

DARIEN HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING
Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 8, 2015

Attending: Debra Hertz, Olive Hauser, Nancy Herling, Jennifer Geddes, Holly Hawes, Melisse Reardon, Ali Ramsteck, Beverly Kelsey

Minutes: The minutes of the April 15, 2015 meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items Covered:

- DVCC Posters and Cards: Olive disseminated new Domestic Violence posters and cards that will be placed in all the bathrooms in the town hall and Mather Center..
- Conference on Hoarding: Ali Ramsteck attended a CT Hoarding Work Group conference which included Dr. Randy Frost, an expert in this disorder, as a key speaker. Olive shared some case examples of hoarding HS is working with the Fire Marshall's office on, who are taking the lead.
- Strategic Planning with AT Home in Darien: Olive attended a Strategic Planning session with At Home in Darien facilitated by consultant Kiki Karpen, former Executive Director of the Darien Community Fund. A number of recommendations were made to improve coordination of services to seniors, including those being released from hospitals. Human Services has planned to make outreach visits to various agencies beginning with the Police in June. They will include info on At Home and the Senior Center in these visits.
- Recent Ejection/Foreclosure: Olive reviewed a recent case involving a client ejection due to housing foreclosure.
- Auto accident on Senior Center Property: A recent accident involving an elderly man losing control of his vehicle which ran down into a stream adjacent to the Senior Center was discussed as an example of excellent coordination between town first responders, the Senior Center, At Home and Human Services..
- Commission on Aging Report: Jennifer recapped some issues the seniors are dealing with, specifically hospitalized seniors who are "under observation" which Medicare will not pay for. The issue of senior's losing their Medicare Part D for not paying their premiums was also discussed. Seniors are encouraged have Part D payments removed directly from their bank account

or credit card to avoid this very costly mistake. Jennifer and Holly will attend the next Housing Authority meeting.

- New Business: The Vet Center, a federally funded veteran support service is now available every Wednesday at the VFW. Group and single counseling is available. There are brochures on HS library shelves.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Kelsey