



Town of Fairfield

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES June 27, 2013

A meeting of the Human Services Commission was held on Thursday, June 27, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Fairfield Senior Center.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Selma Cohen, Chairman; Linda DeLorenzo, Vice Chairman; Marc Andre, Nancy Legare, and Bernard Lynch

ALSO PRESENT: Teresa Giegengack, Director of Human and Social Services

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Selma Cohen at 4:05 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Selma Cohen asked for a motion to approve the minutes for May 23, 2013.

Commissioner Marc Andre moved for approval of the minutes of the May 23, 2013, meeting with the following changes - as underlined:

“A meeting of the Human Services Commission was held on Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Fairfield Senior Center.

Commissioner Kevin Lennon noted that the “Top Ten” Commission had recommended a full-time position.

Commissioner Bernard Lynch said a notice would need to be posted noting the change of the meeting location to the Senior Center.”

Commissioner Bernard Lynch seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

2. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

Chairperson Selma Cohen said she talked with Ms. Terri Giegengack about filing a petition to the First Selectman for the Town’s use of its “contingency fund” for the restoration of the full-time position for a Senior Center Director.

Commissioners Nancy Legare and Linda DeLorenzo noted their support for a petition regarding the full-time Director’s position for the Senior Center. Following discussion, Commissioners Marc Andre and Bernard Lynch noted their support for a full-time position as opposed to a part-time position to begin with, and recommended a draft of the petition be prepared. Ms. DeLorenzo and Marc Andre said they would be willing to prepare a draft for review by the Commissioners.

Ms. Giegengack noted that she would need six – eight weeks to advertise for applicants and for interviews.

3. FAIRFIELD SENIOR SERVICES:

Ms. Teresa Giegengack passed out a copy of the Town’s newsletter to the Commissioners and noted that the advertising in the newsletter has been most successful.

Ms. Giegengack reported that a wine-tasting event was held as the third evening session of the pilot program on June 12th. Commissioner Nancy Legare noted that she was present at the evening session and that it was very successful.

Ms. Giegengack discussed a transportation program for the Town seniors and the disabled by the INT Coastal CT Transportation Company. The Commissioners agreed to have a company representative come to a meeting to present information regarding the program.

Other topics discussed included the forming of a subcommittee to work with Ms. Giegengack regarding the needs of the disabled. Ms. Giegengack is interested in forming two or three focus groups to learn more about the needs of the community.

4. BOARD OF HEALTH – Bruce Carter, Liaison

Noting that there was nothing for this Commission to discuss at this time, Chairman Selma Cohen reported that Commissioner Bruce Carter will have a report at the next meeting.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Teresa Giegengack, Director of Human and Social Services and the Fairfield Senior Center, spoke with Mark Barnhart regarding the application to the Neighborhood Assistance Act for the repairs to the Center’s gym floor and the slate walk. Ms. Giegengack noted that it was important the slate walk be repaired immediately. Ms. Giegengack also said she would inquire about re-sanding the gym floor for now – until the floor can be properly repaired. Commissioner Marc Andre said he would check with Home Depot regarding improvements to the slate walk and the gym floor under a grant through the Neighborhood Assistance Act.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

There were no new matters for discussion at this time.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:

Ms. Helen D'Avanzo discussed complaints regarding handicap doors on Town Buildings being locked during evening events, noting that it was unacceptable. Ms. D'Avanzo said she was advised that only one door would be open and the other doors locked in the evening for safety reasons. Ms. D'Avanzo said this was not acceptable because the disabled are not able to enter the building. Ms. Giegengack will follow-up with the ADA Compliance Coordinator for the Town.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CONSTANCE M. WADI
Recording Secretary

N.B. There will be no meetings during the months of July and August.

The next meeting of the Human Services Commission will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2013, in the meeting room of the Fairfield Senior Center at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes are subject to review, correction, and approval by the Human Services Commission.