

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

March 1, 2018

Town Hall Board Room, 8:45 AM

Present- Judy Dunn, Mike Allocca, Carol Blauvelt, Dr. Sara Kahn, Alicia Meyer, Lance Minor

Staff- Robin Boccuzzi, Jackie D'Louhy, Bethany Zaro

Guest Daniel LaGattuta who is considering Commission membership

Meeting called to order and minutes from Feb. 1 meeting unanimously approved.

Health-

Flu update. The outbreak is in its seventh week, has peaked and is expected to decline. We received reimbursement for our expenses and basically broke even. Development of a vaccine for the next outbreak is already in process.

Seniors-

IStep/Telehealth: We have 157 active members. A survey of current TH members was taken to measure their interest in continuing to receive the informational brochure we have mailed out in the past. Sixty were interested in receiving future copies, 50 were ok with email and only 10 preferred to receive paper copies. The annual cost of the brochure is \$4000 for 6 or 7 issues. Mike A. and Carol B. to review the cost/benefit and consider alternative options.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of calls from people requesting financial assistance. We offer financial assessments and inform them of available services.

There continues to be a large demand for affordable/low-income housing. We will invite Scott Hobbs of the Housing Authority to a meeting to present a review of the situation.

Robin reviewed two new cases with the Commission. She has been talking to seniors to advise them of the dangers of telephone scams.

Youth and Family Services

There will be a meeting of the NC Parent Support Group on May 8 at 7:30 at Saxe Middle School. A three speaker panel will focus on the facts and myths about marijuana.

There will be a Networking for Youth meeting on March 5 at the library. The subject will be Play Therapy.

We are considering the formation of a group of children at Saxe MS whose parents that have substance abuse issues.

The High School has added ½ credit for courses related to substance abuse.

Plans are in preparation for a May 3 meeting that will include a presentation of Suicide Prevention by Ingrid Gillespie. Need to finalize the definition of subject matter and audience.

Senior and Adult Sub Committee Report

Darien is offering its seniors ½ price taxi vouches. It is something we should consider for after-hours service when Getabout is not available.

SWCCA has a Senior Housing Assistance fund, offering up to \$1000 interest-free loans.

Alissa and Jackie will meet with St. Luke's director to discuss what they are doing to address the youth vaping issue.

New Business

Judy will meet with First Selectman to discuss involvement in the School Safety Task Force, formed as a result of the recent school shooting in Florida.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Allocca, Acting Recording Secretary

Approved 4/5/18