

Hopkinton Human Services Advisory Committee  
September 14, 2021

Present: Allita Paine, chair; Pam Manus, Nan McNicholas, and Dawn Berry

Town Administer Neal Cass joined our meeting to respond to questions the Advisory Committee had regarding the Job Description of the Coordinator Human Services. He told us that Alicia Presti has been employed as the new Coordinator of Human Services. She has a Bachelors Degree in psychology and a Masters Degree and has had ample experience in coordinating human services. It is planned for her office to be at the Slusser Center where she will have closer proximity to interactions with Hopkinton residents utilizing the facility.

During the interim, Neal Cass has handled the welfare cases until the new Director starts on September 20, 2021. We thanked Neal for his work and he returned to his office.

The minutes of the August 3, 2021 meeting were approved.

Two members of Dial a Ride expressed a need to form a Town Respite Committee that would provide a couple hours, without cost, for a care-giver to have a break. The liability for providing in-home respite was discussed. Different medical issues that could put a respite worker or client at risk were also discussed. The committee will suggest that the Dial a Ride group do a survey of volunteers and clients to assess need and willing volunteers to be a respite provider. Then, they could draft a proposal for respite service with an understanding of liability and limits.

For the reminder of the meeting we discussed the content of the new brochure with an organizing attempt to match content to an eight panel folded brochure.

Brochure

Panel 1: Community Connections – Make Life Easier- Resources Available to Hopkinton Residents, make picture larger and keep explanation in square

Panel 2:

Helpful Links and Numbers

Service Link – Allita would write about services provided and remove Offices of Elderly and Adult Services

211 – 24/7 call service

Child abuse and adult abuse hotline

Panel 3:

CAP to include Fuel and Electrical Assistance programs

Contoocook Carry Community Fund

Food Resources: Meals On Wheels, Hopkinton Food Pantry, Got Lunch, NH  
Commodity Supplemental Food Program out of Warner.

Panel 4:

Legal: Pro Bono, NH Legal Assistance, Legal Aid, Senior Citizens Law Project,  
Modest Means – Pam will check all the information for the legal panel.

Panel 5:

Looking for Companionship: Senior Companion, Slusser Center and list  
programs- classes, interest groups, Wednesday Senior Lunches (55 and  
older during the day), Friends Program (Allita will check on Friends)  
Hopkinton Town Library include Words on Wheels, National Library Service  
for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Panel 6:

Transportation: Dial a Ride, CAP Bus

Hopkinton Human Services Department

Affordable Housing for Seniors and Physically Challenged, Information  
about Parkland

Panel 7:

Churches, police and fire

Panel 8: Schools and Recreation

The meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn C. Berry, Scribe