

Shelburne Social Services Committee

August 26, 2021

Town Offices

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

Call to Order : 6 :34 pm

Note Taker : Linda Riell

Agenda approved : with addition of one item under new business

Citizen Participation: Jessica Brumsted (see New Business item #2)

Minutes approved: June 23, 2021

Treasurers Report: (L. Riell) SS Account \$35,000 and Community Fund \$6478.57

OLD BUSINESS

- **Racial Equity Committee update:** Patricia reported that the upcoming meeting is scheduled for 8/27. The group has received approximately 10 membership applications and will be determining how to process them.
- **Thank you notes:** Sue has received letters of thanks from Agency for the Blind and AgeWell.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Shelburne Food Shelf Request:** following discussion, a **\$2500 grant** was approved (\$2000 from SS account, \$500 from Community Fund) to help meet the immediate need for appropriate food for the 56 families housed at Days Inn.
2. **Upcoming Roundtable Planning:**
 - The Food Shelf request brought us to a lengthy discussion about the annual Social Services roundtable typically hosted by the committee in October.
 - Georgene Grover has suggested that we hold the event as soon as possible, the focus being the multi-layered problems concerning the emergency housing situation/needs of the homeless at the Days Inn.
 - Jessica Brumsted was able to share a perspective from the state legislature, and from personal experience delivering food to the Days Inn on behalf of the Rotary.
 - Rather than jumping right to a roundtable involving many key players, it was decided that the committee will host 2 discussions. The first will involve only local community agencies/leaders while a follow up meeting will also include state level representation.
 - First meeting: September 22 (regular SS meeting). Sue and Patricia will draft a letter to invite Lee, Georgene Grover, Food Shelf (Susan Stock or Pam Brangan), Shelburne Police and the social worker who accompanies them, Days Inn and Harbor Place managers, local church and Rotary representatives and SCS guidance department. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the current crisis of care for people who are homeless, how things are going, what is working and what is not. The hope is to provide an opportunity to see what else can be done.
 - Second meeting: will be scheduled for early October, include all previous participants plus Rep. Brumsted and several folks from the Agency of Human Services. This discussion will include a regional perspective.

- Sue has requested help with email addresses for any of the above, will issue invitations to participants (those discussed above) and update the committee regarding plans for the September meeting.

NEXT MEETING: September 22, 2021 @ 6:30 pm

ADJORN @ 7:33 pm