

Shelburne Social Services Committee

January 27, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

Present: S. Furry-Irish, P. Fontaine, L. Maguire, B. Marden, E. Limanek, L. Riell

Call to Order: 6:32 PM

Note Taker: Linda Riell

Agenda Approved: yes

Citizen Participation: Maya Fehrs (director of development) and Adrienne Johnson Ross (president) of UVM Home Health and Hospice (formerly known as VNA) were present to speak about their agency and grant request.

There have been cost benefits resulting from VNA partnering with the UVM Medical Center, but finances have remained separate. UVM Home Health and Hospice does provide charitable care for those who cannot pay, at a cost of \$2 million per year, and rely on private donations, fundraisers, grants and community funding to meet that goal. During the past year, they have provided \$202,370 worth of charitable care to over 200 Shelburne residents.

Among their programs, people are most familiar with visiting nurse services and Respite House. It was helpful to hear about some lesser known ones, such as the Adult Care Program (which provides socialization for those who cannot care for themselves and is a respite for family caregivers) and the Family and Children's Program (for low income families with children ages 6 and under) which assists with and coordinates with wrap around services, social workers and other organizations, and helps support family communication with schools, doctor appointments etc.

Sue explained our mission of advocating for social services in our town and our financial support of agencies who assist those most needing a helping hand.

Approval of December minutes: yes

Treasurers Report: Linda Riell reports \$13,600 remains in the budget and \$5,700 in the Community Fund. She has requested a summary of last year's expenditures from Peter Frankenburg and expects to share that with the committee at the February meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Racial Justice Update:** Patricia reported that she purchased 10 books for the current session being offered at the library. The committee approves reimbursing Patricia **\$221.43 (from the Community Fund)** for books to be used in the Engaging White Awareness series in conjunction with the Pierson Library.
2. **Goals for 2021-22:** Discussion regarding the Social Services goals Sue submitted for the March Town Report. Goals include: provide Covid relief, increase accountability of agencies receiving funds, support racial justice and reach out to under-served Shelburne residents.

* Sue will draft a follow up letter to agencies requesting information as to how their grant funds have been used. Language suggestions: In order to meet our measure of accountability to the Selectboard, the Social Services Committee requests that (fill in agency name) send information

within 6 months of receiving this grant, describing how the funds were used. We look forward to an update any time prior to (date 6 months from now). Thank you and best wishes!

*How to reach out to agencies that assist the under-served: ideas discussed included writing a short piece for the Shelburne News at the end of each funding cycle (we are pleased to announce that we have assisted.....) etc. Contacting Roz Graham from the SBPA was mentioned, perhaps she would include info from our committee in their newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Catamount Trail Association:** to help facilitate instruction, transportation and curriculum for the Shelburne Ski Cubs Program (for all SCS students grade 5-6), **\$1000 grant from the Community Fund** is approved.
2. **South Burlington Community Justice Center:** the committee read and discussed the application from the justice center. There were follow up questions so this one was tabled until next month. Patricia will gather information to determine: if they are a -profit, if other towns fund them, explain why there are no associated administrative costs and how they would specifically use the grant \$ to help start a program in Shelburne.
3. **Thank you:** Sue shared letters of thanks from Lund, VT Family Network and Mercy Connections.

NEXT MEETING: February 24 @ 6:30 PM

ADJOURN @ 8 PM