

Human Services Advisory Committee
Hopkinton, NH
Minutes – July 13, 2021

Present: Pam Manus; Dawn Berry; Allita Paine, Chairwoman; and Marilyn Ceriello-Bresaw, Hopkinton Human Services

Chairwoman Allita Paine called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. We welcomed Pam Manus, potential new member of the committee awaiting approval of the Select Board. We also expressed our concern for Nan McNicholas, a member of our committee, who severely broke her wrist on vacation.

We are waiting for the reply from another person asked to be the fifth member of our committee to fill a two year term.

Marilyn gave her report from the numbers as of June 1:

- \$28,674.63 has been spent from her \$50,000 budget.
- \$27,144.84 of that money went to keeping Hopkinton residents in their homes. Many of those seeking help did not qualify for Covid funds. The cost of housing is high and there are 10 active cases in Hopkinton.
- 54 households use the food pantry.
- 7 families who include 14 children received Got Lunch and gift cards.
- Provided Medicare counseling for a person whose eye care co-pays of just under \$2,000 could not be met. Marilyn helped him apply to the Lions Club for help.
- Helped people reapply for Electrical Assistance.
- Helps Paula with Senior lunches on Wednesdays. Groups are needed to commit to a Wednesday to provide for Senior lunches. Seniors pay \$5 toward their lunches, and that money is used to reimburse the group providing and cooking the food. It was suggested that High School culinary programs may be a source of providing a meal.
- The Back to School Program for school supplies and gift cards for clothing is already being promoted.

Marilyn had some specific suggestions on updating the town's Community Connections flyer, this Committee's next project.

Expressions of gratitude for Marilyn's work were expressed as she prepares for retirement in August. Marilyn advised the committee that help is needed in the recruitment of volunteers for the Senior Center come September.

After Marilyn left the meeting, the committee talked about the Appreciation Celebration for her and Paula on July 21, rain date July 28. The appreciation is an acknowledgement of all their work in providing senior lunches and other services during the Covid shutdown of town buildings.

Respectfully submitted, Dawn Berry, Scribe.