

Woodbridge Human Services Commission

Minutes of the September 12, 2022 Meeting

Via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Absent: A. Holzman, A. Sanchez

Meeting called to order 7:02 p.m. by S. Davidson, Chair

I. Public Comment

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

II. Additions to the Agenda

C. Austin made a motion to add New Human Services Program to the agenda.
L.F. Miller seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

III. Minutes of the August 1, 2022 Meeting

J. Ciarleglio made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2022 meeting. J. Clarke-Lofters seconded. Motion was approved by roll call vote. (V. Livesay abstained)

IV. The Woodbridge Center

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

Pandemic update: The Covid-19 community level for New Haven County has held at the medium level throughout August, therefore masks have been optional for Senior Center programming.

● Programs & Events

- Armchair Adventure Series: National Parks of the West – The August featured park was Grand Teton National Park. Attendance was a little lower than usual due to summer vacations. The final park in this monthly series was the Acadia National Park.
- Bangle Bracelet Workshop – Hamden Rehabilitation and Health Care Center offered this workshop on August 18.
- Luncheon in the Grove- Whitney Rehabilitation Care Center arranged this fun luncheon in the Grove on August 25. This was the first in-person luncheon since the pandemic. Forty participants enjoyed the lunch and music performed by Alex Lentini.

- Life-style Change Program – Monitor My Health has been awarded another grant for this program and a new session will begin on October 4, 2022. A fitness class and six private consults with a registered dietician will be included in the next session.
- Pickleball – New participants continue to sign up for pickleball. The Center now has over 50 active members.
- The Annual Town Picnic at Coachman’s Square scheduled for tomorrow (September 13) will be a drive thru event due to the anticipated rain. Over 100 participants have signed up.
- Lunch and Learn:
 - “Planning for the Future for Children and Adults with Special Needs” – Drazen Rubin Law will present this workshop on September 21. The focus of the workshop is to provide an overview of the potential risks and pitfalls when planning for the future for individuals with special needs. This program is offered in collaboration with the Woodbridge Town Library.
 - “Hearing Loss is Tiring”- Dr. Willa Horowitz, audiologist/owner of Acuity Hearing Solutions, LLC, will be giving a presentation on conserving and preserving hearing on October 3. This Lunch and Learn event is sponsored by Coachman’s Square at Woodbridge.
- Solo Concert by Classically-trained Violinist Ilana Zaks – The one-hour solo concert will take place on September 23 at The Center. Ms. Zaks has performed in various symphonic and philharmonic orchestras across the United States and Israel. She recently completed her master's degree at Yale University earning the Broadus Erle Prize for outstanding violinist. Light refreshments will be served. Funding is being provided through an Agency on Aging Grant.
- Donations – Over a dozen blankets made by the Craft Group were donated to Project Linus.

- *Transportation Pilot Program*

Social Visits Pilot Program – The Center has transported one client to a friend’s house in Woodbridge a total of six times during the four-month pilot program. J. Ciarleglio made a motion to approve this social visit program as an extended service of the transportation program. V. Livesay seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- *Website* – The Senior Center website has been updated to reflect current programming and events. The Center hopes to use the SchedulesPlus Software in the near future to allow program participants to sign-up and pay for programs online.

- *Grants*

The Center applied for five grants through Agency on Aging South-Central Connecticut during the month of August. The Center was successful in securing \$225 for musical entertainment at the September Annual Town Picnic and \$400 for the violinist concert. The Center also applied for a \$875 grant to cover labor costs for the installation of Wi-Fi in the Center Building Human Services corridor and \$9,500 to cover labor costs for the projector and screen installation in The Center. The department also applied for a grant to cover the cost of the Moving for Better Balance and a \$3,150 grant through AARP for an automatic door opener for the bathroom.

J. Clarke-Lofters made a motion to accept the August 2022 Woodbridge Center reports. B.P. Madden seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

V. Youth Services

N. Pfund presented the August 2022 Youth Services (YS) report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- *Programming*
 - Red Cross Babysitting Training – Classes were held on August 10 & 11 with nine students in attendance. Interested students were placed on the waiting list for the next class.
 - 7th grade picnic – Took place on August 24, 2022 at Amity Middle School Bethany (AMSB). 131 students attended. This was the highest attendance in 20 years. Students enjoyed music by the DJ (Music in Motion), pizza, raffle prizes and the “Hippo Chow Down.”
 - Job Bank – Requests have slowed down for outdoor work, most likely due to the lack of rain.
 - Community Service – Students are still providing tech help in the Senior Center, sorting food in the pantry, serving as volunteers at 7th grade picnic and the Living Treasures Award dinner. They will also sort food after the Boy Scouts collect at the end of October.
 - Amity High School Counseling Meet and Greet – N. Pfund met with representatives of area providers of counseling and shared information about Youth Services.
 - Plans – YS is working on plans for a Home Alone Class for 9–12-year-olds. YS had an information table at the Beecher Road School Ice Cream Social on September 2, 2022. AMSB will hold its back to school night on Tuesday, September 13, 2022. YS will attend to speak with parents and share information including the need for volunteers.
 - AMSO-PTSO Color Run - YS will help sponsor the Color Run at AMSB on October 15, 2022 and plans to have an information table.
- *Juvenile Review Board (JRB)*

On September 8, 2022, department staff met with representatives from the Amity School District, BOW Police departments, and the Woodbridge and Orange Youth Services to discuss the development of a regional JRB for the BOW area. Erica Bromley from the CT Youth Services Association attended virtually to provide advice.
- *Grant Reporting*

Data collection reports for FY22 were completed and forwarded to DCF. FY23 budgets for the YS Base Grant, Enhancement Grant, and a supplemental grant for direct services are in process. Report of all expenses is due to DCF by September 30.

- *Staff*
Sarah Pearson resigned from her position as the Youth Services Program Coordinator as of August 11, 2022, but will remain as a Youth Evening Program Assistant. Interviews are underway for the position of Youth Services Program Coordinator. YS would like to hire two per diem staff at the hourly rate of \$15.47/hour.
B.P. Madden made a motion to approve the request to hire Erika Donoso and Abigail GaNun as per diem staff. J. Ciarleglio seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

V. Livesay made a motion to accept the August 2022 Youth Services report. C. Austin seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

VI. Human Services

J. Glicksman presented the August 2022 Human Services (HS) report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- *Senior Center Renovation* – The asbestos remediation was completed in August. The kick-off meeting for the construction project was held last Friday afternoon. The project was bid with a five-month timeline. Although permits still need to be signed-off on, work started today with equipment being delivered to the work site.
- *Living Treasure update*- The event is fast approaching (September 22, 2022). Members were encouraged to volunteer that night or, if unavailable, contribute in another way such as by purchasing a ticket. Baskets are being assembled, gift cards have been collected, and the program book has been printed.
- *Center Building Renovation Committee* – The bid opening event for A/E services for the Center Building renovation took place on August 25, 2022. Five companies attended and toured the building with committee members. Due to lack of submissions, the project will be reposted.
- *Budget – Capital* – The FY24 Capital Budget is due on October 28. The document will likely be submitted to the Finance Department on October 28 and then approved at the November 7 Commission meeting.
- *Flu/Covid Booster Clinics*- Human Services will be hosting two Flu clinics for residents on October 18 & 25, 2022 from 9am-12pm. Pre-registration through the Human Services office is required. The department will also host a COVID booster clinic for all residents and town employees on October 13.
- *ARPA Fund requests*- HS submitted two ARPA fund requests to Beth Heller and Tony Genovese: a request for the Senior Center Courtyard Project and a request to make improvements to the playgrounds and improve access to all four ballfields by making them ADA accessible. The proposal includes renovation of the irrigation systems.

- *Autism Safety Alert Program/Alzheimer/Dementia Safety Alert Program* – HS is working with the Police Department on a new safety initiative for individuals with Autism, Alzheimer’s, or Dementia. The goal is to create a database with certain information about an individual (i.e, photo, contact information, verbal/nonverbal, etc.) to be used by the Police Department in missing persons cases, and other emergency situations. HS anticipates an October launch date.
- *BSA Scouts Food Drive* – The annual Scouting for Food Drive is scheduled to take place on October 29, 2022.

V. Livesay made a motion to accept the August 2022 Human Services report. J. Ciarleglio seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

VII. Old Business/New Business

- Next Meeting – October 3, 2022

VIII. Adjournment

B.P. Madden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. J. Ciarleglio seconded. Motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Submitted by:

Human Services Commission

Accepted and approved this 11th Day of October, 2022.