

1. Meeting Materials

Documents:

NOVEMBER 22, 2016 (POSTPONED FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2016) BOARD OF
SOCIAL SERVICES AGENDA.PDF

OCTOBER 18, 2016 MINUTES - DRAFT.PDF

OCTOBER 18, 2016 MINUTES - APPROVED.PDF

**BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
NOVEMBER 22, 2016 – AT 7:00PM
(POSTPONED FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2016)
TOWN HALL - HAYTON CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEETING AGENDA

I. ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

1. Approve Minutes of October 18, 2016 Meeting Mrs. Nolan
2. DSS Budget and Services Discussion First Selectman, Peter Tesei

II. COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP UPDATE

1. Finance Committee Mr. Medina

III. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

1. October Operating Statement & Dashboard Report Dr. Barry
2. DSS Foundation

NEXT MEETING DATE DECEMBER 20, 2016



Town of Greenwich
BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES MINUTES
Regular Meeting, October 18th, 2016

ATTENDING

Board Attendees: Barbara Nolan, Steve Gross, Natalie Queen, Winston Robinson, Alan Gunzburg

Staff Attendees: Alan Barry

Guest Attendees: Alan Mathis, CEO Liberation Programs

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Barbara Nolan, called the meeting to order at 7:02PM in the Hayton Conference Room at Town Hall.

BOARD PROTOCOLS

The minutes of the September 20th Meeting was approved 5-0 as written.

OPIATE REPORT

Alan Mathis, President and CEO from Liberation Programs briefed the Board on the final draft report to First Selectman Peter Tesei that was developed in collaboration with Dr. Barry and the TOG's Department of Social Services. The report had three goals to:

1. Quantify the prevalence of opioid use comparatively on a national, state and local level
2. Address the perception of opioid use and addiction within the Greenwich community
3. Give targeted recommendations to ameliorate or address the issue

The study showed that there is indeed a prevalence of opioid use and it is increasing both at a national and state level. Data for the TOG is a bit harder to ascertain due to the stigma associated with the use and addictive aspects in seeking treatment, but the 2 dozen focus groups conducted at the high school, police department, Greenwich Hospital, GEMS, et. al., all indicate that there is a recognition that more needs to be done but that existing strategies have not been effective.

UNITED WAY

David Rabin, CEO and Board member Ken Mifflin presented to the DSS Board the newly revised United Way Funding Campaign structure at the last DSS board meeting. Ms. Nolan brought to the attention of the board that as donation amounts continue to decrease at the United Way, the potential effect on town social services from other agencies that depend on grants from the



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United Way will have an adverse effect on Town agencies to provide needed services and thus may cause additional burdens directly with the TOG's DSS to fill those potential gaps. Mr. Gunzburg noted from his Community Partnership Committee report that agencies are now being instructed by from the United Way that they can only apply for one program grant per fiscal cycle. He cited that Family Centers already is feeling the sting as they normally are funded for 3 programs.

NAME CHANGE

Ms. Nolan reported that there is a potential name change that was suggested from TOG's Department of Social Services to the TOG's Department of Human Services. The overall feeling was that the name modification would better articulate the overall reach of the department but Mr. Gross suggested that we invite First Selectman Tesei to our next board meeting to discuss, as the issue would need to be eventually brought up to the full RTM for a vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Partnership Committee – Mr. Gunzburg, Chairman reviewed meetings with community partnership agencies for FY'18. Meetings were held with Family Centers, Catholic Charities and CCI. Of note, was his meeting as mentioned above with Bob Arnold on the effect of reduced funding from the United Way for Family Centers and how programs from the Catholic Charities such as assisting undocumented families living in the Town.

Achievement Gap Task Force - Mr. Robinson, Chairman, reported that he and Dr. Barry met with BOE member Debbie Appelbaum on a wide range of topics that the BOE is addressing such as computer tablets for every child, STEM program, cultural training for staff, pre-school training, etc. Dr. Barry noted that there seems to be no central program to approach the achievement gap, rather each school has their own programs and approach on the issue. Mr. Robinson went on to note that the BOE did not have a firm grasp on the transportation needs and device needs of many of its constituents and that the DSS could have helped assist in that matter.

Strategic Planning Committee – Mr. Robinson, Chairman, referred to Commissioner Barry on how the department is working on various aspects of the strategic plan to address domestic violence,



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hoarding, updating the DSS website, ongoing renovations, completing client work plans and improving the quality of the Intake process.

**COMMISSIONER'S
REPORT**

FY 2016 Operating Statement and Dashboard – there were no significant variances.

MOTION: At 8:44pm, a motion to adjourn was passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on November 15th, 2016 in the Hayton Room at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Gross

DRAFT



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