



**UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES FOR THE
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023**

A meeting of the Community Services Commission was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:39pm.

Attendance:

Present: Ron Bathrick, Kristen Brandt, Michael Nappe, Michelle Spader, Sumit Sharma

Absent: Donna Malley, Lynne Nielsen, Robin Wilson.

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

1. Acceptance of Minutes of the meeting held on September 5, 2023 meeting:

Michelle Spader made a motion to accept the Minutes of September 5, 2023, seconded by Michael Nappe. All were in favor. There was no quorum for the October 3rd meeting so there were no official minutes for review or acceptance.

2. Correspondence:

None.

3. Old Business:

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Energy Assistance:

The 2023-2024 energy assistance season began on October 3, 2023. Community Services continues to conduct phone appointments with North Haven residents on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am-12pm, and off times as needed. To date, 165 applications have been completed.

Thanksgiving Food Distribution: Thanksgiving food pickup took place on Monday, November 20th from 10-11am in the main gym at the Recreation Center, 7 Linsley St. (next to Town Hall Annex). Residents were guided around the gym to pick out their turkey, a preassembled bag of traditional Thanksgiving food and a pie. 87 households participated (89 in 2022).

Holiday Food Distribution: Holiday food pickup will take place on Thursday, December 21st from 10-11am in the main gym at the Recreation Center, 7 Linsley St. (next to Town Hall Annex).. Residents will be guided around the gym to pick out their turkey (or ham if available), a preassembled bag of traditional holiday food and a pie. Residents may begin signing up on November 1st (at the same time they sign up for Thanksgiving food). To date, **91 families** have signed up.

Holiday Toy Distribution: Christmas toy distribution will take place from December 11th – December 15th. To date, **22 families** have signed up.

4. New Business:

Farewell: Ron Bathrick took a moment to bid farewell and good luck to Kristen Brandt. Mr. Bathrick thanked Kristen for all the years of service that she had provided to the commission. At the start of 2024, the Community Service Commission will have 2 vacancies.

Reminder for January meeting: Ron Bathrick reminded the Commission that First Selectman Michael Freda would be attending the January 2nd meeting for the election of officers. Mr. Freda would be addressing three orders of business: entertaining a nomination for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary for the Community Services Commission.

Ron Bathrick expressed his intent to continue as Chair and Michael Nappe expressed his intent to continue as Vice Chair. Carla Picard indicated that Donna Malley had expressed her intent to continue as Secretary.

a. Director's Report:

SENIOR CENTER:

Senior Center Manager Judy Amarone officially retired on December 1, 2023.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

Clinical Staffing Updates: There is still a vacancy for a full-time clinician. North Haven Counseling will be looking to hire as the waitlist grows. As of right now, all clients have been reassigned to the current counselors. There is no waitlist currently and is accepting new clients. Emergency/ crisis support remains available as needed for residents.

b.) Finance Report:

Mr. Monico indicated that the department is tracking fine.

5. Public Comment:

None.

6. Adjournment:

Kristen Brandt made a Motion to Adjourn, seconded by Michael Nappe. The meeting was adjourned at 6:08p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.