

**Shelburne Social Services Committee**  
**Wednesday October 28, 2020**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**Present:** S. Furry-Irish, B. Marden, P. Fontaine, L. Riell

**Call to Order:** 6:34 PM

**Note Taker:** Linda Riell

**Agenda Approved**

**Citizen Participation:** Lou Macguire, Marcella Pinot, Zoe Hart, Gina Clithero

**Citizen Presentation:** No Mas Polimigra (Marcella, Zoe and Gina) explained to the committee that they are local residents working with Migrant Justice/Community Voices for Immigrant Rights. We learned about state law passed in 2014 and revised in 2016 created policy addressing immigrant rights/action taken by police departments. The changes made in 2016 allows for sharing of confidential information with immigration authorities on grounds of public safety. Law enforcement can take action under the pretext of the possibility of a border crossing.

No Mas Polimigra is hoping to help institute changes, town by town, to ensure that fair and impartial policies are enacted by local police. They feel that ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) perpetuates the stigma that undocumented workers (immigrants who don't have legal papers to reside in the US) are dangerous, that the Shelburne Police are here to keep our community safe but the presence of migrant workers does not pose a risk to our safety.

Discussion and questions followed the presentation. Conclusion: No Mas will email Sue the police policy that Shelburne officers follow which should address immigrant rights. They will continue to investigate and learn the answer to: what happens when migrant workers are stopped, detained or questioned by Shelburne officers. No Mas will be working to clarify their goals are and may develop a plan after talking with the town manager, police chief and other groups or individuals who share their concerns regarding migrant justice. They may return to provide an update to this committee.

**Minute from September Meeting:** approved

**Treasurers Report:** Linda Riell reports that we currently have \$34,750 remaining in the account and \$6,700 in the Community Fund

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 10/27 Selectboard Meeting: Linda Riell gave initial budget presentation to the SB. Information was shared regarding the number and types of grant requests received this past year, amounts of grants, the agencies worked with and expectations for the next budget year (2021-22). A level funded budget of 35K was requested. There were no questions by the SB.
- Racial Justice Update: Patricia reports that she received a question from a community member wondering if the Shelburne Police have had racial justice training? She will find the answer to this question. The question is also raised as to the possibility of this committee or the library sponsoring de-escalation training for the police dept. On another note: the book group continues to meet. On alternating Mondays, Patricia is offering support in taking action or for coaching purposes. This has been well received!
- Update on November meet up: Sue reports that she sent out a letter to the agencies and groups that joined the social services conversation at last fall's meet up. She will follow through by

checking email addresses of some of the participants to make sure they receive the invitation. Nini will help with this. Sue will inform the committee regarding who will be attending, prior to the meeting itself. We are planning on Wed. Nov. 18 at 6:30 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (review of grant requests)

1. VT Family Network requests \$1000 to assist with expenses helping handicap children. They supplied a narrative. Sue will contact them and ask that they complete our electronic form so that we are able to consider their request.
2. **UVM Home Health and Hospice requests \$5000** to help support 3.3 million in unreimbursed patient care. **Approved.**
3. Mercy Connections requests \$2500 to help train and educate people recovering from abuse and also those newly released from incarceration. Set aside for further review.
4. Red Cross of Northern New England requests \$1000. Set aside for further review.
5. **Howard Center requests \$3000** for support of outreach and crisis programs. **Approved.**

**NEXT MEETING Nov. 18 at 6:30 pm**

**Adjourn at 8:04 pm**