



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES FOR THE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

A meeting of the Community Services Commission was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:36pm.

Attendance:

Present: Donna Malley, Michael Nappe, Lynne Nielsen, Michelle Spader, Robin Wilson.

Absent: Ron Bathrick, Kristen Brandt, Sumit Sharma

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

1. Acceptance of Minutes of the meeting held on May 2, 2023 meeting:

Robin Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of May 2, 2023, seconded by Donna Malley. All were in favor.

2. Correspondence:

None.

3. Old Business:

**Energy Assistance:** The 2022-2023 energy assistance season was a success. **301** applications were completed for the season (compared to **182** applications at the close of last season).

4. New Business:

a. Director's Report:

**COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

**Energy Assistance:** The 2023-2024 energy assistance season will be starting on **Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**. Community Services will continue to conduct phone appointments with North Haven residents on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am-12pm, and off times as needed.

**Food Bank food distributions:**

38 households came in for food in June, 37 households in July, and 43 households in August.

**June Canned Dog & Cat Food Drive:** Community Services hosted a canned dog and cat food drive to benefit North Haven Animal Control. North Haven Animal Control had been experiencing a shortage of wet canned dog and cat food. Community Services collected canned dog and cat food from June 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 53 cases of food were collected from residents, plus 4 cases from Chewy, as well as a matched number of cases being sent to Animal Control via auto ship of food (and cat litter) for the next year. \$575.00 in monetary donations was donated to Animal Control (per ACO Dave Carney).

**October 2023 DEA Takeback:** Will take place on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm at Fire Headquarters, 11 Broadway. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> medication takeback event that the Town of North Haven has hosted in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

**Breast Cancer Awareness:**

In October, the Town will once again observe Breast Cancer Awareness month. Commissioner Lynn Nielsen will be leading this charge once again by placing pink ribbons along the fence in front of Town Hall. This is the third year the Town will be observing this cause with her help.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Rich Monico shared with the Commission that Senior Center Manager Judy Amarone will be retiring in December.

**COUNSELING SERVICES:**

**Clinical Staffing Updates:** A new counselor was hired back in July. Since then, the waitlist has been able to be cleared and have admitted 21 new clients since his start date.

One clinician has decided not to return from maternity leave and resigned on 8/29/23. All of this clinician's clients have been reassigned to the current clinicians. There is no waitlist currently.

b. Finance Report:

*No report given. Mr. Monico indicated that in the second month of the fiscal year, the department is tracking fine.*

5. Public Comment:

None.

6. Adjournment:

Donna Malley made a Motion to Adjourn, seconded by Robin Wilson. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 3, 2023.