



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

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

Absent: None

Chairman Judy Zucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes from the October 8, 2015 meeting were not available for approval,

Judy Zucker thanked three retiring Commissioners on behalf of the Commission, the Social Services department, and the Town of Wilton. Specifically:

- Betty-Jo Corridon, 9 years of service
- Roseann DeSimone, 6 years of service
- Virginia Smith, 3½ years of service

Youth Mental Health Needs Committee Update

Deborah Low and Pam Kelley provided the Commissioners an in-depth update on the status of their committee's activities. Deb began the discussion by thanking Colleen Fawcett and Jihan Nage for their efforts framing the details of the previous report and its finding. Their review of the 2006 report is complete and the preliminary analysis of the report is confirmed. Colleen, Jihan and the committee are collecting and analyzing the data from the 2010-2015 study, with specific conclusions pending. Additional input and information is needed from Wilton Public School (WPS) faculty and staff to help frame the analysis and pending recommendations.

Pam circulated a DRAFT version of a Wilton Youth Services survey to be developed within an online tool for approximately 40 members of the WPS community. The Commissioners recommended WPS administration review and approve the survey prior to it be circulated for input. A discussion regarding the mental health intake process ensued, delineating the roles of WPS personnel and Social Services personnel, looking at particular responsibilities. The fundamental issue centers on the observed trend for significant increases in the amount of time spent with individual clients while the number of referrals remains flat.

Pam mentioned they also reviewed the February 2014 Silver Hill survey, which supported the findings and conclusions of our 2006 study.

The Committee's timeline is pending additional reviews and analysis, with the expectation they will deliver a more comprehensive report with recommendation to the Commission in early 2016.

Directors Report

Cathy circulated DRAFT, preliminary versions of the 2017 Budget Year reports from Town Hall. A detailed review of these preliminary numbers is due back to Town Hall by Thanksgiving.

Liaison Reports:

Judy Zucker asked the Commission members to review the list of existing Liaison work and propose new leaders for the various supported functions.



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New business:

Phil Lauria reminded the Commissioners the December meeting will begin at 5:00 pm on December 10, 2015, 30 minutes early.

Upon motion to adjourn made by Roseann DeSimone, seconded by Virginia Smith, and unanimously approved, the meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Connell, Secretary