

Minutes of the Meeting
Health & Human Services Commission
February 5, 2009 8:45 AM
Vine Cottage

Present:

Commission Members: Tom Ferguson, Bev Greenberg, David Brown, Lance Minor, and Carlyn Tiefenthaler

Staff Members: Carol McDonald, Tony Phillips, Melba Neville, Richard Werner

1. Approval of Jan. 8, 2009 Minutes: Minutes of the Jan meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Staff Reports

a. Human Services: Melba Neville discussed gaps in the mental health assistance available in communities and the need for connections with support groups for individuals capable of living independently but needing support and guidance at times. Spoke with Carlyn about creating an information network that can be handed out to residents that offer easy understanding of diagnoses and "reach out" information.

b. Health Department: Rich did a mini presentation of his budget that will be presented to the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance.

c. Youth Services: Tony reported on YAPB activities and that a meeting was scheduled for today. The YS funding from the state is being cut by \$6250 but the \$14000 required by law to be distributed to our department is currently safe. Tony is working on a newsletter with Child Guidance that will be distributed to Day Care Directors on handling stress and how to talk to kids. He is the guest speaker for United Way's Touch A Life luncheon scheduled for Feb 10th.

3. Seniors Sub Committee Report:

Tom reported Staying Put hosted 110 people at the annual kick-off where the League of Women Voters performed skits and sang songs. They may lose 20 households out of 180. Carol joined the membership committee which is planning on having presentations at the various Condos in town. Staying Put continues to look for "special" members; those that may need a little assistance with the fees. Currently have 12 but would like to have 20.

4. Youth Services Sub Committee Report: No new news.

5. Human Services Sub Committee Report: Carlyn reported the Food Pantry is currently well stocked and per Aggie, there are 40 new individuals that are being assisted.

6. Health Sub Committee Report: Lance reported that April is Alcohol Awareness Month and passed out a public service message that will run in both newspapers.

7. Old Business: Carol discussed and distributed the end of the year report for all to review. It will be distributed to the Board of Selectman, Board of Finance, and Town Council members. Tony discussed the ven diagram that shows the services available for youth along with multiple providers and the areas of appropriate overlap.

8. New Business: The new subcommittees for the commissioners were discussed. We continue to have two positions open on the commission.

The next meeting is at 8:45 AM, Thursday, March 5, 2009 at Vine Cottage.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol McDonald, Acting Secretary

To Be Approved 3/5/09