

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday - January 11, 2018

Town Hall

Attendance: R. Veleber, B. Barlok, S. Ferrall, D. Kelleher, S. Pappas, M. Pickett, K. Schechter, S. Stekloff

Absent: J. Falk, E. Ryducha, S. Theroux

R. Veleber called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

Senior Services Report:

S. Ferrall presented the Senior Services Report on behalf of S. Theroux who was not in attendance. There were 14 working days in December, 39 scheduled appointments including 3 home visits and transportation evaluations, 172 inquiries reflecting scheduled and unscheduled appointments, telephone calls and emails.

In addition, S. Theroux attended 2 webinars.

S. Ferrall reported that S. Theroux is receiving numerous calls and visits from seniors regarding the Medicare Supplemental Program (MSP) due to the fact that the funds are being depleted because of the state budget reductions.

There was a discussion regarding the Logisticare medical transportation being replaced by another provider, Veyo. This is causing many problems because the new provider cannot handle the number of callers. Many people are waiting for a very long time, up to 3 to four hours, for a ride to a medical appointment such as dialysis patients.

S. Ferrall also informed the committee members that because of fund cuts, the exercises classes had to be reduced.

The Senior Center is also looking for funds for their CHAT (Cheshire Home Awareness Safety Team) program. The Center has been doing fundraisers such as Zoombathon to raise monies.

D. Kelleher suggested that S. Ferrall apply for a grass roots grant.

S. Ferrall also will be looking at other grants that can support this program.

R. Veleber asked for an explanation regarding the CHAT program. S. Theroux explained that it is a group of volunteers, staff and people from the community that get together, during a luncheon, and talk about what kind of services they can offer the public. For example, they have had a fashion show, a health fair and Police personnel have attended to discuss fraud and spam. Also town personnel, such as the Public Works Department, Eversource, and the Water Company have come to show the ID required to be allowed into a residence. The funds needed will be used to pay for the lunch meetings.

Social Services Report

K. Schechter presented the Social Services Report.

There were 47 food vouchers distributed for the month of November and 44 food vouchers distributed for the month of December.

The Adopt-A-Family Holiday Program was very successful both for November and December. Chairman Veleber asked how many families take part in this program.

K. Schechter responded approximately 50 families.

The Energy assistance applications continue to be taken.

Police reports are not available at this time.

Approval of October 2017 Minutes:

The Committee reviewed the November minutes.

D. Kelleher advised the group that she was listed as absent at the November meeting but she came in late, she was not absent.

The Clerk noted the change to be made in the November minutes.

D. Kelleher made a motion to approve the November Minutes with the correction.

S. Stekloff seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Town Council Update:

Jeffrey Falk was absent; therefore, there was no update.

Old Business:

Community Forum on Opiates – K. Schechter spoke to Michelle, Director of Human Services. Michelle is working on setting up another forum and working with the schools. It is still in the planning stages.

D. Kelleher stated the video gaming disorder was just approved thru the ICD as a disorder and is now qualified for reimbursement.

New Business:

R. Veleber distributed the 2018 Human Services Committee Meeting Schedule.

The dates were reviewed by the committee.

D. Kelleher made a motion to approve the dates.

M. Pickett seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

This is D. Kelleher's last meeting; her term has expired. Chairman R. Veleber thanked D. Kelleher for her service to the committee.

Adjournment:

There was a Motion to adjourn the meeting by D. Kelleher, at 7:45 p.m., seconded by S. Stekloff. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2018 at the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Izzo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Angela Izzo