

Community Services and Recreation

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Community Services Commission Members

From: Edward J. Swinkoski, Director of Community Services and Recreation

Re: Commission Meeting, September 3, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Attendance:

Present: Ron Bathrick, Kristen Brandt, Donna Malley, Michael Nappe, Chris Orris, Kim Rossi, Michelle Spader, Robin Wilson.

Absent: Rev. Wayne Lavender

Staff: Edward J. Swinkoski, Director of Community Services and Recreation
Carla Picard (Secretary)

1. Acceptance of Minutes of the meeting held on May 7, 2019:

Robin Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of May 7, 2019, seconded by Christine Orris.

2. Correspondence:

None.

3. Old Business:

Project Graduation: Ron Bathrick provided the Commission with a summary of this year's Project Graduation event that took place in June.

4. New Business:

a.) Director's Report:

Edward J. Swinkoski, Director of Community Services and Recreation

Energy Assistance: Mr. Swinkoski reported that the 2019-2020 energy assistance season will be starting Tuesday, October 1st, 2019. A press release will be going out to the media soon that residents will be welcome to schedule their appointments to apply. Appointments will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (9am-12pm) in the Community Services office, located in the Town Hall Annex Building, 5 Linsley St. This service is available by appointment for North Haven residents. As a courtesy to current counseling clients, energy appointments will be scheduled around clients' appointments.

Fuel Bank Monetary Donations: Mr. Swinkoski reported that a donation of \$100.00 was made by Montowese Baptist church, as well as a \$75.00 donation from Nancy Kyder in in July.

Toy Bank Monetary Donation: Mr. Swinkoski reported that the North Haven Rotary awarded Community Services a \$500.00 grant to be used towards the purchase of teen and tween friendly items for the Annual Season of Giving holiday gift program.

Food Bank Monetary Donations: Mr. Swinkoski reported that a \$500.00 donation was made from the Corinthian Lodge 63 AF & AM in August.

Food Donations: Mr. Swinkoski reported the following donations:

May: Approximately 15 bags donated from Order of Eastern Star

June: Approximately 6 bags from resident drop offs or collections from concerts on Green

July: Approximately 40 bags donated from Liberty Bank, Parker Hannifin, Order of Easter Star, Dan Caruk, and Quail Run ladies group

August: Approximately 25 bags donated, 22 of them from Deb Zavarella following a food drive at Stop & Shop, as well as 3 bags from resident donations on the Green following the Town summer concerts.

Food Disbursements: Mr. Swinkoski reported that 29 households came in for food in May, 30 households came in for food in June, 36 households came in for food July and 43 households came in for food in August.

3rd Annual Summer Vacation Food Drive': ran from May 1st through July 31st 2019. The goal was to collect a variety of kid friendly foods and snacks that they can enjoy over the months during their summer vacations.

Youth Services:

Prescription Medication Takeback: Mr. Swinkoski reported that the among the 4 large boxes of medications collected during the 18th Prescription Medication Takeback (sponsored by the DEA) that took place on April 27th, 3,991 were narcotics. The next DEA sponsored Prescription Take Back will take place on October 26, 2019 from 10:00am to 2:00 pm at Fire Headquarters.

Rotary Grant Award: The Substance Abuse Action Council received \$500.00 to assist with the efforts of making the community aware of the DEA Take Backs which are sponsored bi-annually by the SAAC.

Daycare:

Mr. Swinkoski reported that all 15 preschool slots are filled, and they are full for the Fall. Additionally, 28 out of 30 School age slots are filled, and they have 26 spots filled for the Fall.

Counseling:

Census: Mr. Swinkoski reported that the current census is about 165. Approximately 50% of clients are enrolled in DMHAS (Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services). There were 16 total discharges May through August.

North Haven Counseling was able to accommodate 18 new referrals for counseling services during the months of May, June, July and August MTD (month to date). Of the 18 referrals, 11 new clients have actively engaged in services. Additionally, two administrative staff completed a QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention at BHcare in June.

b.) Finance Report:

Edward J. Swinkoski, Director of Community Services and Recreation

Mr. Swinkoski distributed budget reports for Community Services, Welfare and Senior Center (ending August 2019) to the Commission for their review and welcomed any questions. 16.3% of the overall budget has been expended YTD.

Additionally, reports of the Emergency Fund (Fund 204) and the Outreach Fund (Fund 304) (ending August 2019) were also distributed to the Commission for their review.

5. Public Comment:

None.

6. Adjournment:

Michelle Spader made a Motion to Adjourn, seconded by Michael Nappe. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 1, 2019.