

Minutes  
Human Services Advisory Board  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6:00PM  
Via Go To Meeting

Board Members Present: Shelby Auletta, Erin Gaudet, Gerry Baird, Mark Barillaro, Celeste Calabotta  
Members Absent: Brian Corbin, Amanda Stevens, Sydney Robinson  
Staff Members Present: David Melillo, Carol Sanzero

Meeting called to order at 6:04PM by E. Gaudet.

Chairperson's Remarks: Erin mentioned that she received an email from Andrea Reu expressing interest in attending tonight's meeting with someone interested in becoming a board member; however, they are not in attendance. Erin also contacted the school Superintendent to get a liaison from the school system to the HS Board.

Approval of Minutes from Special Meeting March 14, 2023: motioned by S. Auletta, seconded by M. Barillaro passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: All accounts are funded. D. Melillo pointed out that the Opioid Mini Grant is not a grant and actually funded by a settlement with pharmaceutical companies. This fund is Town money, not just Human Services, but also for the Fire Department and/or Police Department. Erin questioned if Human Services would be eligible for some of the funds and David noted that HS would be. However, so far, the money has been used to purchase Narcan for the Police and Fire Departments. Opioid abuse is primarily in the adult sector.

Status of Replacement for Human Services Director: The job is not posted yet but expected to be by the end of April. Discussion was had regarding the importance of finding a replacement Director in time to train with current Director for two weeks.

Director's Report: D. Melillo noted the programs being restarted this Spring: Home Alone, Mother Daughter Night Out, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. Summer programs will start around June 20<sup>th</sup> and is the largest selection of events offered from any of the previous years' programs.

Post High School Transition Program - Launch Pad: D. Melillo explained the program and noted that there were 3 or 4 inquiries already this week. Erin asked if the school is aware of this new program and David told her it has not been announced yet. He is hopeful to get this started this summer. Erin noted she can put brochures in graduation grab bags. It was also noted that this will be on a sliding scale if a client cannot afford the full payment suggested.

Correspondence: CYSA HB 6902 Testimony (an act concerning youth services bureaus and establishment of a juvenile diversionary program). Discussion was had regarding the JRB program and how the wording in the HB 6902 is of concern to Youth Service Bureaus.

Other: 1. Shelby noted outdated information listed on website. David said it should be fixed by the end of next week. Website training will be offered to Ben and India. 2. Erin spoke regarding a Walk-A-Thon organized by Iris Dunham for May 7<sup>th</sup> for mental health awareness. David noted there will be staff participating and that Human Services will have a table set up as well.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44PM.

Respectfully submitted by C. Sanzero