

Town of Wilton, CT
COMMISSION ON SOCIAL SERVICES
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2015

Present: Virginia Smith, Christine Tenore, Michael O'Connell, Judy Zucker, Betty-Jo Corridon, Pam Kelley, Roseann DeSimone, Cathy Pierce

Absent: Peg Koellmer

Co-chairman Virginia Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Upon motion by Virginia Smith, seconded by Christine Tenore, the minutes of the December 11, 2014 and January 8, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Virginia Smith informed the Commissioners that Phil Lauria is pending final approval to join the commission. It is anticipated he will join at the March 12, 2015 meeting

Directors Report:

Cathy provided a brief update on the Social Services budget, thanking Mike O'Connell for assistance in developing charts and graphs for the Board of Selectmen presenting the budget proposal information on a year-over-year basis.

Cathy thanked Commission members for their support of General Assembly Bill #18, the request to establish a statewide study of hoarding as a public safety issue in CT. A meeting is scheduled for February 19th to discuss the proposal. Cathy discussed a specific case of hoarding in Wilton she is working with town officials from the Health and Fire departments.

Cathy reviewed the Middlebrook Middle School teacher incident with the Commission. At the present time, the Wilton Public Schools are handling the crisis management elements on their own, with no explicit request of Social Services department personnel for assistance.

Liaison Reports:

Betty-Jo Corridon reported a Stay At Home of Wilton Valentine's Day Tea for the residents of Wilton Commons. The Stay at Home members had trouble with entry into the building and getting cooperation and help from within the building to prepare for the event. This appears to be an ongoing problem for this facility.

Cathy Pierce updated the Commission on the success of Food Pantry stock-up drives, led by the Kiwanis Club, Stop and Shop, and the Village Market

Virginia Smith provided an update on several Youth Council initiatives, including:

- WHS students and parents were surveyed regarding drug and substance abuse among students in November and December 2014. The data is currently being collected and analyzed. Results and findings are expected to be released soon.
- Dr. Robert Brooks will lead a day-night lecture series on April 27, 2015 focused on Raising Resilient Children and Adolescents.

New business:

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Christine Tenore informed the Commission of the change to the Commission Charter Charge review meeting with the Board of Selectman to March 2, 2015 at Town Hall. All Commission members were asked to attend.

Upon motion by Roseann DeSimone, seconded by Judy Zucker, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Connell, Secretary