

# HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

February 12, 2016

## Minutes

**Attending:** Olive Hauser, Rachel Martin, Jennifer Geddes, Ali Ramsteck, Lisa Stout, Holly Hawes, Melisse Reardon, Polly Lowman

**Minutes:** The minutes of January 8, 2016 were approved as presented

**Chairperson's Update:** A sheet for HSC programs - Home Goods closet, Holiday, Back to School and Thanksgiving - was passed around for commission members to sign up to assist with each, closet on a monthly basis and others prior and during the season. Rachel will continue to work on a list of frequent contributors of money and goods, as well as potential contributors to reach out to.

**Budget update:** The HSC budget has been presented to selectmen as proposed and is waiting for decision.

**Program updates:** Energy assistance statistics from the State are lower than normal, due to the warmer weather and fuel costs. Because of this the state is taking a more liberal stance on safety nets and crisis payments. The program ends March 15<sup>th</sup> for ordering fuel and early May for payments of those deliveries.

The staff has been organizing the office, client updates, and file clean-up. For some files we need the state's permission to destroy them. In general we will be saving files for about 3 years.

Trying to have a discussion with Terrie Wood, CT State Rep to address inefficiencies at the State Dept. of Social Services, suggesting more work done at the Regional offices

New resource - Silver Source (formerly Senior Services of Stamford), the catchment area is greater Stamford area and they have been willing to help a Darien client

**DDAP update:** Darien Domestic Abuse Partnership filing for 501c(3)

**Housing update:** Asking Jayme Stevenson to come to HSC meeting to better understand affordable/moderate housing in Darien – what, where, who and the oversight (questions will be drafted)

Jennifer and Holly will be attending the February 23 Housing meeting

**Commission seats still open:** Olive and Rachel to follow up

**Staff in-service opportunities coming up:** Ali and staff will be attending several trainings and conferences such as, Veteran's Assistance, Dos and Don'ts, HUSKY, Caring for Caregivers by the Coalition for Elderly Abuse and Late Life Conference

No Old/New Business. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

*Lisa Stout*