

Woodbridge Human Services Commission

Minutes of the March 6, 2023 Meeting

Via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

Can be viewed: <https://youtu.be/dxdtbFcO3NM>

Members Present: S. Davidson, Commission Chair, J. Clarke-Lofters, V. Livesay, A. Holzman, J. Ciarleglio, C. Austin

Staff present: J. Glicksman, Human Services Director, N. Pfund, Youth Services Director, K. Moriarty, Woodbridge Center Director

BOF Representative: D. Rowland

Absent: L.F. Miller, A. Sanchez, B.P. Madden

Meeting called to order 7:01 p.m. by S. Davidson, Commission Chair.

I. Public Comment

Although publicly noticed, no members of the public were in attendance.

II. Additions to the Agenda – No additions.

III. Minutes of the February 6, 2023 Meeting

J. Clarke-Lofters made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2023 meeting.

C. Austin seconded.

Minutes were approved by A. Holzman, V. Livesay, J. Clarke-Lofters, and S. Davidson.

(J. Ciarleglio and C. Austin abstained).

IV. FY23 Operating Budget update

- Preliminary Budget Hearing - Monday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Amity High School (AHS) auditorium. Commission members are encouraged to attend.
- The Town's Annual Meeting will be held on May 15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the AHS auditorium.
- The Board of Selectmen (BOS) recommended to the Board of Finance (BOF) a reduction of approximately \$600 from the Youth Services line item. None of the requests for the Capital Budget were approved.
- Woodbridge may receive approximately \$31,000 in new ARPA grant funds targeted to state-wide senior centers to purchase a vehicle for the Transportation Program.

V. The Woodbridge Center

K. Moriarty presented the February 2023 Woodbridge Center report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Programming
 - Heart Health Month – Several new people came to the aerobics classes, offered at no charge, in honor of National Heart Awareness Month.

- Souper Sweet Masquerade Drive Thru Luncheon – 100 meals were distributed to Woodbridge residents over the age of 60.
 - Valentine’s Day Card Craft – Provided by Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center on February 14, 2023.
 - Movie & Lunch – This was the first outing since the pandemic. The Center took a small group to see the movie “80 for Brady” followed by lunch at Brookside Inn.
 - Lunch & Learn: Problem at the Pump – 17 participants attended this presentation about atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure.
- Upcoming Programs and Events
 - St. Patrick’s Day Drive-Thru Luncheon – This event is scheduled for March 16, 2023.
 - Immersive Ireland Experience – There will be an immersive travel experience on March 10 that will include virtual tour, trivia, and tastings. To date, 20 participants have registered for the event.
 - Free Healthy Cooking Demo – Chef Toni from the Linden will give a free demo on March 22, 2023 on how to cook healthy meals for 1 or 2 people.
 - Lunch Bunch is resuming on March 29, 2023 with a social outing at Carmines di Vega in New Haven.
- Additional Program Information
 - Transportation – The transportation program has been busy over the past couple of months with increased usage.
 - New volunteer – Katie Behr is a volunteer who has been helping with the meal delivery program.
 - Center Renovation – The Center is looking to start the process of planning the pre-wiring the room for the future installation of the projector and screen.
 - Tech usage – The website continues to be modified to be more user friendly and will soon include a link to SchedulesPlus so individuals can register for programs directly. Monthly emails are being sent to over 275 active members and the Center’s Facebook page now has 294 followers.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the February 2023 Woodbridge Center report. J. Ciarleglio seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

VI. Youth Services

N. Pfund presented the February 2023 Youth Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Programming
 - Winter Paint Party – Thirteen students had a great time at the paint party on February 1st at Amity Middle School Bethany (AMSB). Picasso Parties had two instructors assisting students.
 - After School Guided Study Program – Beecher Road School (BRS) teacher Katie McCollom is coordinating the program.
 - 7th Grade Parent Orientation - N. Pfund had an information table and spoke to parents of current sixth graders at AMSB about Youth Services programs.
 - 6th Grade Beth-Wood Meet and Greet Party Date Change – New date is March 31, 2023. The social event will run from 7:00-9:00 p.m. with a DJ, an inflatable obstacle course, pizza, and a raffle. Fee is \$7 to attend.

- Red Cross Babysitter Training – Working to schedule a date in April.
- Home Alone – Plans for a class during the spring recess are being made. N. Pfund will forward notice to parents through BRS and its PTO.
- First Selectman’s Youth Award – No nominations have yet been received. Nominations are due on April 3, 2023. Youth Services (YS) hopes for bank sponsorship.
- Awareness Week – N. Pfund will meet with AMSB student council and their advisor to plan the topics for each day.
- Inter-generational activity is in the early stages of being planned. (Lunch, craft, and BINGO were potential ideas.)
- Job Bank – Starting to see some activity and more requests for tech help.

V. Livesay made a motion to accept the February 2023 report. J. Clarke-Lofters seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

VII. Human Services

J. Glicksman presented the February 2023 Human Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Senior Center Renovation update – The construction schedule for the Woodbridge Center renovation project has been provided and it looks like completion is now scheduled for mid to late June. It is disheartening to have this project drag on for months, but we are excited to be able to plan for the opening in July. Human Services (HS) staff and Susan Davidson continue to meet every other week with the rest of the building committee and have a good relationship with the A & E firm.
- Center Building Renovation Committee, Center Gym Project update – The Building Committee is moving ahead with the Center Gymnasium project and has met with designers, architects, and engineers. The BOS have approved funding for all 5 phases of design work and construction documents. This project has funding in place from a \$500,000 STEAP grant. Additional funds from the federal ARPA funds have also been requested with the hope of completing the HVAC as well as other necessary upgrades including the widening of entrances to the gym to allow for ADA compliance. At the February 21st Special Meeting of the BOS, the selectmen voted to allocate \$333,000 toward the gym renovation project from the ARPA funds. The Committee is awaiting approval by the BOS for authorization of expenditures to Silver Petrucelli in the amount of \$55,000 for Phase I of the Center Building renovation project. This request has been delayed to April.
- Programs/Training
 - VITA program – Tax appointments for in-person help are available on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – noon. One volunteer is ill, so the program is short-staffed.
 - CPR/AED/First Aid Training – Arranging first-time training for two drivers and the YS Program Coordinator for mid-April. The rest of the staff is due to be trained in May.
 - COVID Test Kits – HS will receive 90 test kits through the QVHD next week. Masks and test kits will be available for pick up by appointment.

- Relief aid collection for victims of the Turkey earthquake - collection boxes are in Town Hall and by the Center Building Gym. See Woodbridge Town News for more information.
- Volunteers – Looking for two volunteers to deliver meals to clients on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. It is contemplated that volunteers would use their own car.
- Survey Participation Wanted – Woodbridge’s community partner TEAM, Inc. has asked for assistance from residents to help plan for the Agency’s future.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the February 2023 report. V. Livesay seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

VIII. Old Business/New Business

- Next Meeting – Monday, April 3, 2023

IX. Adjournment

V. Livesay made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. J. Clarke-Lofters seconded.

Submitted by:

Human Services Commission

Accepted and approved this 3rd Day of April, 2023.