

HUMAN SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of November 9, 2012

Present: Olive Hauser, Nancy Herling, Jennifer Geddes, Melisse Reardon, Holly Hawes, Ali Ramsteck, Inta Adams, Beverly Kelsey

Minutes: Minutes of the Meeting of October 12, 2012 were approved as presented.

Agenda Items Covered:

1. **Review of Sandy/ Nor'easter Storms:** Olive reported that the Town Emergency Operations Center functioned really well during these storms. There was excellent coordination among the various town emergency staff, facilitated by having everyone operating out of the same location. The High School storm shelter had volunteer staffing issues but the school staff did an excellent job of supporting families staying there. Approximately 20 homes in town were deemed uninhabitable due to the storm.
2. **Holiday Planning:**
 - We anticipate a few more people for Thanksgiving baskets and coupons than last year.
 - We hope to have four trees in various locations this year, an increase from last year.
 - Gift cards and gifts are needed as soon as possible but no later than December 10, 2012. Preferred cards include Walmart, Stop and Shop, Gas Cards and CVS/Walgreens cards.
 - Last year we provided 96 children with holiday gifts and food gift cards for their families.
 - Rachael Martin will prepare a letter for the local papers detailing ways the community can support our holiday program.
 - The Community Fund will donate \$1,000 per eligible family for storm relief. They also gave us \$500 for food gift cards.
 - Through the Youth commission the Darien Movie Theatre will show the movie, "The Guardians" with attendees requested to donate a gift to benefit our holiday program.
 - A follow-up letter to past donors will be sent out as well.
3. **Cops and Kids:** This program, held at the Depot has been very successful. This year they stocked the Home Goods Closet as a service project. The closet still needs supplies, including cleaning materials, soap, shampoo, and laundry detergent.

4. Other Business: Officer elections will take place at the December meeting.

Respectively Submitted:

Beverly Kelsey

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