

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2013

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

Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of November 8, 2013 were approved as presented.

Agenda Items Covered:

- **Energy Assistance/Operation Fuel:**

NEON is not being responsive, keeps changing rules and is understaffed. Operation Fuel is operating under the same guideline as EAP – funding up to \$500 on a one- time basis.

- **Holiday Programs:**

The movie offering and Xmas tree gingerbread donation opportunities have been moderately successful to date. All of these donation opportunities have been impacted by the shorter holiday season this year. Next year these programs may need to be launched before Thanksgiving to assure adequate support.

The Kids Care Club at Tokeneke is collecting 100 toys. We continue to need Legos, Crayola products, gift cards and Game Stop cards as well as Amazon gift cards.

The Lions Club has donated \$500 in Shop Rite gift cards.

Darien Human Services may be the beneficiary of a \$100 bet on the outcome of Darien/New Canaan FCIA football game made between the two town's First Selectmen.

Up to 90% of the proceeds from the Salvation Army kettles in Darien will be added to the Darien Salvation Army budget, which is used to help in need in Darien.

- **Budget:**

Human Services will request funding for to increase Ali's position to full time worker and ½ time secretary in the 2014 Budget process. These requests reflect the increase in case work over the past year as well as an anticipated increase in clients from the Senior Center moving here and the Heights finishing and filling the last 50 of the project's homes.

- **New/Old Business:**

There was no additional new/old business discussed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beverly Kelsey