

Commission on Social Services
Town of Wilton
April 12, 2012 – Minutes

Attending: Betty-Jo Corridon, Roseann De Simone, Peg Koellmer, Judy Mabley, Beth Mason, Cathy Pierce, Suzanne Schintzius, Judy Zucker

The meeting was called to order by Peg Koellmer at 5:35 PM.

The minutes of the March 8, 2012 meeting were approved.

New Business:

Senior Discount Program: Judy Zucker described a new project designed to create a senior discount program for Wilton residents age 65 and over. The idea is being developed with the support of the First Selectman, the Wilton Chamber of Commerce, and the Wilton Department of Social Services.

Wilton Commons: A hugely successful Phase 1 groundbreaking ceremony and celebration took place on April 11, 2012.

Commission programming: A discussion regarding future programming for Commission meetings resulted in consensus that, while guest speakers will be invited on an occasional basis to inform members about topics of concern to the Department of Social Services, the Commission's emphasis will remain on proactive participation in and support for the Department's projects.

Nominating: Judy Zucker's motion that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the current slate of officers remain in place for the coming Commission year was unanimously approved.

Liaison Reports:

Trackside: Peg Koellmer reported for Nate Shipp that March was a busy month of activities for teens, including a Battle of the Bands. "A Celebration of America" is the theme for Trackside's April 28th fundraiser.

Domestic Violence Task Force: Beth Mason reported that the annual DVCC Spring Luncheon fundraiser will be held at the Stamford Marriott on May 3, 2012.

Wilton Interfaith Council: Cathy Pierce reviewed the various uses of the Interfaith Council funds, and then reported on the successful completion of the recent Warm-Up Fund campaign, with thanks to Peg Koellmer and Realty Seven for spearheading the campaign. Rita Garland and Lynn Vanderslice, who are

taking over the Warm-Up Fund effort, have been invited to attend the May Commission meeting to discuss plans for next year.

Underage Drinking Task Force: Roseann De Simone reported that a Community Conversation will be held on April 25th at Trackside, with keynote speaker Chris Brown of TheParentCompass.com, announcement of the results of the 2011 survey on substance use trends in Wilton, followed by small group discussions with parents and youth.

(Event information and registration: margaret.creeth@wiltonct.org or 203-834-6413)

Food Pantry: A substitute volunteer is needed to cover the weekly Wednesday morning transfer of perishable food from the Village Market to Comstock, starting the first week in July through the week after Labor Day. Cathy Pierce will recruit a volunteer.

Senior Center Advisory Council: Judy Zucker reported that the advisory council is alive and well, meeting monthly and proud of the new recently-donated deck furniture. They are seeking to get the deck power-washed and stained as soon as possible so that it may be utilized as part of the Senior Center.

Stay at Home in Wilton, Inc.: Beth Mason attended the April 3 Board meeting at which Bruce Likely, PR consultant to SAHW, presented an action plan with a goal to double the present membership. SAHW is sponsoring a Forum on Fraud on April 29 at Trackside.

Local Housing and Economic Report: Peg Koellmer predicted a strong Spring market and a good year ahead.

Youth Council: Suzanne Schintzius will be meeting soon with Colleen Fawcett and will report to the Commission at the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Mason
Co-Secretary

**Next meeting: Thursday May 10, 2012
5:30 PM**