



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES FOR THE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Attendance:

Present: Ron Bathrick, Donna Malley, Michael Nappe, Lynne Nielsen  
Sumit Sharma, Michelle Spader.

Absent: Kristen Brandt, Robin Wilson.

Staff: Richard Monico, Director of Administration  
Carla Picard, Secretary

Prior to addressing agenda items, Rich Monico introduced himself to the Commission, sharing his 14 years of experience working as Chair of the Board of Finance with the Town, then explaining his plans in his new role as Director of Administration. Following his introduction, each member of the commission introduced themselves as well as provided a bit of their personal and or professional background. The commission welcomed two new commissioners, Mr. Sumit Sharma and Mrs. Lynne Nielsen.

1. Acceptance of Minutes of the meeting held on September 6, 2022 and October 4, 2022:  
*(no December 6, 2022 meeting and no quorum at the January 3, 2023)*

Michelle Spader made a motion to accept the Minutes of September 6, 2022, seconded by Michael Nappe. Michele Spader also made a motion to accept the Minutes of the October 4, 2022, seconded by Michael Nappe.

2. Correspondence:

None.

3. Old Business:

**Energy Assistance:** The 2022-2023 energy assistance season began on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. To date, we have completed 293 applications (compared to 182 applications at the close of last season). The current deadline to apply for deliverable fuels (oil, propane) is 3/15/23. The last day to apply for gas of electric is currently 5/31/23.

With the upcoming conclusion of the deliverable fuel application deadline, Mrs. Picard anticipates more Town emergency fuel requests emerging.

**2022 Annual Holiday Season of Giving Program:** Mr. Bathrick asked Mrs. Picard how the Holiday Food and Toy Distributions went as the group hadn't met since prior to the holidays. Carla shared that roughly 80 households received food this past Thanksgiving and holiday (Christmas) season. Only 31 families took part in the holiday toy selection program.

**Food Bank Disbursements:** 33 households were served in January and 30 households were served in February.

#### 4. New Business:

**Parent Resource Fair:** The Library will be hosting a Parent Resource Fair on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am – 12:30pm on the front lawn of the library. Town Departments (Community Services, Senior Center, Fire, Police) and many area daycares, medical providers and professional groups have been invited to table at this event to spread the word about services offered in town.

**Child Abuse Awareness Month:** Is scheduled for the month of April 2023. This will be the Town's 12<sup>th</sup> annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Awareness. A sign will hang on the community bulletin board. The sign reads, "*PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION*" *April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Pinwheels represent bright futures of our children and community. Let's all play a role in the healthy development of our community's children.*" A pinwheel garden (of 100 pinwheels) will be planted in front of Memorial Town. A sign will be placed among the pinwheels that reads, "*PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION – Shining in the sun, the pinwheels represent bright futures for our children and our community. We want all children to live in stable, nurturing environments – at home, at school and in the community.*" Color flyers will be distributed for posting in all town buildings. Finally, an announcement will be posted on Town website and press release will be sent to all local media.

**April 2023 DEA Takeback:** Will take place on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10am – 2pm at Fire Headquarters, 11 Broadway. For the 23<sup>rd</sup> time, the Town of North Haven and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) will be teaming up to give the public the opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The service is free and anonymous, with no questions asked. This semi-annual event takes place every April and October.

#### 5. Public Comment:

None.

#### 6. Adjournment:

Michelle Spader made a Motion to Adjourn, seconded by Michael Nappe. The meeting was adjourned at 5:57p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.