

Human Services Advisory Committee
Minutes – October 4, 2022

Present: Mary Reidy (by phone), Luke Simon, Nan McNicholas, Marcia Shell, Dawn Berry, Alicia Presti. and visitor Dennis Martino.

The minutes of September were approved.

Appreciation Dinner

The meal was delicious and well appreciated. Volunteers received thank you tote bags and the door prize centerpiece was awarded. We discussed ways to improve: check time of year for having it; find a way to have less food leftover; ask volunteers for feedback; give a greater lead time; 19 people attended which is over half. Perhaps, pipe in music or some fun activity like who could pack up a box of food quickly.

Membership Update

Pam Manus has moved to Concord and can no longer serve on the committee. Dennis Martino visited the committee to learn about our work. Dennis would like to be part of our volunteer list to help with specific projects, but can not serve on the committee.

Logo for Health and Human Services

Marcia reported on feedback that the logo should include the Town seal with a place to add human services. Alicia will check with Neal regarding the logo.

Community HHS Resource List

Luke is working on the list to provide contact numbers for mental health, substance abuse, financial assistance, etc. It is a large task, and the committee could help with parts of the list. Luke will format and consolidate the list to be put in a brochure. We will bring ideas for resources at next meeting. Before the next printing of the Human Services brochure, we could make reference to the resource list.

The Town Hall keeps medical supplies for loan upstairs. Alicia will put this on the FaceBook page and website to let people know.

Report of the Human Services Coordinator

- Contoocook carry fund, Alicia did a reach out for donated wood through media and contacts and there was good response for Nov. 12.
- Details are being firmed up with Scouts for Scouting for food
- Concord Monitor may cover both Nov 12 events Scouting for Food and Contoocook Carry. Suggestion from a committee member that the Every Tuesday 5% be encouraged for the Monitor to cover.
- Many donations of fresh produce from gardens came in, but as the season changes, so will this.
- Meeting with Capitol Region Food Program regarding our participation in the Holiday Basket program. Other organizations will also have to ability to refer

recipients to CRFP. Dec. 10 from 10-12, Alicia will be present to hand out vouchers.

- Reached out to Lions Club for annual winter coat drive
- Trained on the Statewide Computer Program and Alicia will begin to transfer her list of clients to the Statewide Program. A benefit of this program is the ability to coordinate with other programs being used.
- Budget report for September: heating - \$1,582.27; electric - \$508.15; rent - \$1,532.27; some outstanding vouchers.
- Budget year to date: food - \$1,208.91; housing - \$11,948.25; heat - \$3,018.45; electricity - \$2364.44; other - \$223.71 for a total of \$18,7063.76 with \$750 pending and two more months to go.
- It is important to note that \$49,985.28 has been spent year to date with \$30,471.52 of that money coming from the NHERP (federal emergency covid relief monies) that expire in December.

Park Ave Social Program

A community potluck has been organized for October 24 at noon. About 20 people participate. There are 60 apartments in Park Ave. A list will be developed for residents to sign up with what they are bringing, and the committee can help supplement. Alicia will send out the list. Nan and Dawn will be present. Nan will meet at 11:30 at Park Ave and Dawn will arrive by 12:30 pm. Another time Mary will plan to bring a blood pressure cup to the Park Ave gatherings.

A possible idea for January is bringing Lions coats for residents to choose with refreshments.

Operation Christmas

In December the committee will be needed to help Alicia in sorting and distribution of Operation Christmas.

Community Support for Outreach

Chamber's Tuesday is 5% of all sales with Witching Hour Provisions, Maple St. Mercantile, and Indigo Blues & Co. are contributing to benevolent organizations in Hopkinton. Every Tuesday the local businesses will be pledging 5% of their sales.

NEXT MEETING: November 1 at 4 pm at the Slusser Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn C. Berry