

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday August 10, 2017

Town Hall

Attendance: S. Pappas, G. Pawlush, B. Barlok, S. Stekloff, K. Schechter

Absent: R. Veleber, D. Kelleher, S. Theroux, M. Pickett, S. Ferrall, J. Falk

S. Pappas called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

Approval of May 2017 Minutes

The Committee reviewed the May minutes and made the following change:

Sue Pappas noted that under the Human Services Report it should read Kristen Schechter, not Karen.

Sherry Stekloff made a motion to approve the May 2017 Minutes as amended.

George Pawlush abstained from voting because he was absent at the May 2017 meeting.

Barbara Barlok seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Social Services Report:

Kristen Schechter presented the Social Services Report.

July was a very busy month. There were 47 food vouchers distributed for the month of July, and 22 CIU referrals including 10 Family Violence and 12 referrals.

Senior Services Report:

Kristen Schechter presented the Senior Services Report on behalf of Stephanie Ferrall.

There were 12 working days in July, 36 scheduled appointments, including 9 home visits/transportation evaluations.

There were 179 inquiries which reflect scheduled and unscheduled appointments, telephone calls and emails.

In addition to the above, there was 1 transportation meeting and also a four-part Family Caregiver Series that will take place Tuesday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 at the Senior Center. The series starts this week and twelve people have already registered.

There is a new BSW student; she is a senior at Southern Connecticut State University. She is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. She is scheduled to start the Tuesday after Labor Day and will be working 14-16 hours per week, September thru May. She will be maintaining a telephone reassurance list. During the summer months there was a volunteer doing this.

Sue Pappas asked if this was primarily for the senior citizens in town and Karen Schechter replied that it is a check-in system for those seniors who do not go to the Senior Center but have been identified as needing services.

Kristen Schechter and Susan Pappas stated that the Wellness Fair was very well attended and there were many vendors and activities.

Town Council Update – Jeffrey Falk was absent; therefore, there was no update.

Old Business:

DUBA4U (Discreet Undergarment Banking for You) Program - Sue Pappas informed the group that she has learned that this program is basically looking for funds, not for a place to store or drop off the items. It was determined that the Committee does not want to donate funds to this program but instead will be a source of referral for town residents.

New Business:

Sherry Stekloff mentioned the File of Life program. Sue Pappas spoke about having drug companies sponsor this program. This item will be tabled until Stephanie Ferrall, Senior Center, Coordinator, is at the meeting.

George Pawlush discussed his concern of the opioid drug issue and its severity. The group agreed that this serious issue needs to be talked about in the town. Kristen Schechter suggested having a speaker or speakers address this issue; this would be open to the public.

George Pawlush stated it would be beneficial to have professionals from Police, and other departments in town come together at a round table to discuss issues of communication on this subject. Kristen Schechter stated that there is communication between departments on the drug issue.

Sue Pappas stated that this topic should be tabled until the next meeting, so that more members can take part in the discussion.

There was a Motion to adjourn the meeting by G. Pawlush, at 7:27p.m., seconded by Sherry Stekloff. The motion was passed unanimously by those present.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Room 207-209 in 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 below the signature line.

Angela Izzo