Town of Greenwich
BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES MINUTES
Regular Meeting, December 20, 2016

ATTENDING
Board Attendees: Barbara Nolan (Chairperson), Steve Gross, Alan Gunzburg, Abbott Jones, Natalie Queen, Winston Robinson, Jeffrey Medina

Staff Attendees: Alan Barry, Scott Harvey

CALL TO ORDER
Chairperson, Barbara Nolan, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the DSS Conference Room at Town Hall.

BOARD PROTOCOLS
The minutes of the November 22, 2016 meeting were read and approved as drafted.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE
The calendar of dates for Board meetings in 2017 was reviewed and approved.

FY ’18 BUDGET UPDATE
Mrs. Nolan reported meeting with 1st Selectman Tesei after the board meeting to discuss the timing of the inclusion of the Youth Coordinator position in the budget after the Finance Committee had reviewed and approved the FY ’18 budget. There was agreement that this type of change will be discussed with the Board in a more timely manner in the future.

NAME CHANGE
Barbara Nolan reviewed the reasons for making the name change from Social Services to Human Services and reiterated the support from the 1st Selectman’s Office.

Mrs. Nolan made a motion for the Board of Social Services to approve the name change for both the Board and the Department from Social Services to the Board and Department of Human Services. Mr. Gunzburg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The next step will be a presentation to the Board of Selectman at their next meeting on December 22, 2016.
HOARDING TASK FORCE

Scott Harvey, a Case Manager for the past four years, gave a summary of his activities, the most challenging is the implementation of the Hoarding task force. He indicated that the greatest task was having responsible departments act in a collaborative manner on confirmed cases of hoarding, given their more immediate priorities.

COMMITEE REPORTS

Communications Committee: reported on its recent meeting, where there were additional case histories given to use in the FY 2016 Annual Report. A draft report with pictures is expected to be ready in January.

Community Partnership Committee: reported on its inclusion of the Catholic Charities on the list of partners supported by GDSS. Their focus is on providing support to undocumented residents in Greenwich and other towns in Fairfield County.

Human Resources Committee: held a meeting to discuss Dr. Barry’s inclusion of Youth Coordinator position in the FY ‘18 budget.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

The Commissioner reported that the Department operations were on budget and there were no significant variances from plan. The name change from “social services” to “human services” will be reviewed with the Selectmen later in the week. Plans for the establishment of a GDSS foundation are moving forward with appointment of a pro bono legal Counsel expected shortly.

MOTION: a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on January 17, 2017 in the DSS Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbott Jones, Secretary