

Commission on Social Services Minutes December 3, 2009

Attending: Judy Zucker, Peg Koellmer, Sue Chalons-Browne, Steve Lanza, Cathy Pierce, Beth Mason, Ed R Raposa, Liz Doty, Barbara Schum, Nate Shipp, Sharon Bradley, Judy Mabley

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

The November 12, 2009 minutes were approved as written.

Budget Presentations

Nursing and Homecare Sharon Bradley – President and CEO

Sharon presented budgets and overviews of the Nursing and Home Care Department. Professional Nursing Services include responsibility for the Wilton public schools, Wilton Montessori and Our Lady of Fatima. Activities include Ogden House programs and pre-school vision and hearing screening. The report provided a breakout of funding, hours, and specific activities and communication with parents and the public at large. Approved unfunded visits also covered nursing, homemaker and home-health issues. The recent PHN flu clinic was very well attended. However, the amount of the seasonal flu vaccine was less than expected

An increase in salaries is proposed. Large insurance costs continue to rise. Screening programs are planned to be expanded to meet more diverse needs. Utilization of the programs is also increasing.

Barbara Schum – RN, Team Leader Wilton Public Schools, Nursing & Home Care member

Barbara addressed the proposed salary increase in detail. She also described rising administrative costs, an increase in health insurance costs and rising comparative salaries in nearby towns and agencies. Goals include keeping salaries competitive and retaining the present strong staff.

Senior Center Liz Doty – Coordinator, Senior Activities

Liz distributed a summary of the Senior Center mission, services, attendances and budgets. The budgets listed actuals for 2007, 2008 and 2009, budgeted for 2010 and anticipated for 2011. The Center's mission is to provide Wilton's older citizens with stimulating and creative opportunities for physical, emotional and intellectual enrichment in a facility dedicated to them. Objectives to increase awareness of the Center and its activities are included.

Social Services Cathy Pierce -- Director

Cathy presented a look-back and overview of the mission and services/activities of the Social Services Department. Its mission “provides financial, psychological and short term counseling to Wilton residents with the goal of enhancing social functioning.” In these economic times, more families are encountering dire circumstances - a change from previous years. The department offers emergency assistance and linkages to other social agencies and programs. The department was asked to keep a flat budget.

Old/New Business, Liaison Updates

Peg Koellmer announced a planned upcoming review of Trackside by-laws. Interest was expressed in a more detailed discussion of Trackside.

Judy Mabley stated that Wilton Commons continues to keep “awareness” a goal before our legislators.

DVCC recently completed a successful fund-raiser.

Ed Raposa and Peg Koellmer detailed the recent food collection issues.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting: 5:30 pm Thursday, January 7, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Mabley
Co-Secretary