

Woodbridge Human Services Commission

Minutes of the April 4, 2022

Via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

Can be viewed:

Members Present: S. Davidson, Commission Chair, J. Clarke-Lofters, V. Livesay, A. Holzman, B.P. Madden, J. Ciarleglio, L.F. Miller, C. Austin

Liaisons: D. Lober, BOS Liaison

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

Absent: D. Rowland, BOF Liaison

Meeting called to order at 7:00 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 - none

III. Liaison Reports

- Board of Selectmen (BOS) – D. Lober gave a brief update. He discussed the preliminary budget meeting (which is scheduled for April 18) and indicated that the Strategic Plan subcommittee of the BOS is looking for ways to support the Human Services Department, the Town Library, and Woodbridge Recreation.
- Board of Finance (BOF) – D. Rowland - None

IV. Minutes of the March 7, 2022 Meeting

B. P. Madden made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2022 meeting. J. Clarke-Lofters seconded. The minutes were approved by roll call vote. V. Livesay abstained.

V. Youth Services

N. Pfund presented the March 2022 Youth Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Programming
 - After-School Guided Study Program - Tutors are meeting in person or remotely depending on the family and tutor's comfort level. Tutors receive an hour of planning time per student and tutors have between 2-5 students for 30 minutes each week. Youth Services (YS) is considering hosting a pizza party for participants.

- 6th grade parent orientation at the Amity Middle School in Bethany (AMSB) - N. Pfund attended the orientation program on March 1st. It was an excellent opportunity to speak about YS programs, offer information and share the YS Facebook page with interested families.
 - Pi Day - Canceled due to lack of interest
 - Paint Party - Scheduled for April 29, 2022 from 2:30-4:00 pm at AMSB. Cost to attend is \$25.
 - Awareness Week at AMSB is scheduled to take place on April 25-29, 2022. Students will come up with daily themes and YS will purchase needed supplies, such as beads for bracelets and wrist band to identify students participating in the Day of Silence.
 - Spring Break Week - Home Alone Class for kids ages 9-12 will take place on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 10:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. in the Woodbridge Library. Cost to attend is \$15. Police and Fire Department representatives will be participating.
 - New Club at AHS - Amity Connections - YS is working with AHS counselors to plan a field trip to the Discovery Museum in Bridgeport on April 29, 2022 for a group of student mentors and mentees for a day of team building. Orange Youth Services may also contribute.
 - Youth Evening Program Donations:
 - Woodbridge Police Union donated check for \$200.
 - AMSB PTSO donated Amity wear for prizes.
 - Amity Bowl, Dip Top, The Clay Date and The Vault Virtual Reality also made donations.
 - 6th Grade Party - 6th graders from Woodbridge and Bethany were invited to a party at AMSB on April 1, 2022 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
 - 8th Grade Party - YS is collaborating with Orange Youth Services to hold a party at the high school for 8th graders on April 22, 2022. A DJ and games are planned. Pizza will be served.
- First Selectman's Youth Award - Nominations were due by today, April 4th and many excellent nominations have been received. Peoples Bank has generously agreed to sponsor the award (\$200 check). The winner will be decided by the Youth Advisory Board on April 18.
 - Staffing update- YS is still looking for per diem staff members for the after-school and evening programs.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the March 2022 report. A. Holzman seconded. All members approved by roll call vote

VI. The Woodbridge Center

K. Moriarty presented the March 2022 Woodbridge Center report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Pandemic Update - Although Woodbridge was in the yellow zone for the Covid-19 positivity rate for two weeks in March, we returned to the red zone on March 31. Therefore, masks continue to be required for all in-person Senior Center programs.
- March Programs/Events
 - Evidence-based Lifestyle Change - Diabetes Prevention
 - A 45-minute, weekly fitness class was added to the Lifestyle Change Program.
 - As this is the first hybrid class offered through The Center, adaptations have been made including the recent purchase of a lapel microphone so both Zoom, and in-person participants can hear the presenter better.
 - Armchair Adventure Series - National Parks of the West - This monthly series, provided by the Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center (HRHCC), began on March 11th with a virtual tour of Yellowstone Park. The next park in the series will be Yosemite, scheduled for April 8th.
 - In-Person Virtual Art Tour Series Viewing - The Wadsworth Museum's Virtual Art Tour on women artists was held on March 16th. The next art tour in the series will be about Milton Avery's works on April 6th at 7:00 p.m.
 - St. Patrick's Day Drive-Thru Luncheon - 128 Woodbridge residents were served on March 17 at the luncheon sponsored by Coachman Square at Woodbridge and the Holli Shanbrom Team- Coldwell Banker Real Estate. The Holli Shanbrom Team also provided a LED flashlight and multipurpose pen, and Hamden Rehab and Health Care Center provided a festive treat bag to all who attended.
- Upcoming Programs/Events
 - Spring Drive-Thru Luncheon - April 7, 2022.
 - Town Earth Day - The Center will celebrate by hosting a tag sale in the Grove on April 23, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is a \$10 fee for a six-foot table.
 - Woodbridge Police Department Crime Prevention Presentation - April 28, 2022, in the Center Building gym.
 - The History of White House Entertainment - May 5, 2022. Former White House butler Alan DeValerio will give this interesting presentation regarding White House entertaining and how it has evolved over the years. This program is co-hosted with the Woodbridge Library.
 - The Woodbridge Childcare's preschool and the Craft Group have started an organic craft exchange. After preschoolers made crafts for the Craft Group, it was reciprocated with homemade knitted bunnies for each child.
- New Equipment
 - Pickleball - As the number of pickleball players continues to increase, the Woodbridge Recreation and Human Services Departments are working together to create two new additional courts at the Town's tennis courts.
- Room changes - As building maintenance began demolition, all programs that met in the Center Cafe have been moved to the Town Library.

- Staffing Update
 - The Woodbridge Center continues its search for a Transportation Program driver.

- Grants - No updates to report.

B.P. Madden made a motion to accept the March 2022 Woodbridge Center report. J. Ciarleglio seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

VII. Human Services

J. Glicksman presented the March 2022 Human Services report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Budget update
 - J. Glicksman reported that the BOS reduced the FY23 Human Services (HS) Operating Budget by \$10,627. HS respectfully requested \$2,968 be returned for the seniors of our town. BOF returned \$2,968 to the HS budget.
 - J. Glicksman asked Commission members to attend the Town's preliminary budget meeting on April 18 at 7:30 pm at the Firehouse.

- Programs: Mask/test kit distribution, VITA
 - The HS Department distributed more masks and test kits to vulnerable Woodbridge residents and expanded this distribution to the whole town on April 1. Approximately 120 test kits have gone out to residents this week. Kits are distributed to residents by appointment only.
 - VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) is finishing up the last weeks of the assistance program. The program is running smoothly with various options for completing tax returns: online, drive-thru, and in-person. Over 200 clients have been assisted.

- May meeting
 - J. Glickman will be unavailable for the May 2nd meeting and would like to cancel the regular meeting and reschedule for May 9th. J. Ciarleglio made a motion. L.F. Miller seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

- Transportation Guidelines modification
 - V. Livesay made a motion to add Beacon Falls to the transportation program. B.P. Madden seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

- Vaccine Policy update, Booster Clinic
 - Up until the recent policy change, unvaccinated town employees were required to undergo weekly Covid-19 testing. The policy has been rescinded and weekly testing no longer needed, but unvaccinated employees still need to wear masks at all times.
 - Pop Up Covid vaccine clinic - To be scheduled in mid-April for those over 50 years of age.

- Senior Center Renovation, ARPA proposals - update
 - Human Services (HS) Department received a better quote (lower) for the renovation project and the HVAC budget also went down. It will go to the BOS at the April 13 meeting as an ARPA proposal. If the budget is approved, access to the Federal ARPA funds would be available immediately after the Annual Town meeting. The Building Maintenance and Parks Departments did a wonderful job with the demolition. HS has applied for an ARPA grant to create a dedicated outside space for senior programming. The HS renovation committee is looking for ways to prevent future water intrusion and may also consider installing a sump pump. The committee is meeting with architects tomorrow afternoon to finalize all plans.

A. Holzman made a motion to accept the March 2022 report. V. Livesay seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

VIII. Old Business/New Business

- May 30th is Memorial Day - event held in front of Center Building near the Veterans' Memorial
- Volunteer Tea will take place on June 1st in the afternoon outdoors on the lawn.
- Next Meeting – Special Meeting on May 9th at 7:00 pm in person

J. Ciarleglio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. J. Clarke-Lofters seconded. All approved by roll call vote.

Submitted by:

Human Services Commission

Accepted and approved this Day of , 2022.