Woodbridge Human Services Commission

Minutes of the October 11, 2022 Special Meeting
Via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
Can be viewed at https://youtu.be/psejDk2B_uI

Members Present: S. Davidson, Commission Chair, V. Livesay, A. Holzman (at 7:11pm), B.P. Madden, J. Ciarleglio, L. F. Miller, A. Sanchez

Staff present: J. Glicksman, Human Services Director, N. Pfund, Youth Services Director, K. Moriarty, Woodbridge Center Director

Guest: David Lober, Board of Selectmen

Absent: C. Austin, J. Clarke-Lofters

Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m. by S. Davidson, Chair.

I. Public Comment
Although publicly noticed, no members of the public were in attendance.

II. Minutes of the September 12, 2022 Meeting
B.P. Madden made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2022 meeting. J. Ciarleglio seconded. B.P. Madden, V. Livesay, J. Ciarleglio, S. Davidson, and L. F. Miller approved the minutes by roll call vote. (A. Sanchez abstained.)

III. The Woodbridge Center
K. Moriarty presented the September 2022 Woodbridge Center report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Programs
  - Armchair Adventure Series: National Parks of the West – Acadia National Park was added to the original 6-month series for the final adventure.
  - Coachman Picnic – 119 people attended this drive-thru event sponsored by Coachman’s Square and the Agency on Aging.
  - Lunch and Learn: Planning for the Future for Children and Adults with Special Needs – Drazen Rubin Law presented this workshop on September 21 in collaboration with the Woodbridge Town Library. The program provided an overview of the potential risks and pitfalls when planning for the future for individuals with special needs.
  - Solo Concert, violinist Ilana Zaks- The musical performance took place on September 23, 2022. Funding for this event was through an Area Agency on Aging grant.
  - Lunch and Learn: Hearing Loss is Tiring - Dr. Willa Horowitz gave this presentation on October 3, 2022 with a focus on preserving hearing and the consequences of ignoring hearing loss. Lunch was provided by Coachman’s Square of Woodbridge.
- In-person Virtual Visit to Vermont – Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center provided this in-person virtual visit to VT on October 7, 2022. Participants enjoyed hot cider, VT cheese, donuts, and maple syrup.

- Woodbridge Like Me Day took place on Sunday, October 9, 2022 – The Center had an informational table at the event.

- Lifestyle Change (Diabetes Prevention Program) – The next session of this program started today. The free program will have guest speakers, exercise classes, and 6 private sessions with a registered dietician.

- Lunch and Learn: What’s New for Medicare in 2023 and How to Prepare for the Annual Enrollment Period – This event is scheduled for October 12, 2022. The workshop is being given by Jeffrey Comen, local Medicare Advocate/Broker. Lunch will be provided by Coachman’s Square.

- Murder Mystery – Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center will sponsor this suspenseful, interactive game of mystery and intrigue on October 13, 2022.

- Diabetes Management Class - This six-week session, beginning on October 17, 2022, will be led by Mary Swansiger, BSN, MPH, CDCES and is provided through Griffin Hospital and Area Agency on Aging of South Central CT.

- Lunch and Learn: Conservatorship, Guardianship, and Supported Decision-making – This workshop, presented by Drazen Rubin Law, will provide information on navigating the complicated world of special needs planning. Lunch will be provided.

- Spooky Sponsor Social: This health fair style event will take place on October 27. It is exclusively for vendors that have sponsored lunches over the past year. Participants will receive a lunch to go sponsored by Coachman Square and Whitney Rehab. A movie will follow at the Library.

- **Grants**
  The Center was awarded four grants that were applied for during the month of August through the Agency on Aging of South Central CT.
  - Musical Entertainment at Annual Town Picnic - $225
  - Solo Violinist Concert - $400
  - Wi-Fi installation labor - $875
  - Screen and projector installation labor - $9,500

  The Center was also awarded funding through CT Healthy Living Collective in the amount of $2,880 for another Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance Program (24 weeks, 2 days per week).

- **Staffing** – The Center’s current part-time driver resigned. The Center will be posting for the Driver position in the near future.

B.P. Madden made a motion to accept the September 2022 Woodbridge Center report. A. Sanchez seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

**IV. Youth Services**

N. Pfund presented the September 2022 Youth Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.
- **Programming**
  - Speaker: Former NFL player Shamiel Gary gave a motivational speech to Amity Middle School Bethany (AMSB) students on goal setting, self-respect, and the celebration of others. Youth Services helped sponsor the event.
  - Information Tables – Youth Services (YS) set up tables at the Beecher Rd. School Ice Cream Social on September 2, 2022, and at the AMSB Back to School Night on September 13.
  - Hispanic Heritage Movies at AMSB - YS is providing snacks for after school movies on Wednesday from September 21 - October 19, 2022.
  - Job Bank- There is a little more activity, but YS will try to recruit more students to interview for jobs.
  - Community Service- Students are still providing tech help to seniors, and students helped set up and serve dinner at the Living Treasure Award Dinner. Several requests have come in for students to work at the Bethany Harvest Festival and at Town Hall. Coordination of efforts continues with the high school career center. More requests have come in for help with the Halloween Hoot, the AMSB Color Run, and for the food pantry.
  - Home Alone Class – Scheduled for October 13 and 20, 2022 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at the Library Meeting Room. Fee is $15. Officer Lynch will assist.
  - Youth Evening Program – Halloween Spooktacular is scheduled for October 28, 2022, at 7:00-9:00 p.m. at AMSB gym. Cost is $7 and covers DJ, “Ax Throw” inflatable, games, Mummy Wrap, refreshments, and a raffle. Volunteers are needed.
  - AMSB-PTSO Color Run – YS plans to have an informational table at this event on October 15, 2022, and helped to sponsor this event.

- **Juvenile Review Board (JRB)** - A meeting regarding the development of a regional JRB for the BOW area was held at Amity District Office on September 8, 2022. Representatives from Amity, BOW Police Departments and Woodbridge and Orange Youth Services were in attendance. More research needs to be done on truancy. Erica Bromley from the CT Youth Services Association attended virtually to advise. A subsequent meeting was held on September 27, 2022, to review documents provided by another new regional JRB. J. Glicksman has provided forms to T. Genovese for review by Town Council.

- **Grant Reporting/Budget** – The FY22 expense report, the FY23 budgets for the YS Base Grant, Enhancement Grant and a new supplemental grant for direct services were completed and forwarded to DCF.

- **Staff** – Interviews were held for the position of Youth Services Program Coordinator. YS's request to increase the hourly rate for this position to $20/hour was approved by the Town.

  A. Holzman made a motion to hire Jami Joy Gibson for the position of Program Coordinator at a rate of $20/hour, contingent on a successful background check and the submission of all necessary documents. B. P. Madden seconded. All members approved by roll call vote.

- New program assistants are scheduled to work at the Halloween Spooktacular on October 28, 2022. A planning meeting for assistants is scheduled for October 19, 2022.

  J. Ciarleglio made a motion to accept the Youth Services September 2022 report. V. Livesay seconded. All approved by roll call vote.
V. Human Services
J. Glicksman presented the September 2022 Human Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Senior Center Renovation – Project is underway with Olympus Construction and Silver/Petrucelli. The demolition and some initial construction has already begun. The most recent issue involves venting for the HVAC. Unfortunately, the vents cannot go through the exterior wall and will have to utilize the top glazing in 6 windows. A storage closet has been reworked to allow for better storage for tables in the lounge. Silver/Petrucelli applied for and obtained $9,864 from United Illuminating as part of an incentive program for improving energy solutions.

- Living Treasure update – The event was a terrific success. Approximately 130 people attended, and the event raised close to $10,000. It continues to be a lovely gathering of a cross-section of Woodbridge. Many wonderful volunteers helped with planning and on the day of the event. The Ad Book was very successful.

- Center Building Renovation Committee - The bid opening event for Architectural/Engineering services for the Center Building renovation took place again on October 6, 2022, with a revised RFP. Four companies attended and toured the building with committee members. The submitted bid packets should be available to committee members for review in approximately six weeks.

- Budget – Capital – The FY24 Capital Budget is due on October 28, 2022. The Capital Budget will be presented at the November 7th regular meeting for approval.

- Flu/Covid Booster Clinics – HS will provide Flu Clinics on October 18 & 25, 2022. Pre-registration is required through the Human Services Office. Covid (bivalent) Booster Clinic will be held October 13, 2022 (9:00 am -3:00 pm) and is available to all residents and town employees.

- Holiday Basket Program – The annual Holiday Basket Program is underway with letters sent to all donors from previous years. Last year, we had 51 families participating in the program. If anyone is looking to adopt a family or donate gift cards, please contact Ellen in the Human Services Department.

- Energy Assistance and Food Pantry requests – Over the past few weeks, calls from residents regarding energy assistance and access to the food pantry have been increasing. Along with calls from current clients, 5-6 new clients have called for assistance. J Glicksman will update the Commission if this upward trend continues.

- “Scouting for Food” BSA Scouts Food Drive – The annual food drive to benefit the Woodbridge Human Services Food Pantry will take place later this month. Flyers will be taped to residents’ mailboxes with details.

V. Livesay made a motion to accept the September 2022 Human Services report. A. Holzman seconded. All approved by roll call vote.
v. Old Business/New Business

- Next Meeting – November 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

w. Adjournment

J. Ciarleglio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. B.P. Madden seconded. All members present approved by roll call vote.

Submitted by:

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Human Services Commission

Accepted and approved this 7th Day of November, 2022.