

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

November 8, 2013

Present: Olive Hauser, Debra Hertz, Rachael Martin, Nancy Herling, Melisse Reardon, Jennifer Geddes, Inta Admas, Ali Ramsteck, Beverly Kelsey

Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of October 11, 2013 were approved as presented.

Agenda Items Covered:

- **Review of the Annual Report:**
The annual report for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 was distributed and reviewed. The report summarized the various services offered in the past year to Darien residents.
- **Energy Assistance/NEON:**
Rev. Tommie Jackson has been named interim CEO of NEON. We continue to experience difficulties with energy assistance applications due to communications problems.
- **Holiday Programs:**
We will pursue locations to set up Christmas trees with gingerbread donation opportunities. We hope to have trees at a local bank, and possibly Brooks Brothers, in addition to our usual locations. We anticipate increased demand for Thanksgiving baskets and holiday gifts based on our experience with Back to School demand this year. We continue to seek organizations interested in donating to these programs.
- **Home Goods Closet:**
The Home Goods Closet has been re-stocked, thanks to Jennifer Geddes efforts and a donation from Darien Firemen.
- **The Heights Update:**
Imagineers Management Group has relocated to the Heights site and has been re-named "The Heights – Darien". We are serving an increased number of Heights residents with human service needs.
- **Client Updates:** Three cases were reviewed, demonstrating the complexity and time intensiveness of our client needs. We are seeing more moderate income individuals with financial difficulties, as well as seniors living on their own with mental health issues.

- **Old Business/New Business:**

Olive advised that Access CT would be presenting an Affordable Care Act presentation next Wednesday at the Town Hall for Town agencies. She invited HS Commission members who are interested to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beverly Kelsey

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