DRAFT

Commission on Social Services Minutes November 11, 2010

Attending: Edward Raposa, Betty Jo Corridon, Peg Koellmer, Nate Shipp, Catherine Pierce, Roseann De Simone, Judy Zucker, Susan Chalons-Browne, Beth Mason

The meeting was held at Trackside and was called to order by Sue Chalons-Browne at 5:40 pm. The minutes of the October 14, 2010 meeting were approved.

Steve Lanza, Commission member and the scheduled speaker, was unable to attend due to a schedule conflict. He will be re-scheduled to speak about the Domestic Violence Crisis Center's White Ribbon Campaign.

Departmental Concerns

Food Pantry - Peg Koellmer

Peg reported that more help is needed with the weekly food pickups at Stop & Shop and the Village Market. Ed Raposa volunteered for the S&S pickups and Beth Mason for the Village Market pickups. Both are done on Wednesday mornings and can be delivered to the Food Pantry any time between 8:30 and noon.

The notices in the Wilton Bulletin re: food donation needs appear to be generating a good response. Peg is working on putting an online food drive calendar together; it should be up and running in January. Meanwhile, arrangements were made for delivery of donations from the Post Office food drive on November 20 to be delivered to Comstock.

Senior Center Renovation – Peg Koellmer

A report will be made to the Selectmen on November 15 on the progress of the Comstock renovations. The interior rooms have been painted, new carpeting in the lounge is installed, and furniture is being purchased and installed. The bathroom still needs to be finished. Peg's office and home have become temporary supply storage areas for "everything from ping pong balls to salt and pepper shakers."

Budget Preparation – Cathy Pierce

Department staff have been meeting with CFO Sandy Dennies to familiarize everyone with the process and new forms, the goal being to have everything ready by December.

Old/New Business

Holiday Boutique - Cathy Pierce and Sue Chalons-Browne

The Families to Families second annual holiday boutique to benefit Wilton Social Services will be held at Trackside on December 2 (6-9 pm) and December 3 (9am -3pm). Sue will be emailing Marie Wendorff's online invitation, and commission members are asked to forward it to anyone who might attend.

Stay At Home in Wilton – Cathy Pierce

Stay At Home is holding an open house at Trackside on Sunday December 5, and requests that a representative of the department attend to speak about Wilton Social Services. Sue Chalons-Browne volunteered.

Liaison Updates

Domestic Violence Task Force – Beth Mason

Beth reported on the DV panel discussion at the Library on October 14 and the Open House fundraiser on October 28. The next meeting of the Task Force on November 17 will be to review the October awareness events, plan for February's events, and to discuss the future of the task force, its mission, its continuance, and its future leadership.

Wilton Commons – Cathy Pierce

The good news of the approval of funding from CHFA and DECD was discussed. George Ciaccio will make a presentation at the special Town Meeting called for November 30 to approve the lease extension on the Wilton Commons land. Letters to get out the vote are being sent, and transportation to the meeting for seniors will be available.

Trackside – Peg Koellmer

Peg and Mark Ketley attended a workshop in Stamford on budgeting and the new accountability standards for the budget process. Trackside.com is now publishing an online schedule of programs and activities. Building use and rentals are way up. The first high school dance, held in October, was attended by 269 teens, and the new system of supervision (college-grad chaperones, 3 on-duty police, random breathalyzer tests) worked well. Two middle school dances are planned for November and December. Peg praised the job that Mark and Brett Beatty are doing.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Mason, Co-Secretary

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2010