Old Business
None

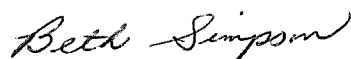
6. New Business
None

7. Adjournment

Rev. K. Duetzmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

S. Stango adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Simpson
Recorder