HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Yale Cantor, chairman at 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Sue Stack, Melinda Ferry, Yale Cantor, Anne Nickerson, Helen Filloramo, Susanne Hannigan, Doris Crayton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motioned (H. Filloramo), Seconded, (S. Hannigan) and passed by all those present to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2009 meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: During the summer months, the department hired a new van Driver. We also received notice that our prevention grant had been renewed for another year from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for $67,000. Meanwhile the State of Connecticut has been awarded federal funds to continue its campaign against underage drinking. The Town of Ellington was a part of that program and it is anticipated that we will receive some of the new state funding.

Diane Lasher-Penti received a special letter of accommodation from an Ellington resident. Anna L. Turner , elderly outreach social worker will be recognized for 10 years of services to the Town on Monday, October 19th at the Board of Selectmen meeting.

Our Fall / Winter programs began today with Energy. The first day for a fuel delivery is November 2nd. Staff will attend several workshops from now until November learning about changes in this year's heating program.

Staff met and organized the Holiday Season of Sharing for 2009. Letters to donors and recipients will be mailed out at the end of the month. Dates have also been set for pick-up and drop-off dates for both holidays.

An undergraduate student intern, Elyse Bellizzi from Central Connecticut State University majoring in social work will begin working us this Fall through mid-December. We are very excited about this opportunity.

The food bank shelves were kept stocked, though not full by generous donations from the community and regional product vendors.

Stand-down, the veterans' program was big success. We were able to fill several large boxes to donate to this organization. Anna Turner received a special thank you from the state coordinator for her work in making this program a success.

The flu clinic will be Tuesday, November 4, 2009 from 9A.M. to 11 A.M. at the Middle School. Transportation is available.

OLD BUSINESS: The senior center director and elderly outreach social worker attended a Parkinson Support Group during the summer to learn about starting such a group in Ellington.

NEW BUSINESS: We will be applying for an after school grant at the Middle School. Notice was received this week that funds are available again.

Commission members Cantor and Hannigan commented on the wonderful and informative presentation given by staff members at the June meeting.

The Adult Day Care (ADC) Center in Woodlake at Tolland is closing in November 2009. Ellington residents attend the program. Referrals will be made to adult day care centers in Enfield and East Hartford. Transportation is a concern as no services is available. Hockanum Valley has been approached to see if Ellington residents can be transported to either of these towns. Without funding from the Department of Transportation (DOT) Match Grant additional services are not in the budget.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Motioned (S. Hannigan), Seconded (A. Nickerson) and passed by all those present to elect officers for a two-year term.
Motioned (S. Stack), Seconded (S. Hannigan) and passed by all those present to keep the same slate of officers currently serving: Yale Cantor, Chairman and Sue Stack, Vice Chairman.

At the October 19th meeting our presenters will be the Visiting Nurse Association of Hartford.

ADJOURNMENT: Motioned, (S. Hannigan),Seconded, (M. Ferry) and passed by all those present to adjourn at 7:28 P.M.

Submitted by,

Doris R. Crayton

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Acting Secretary