TOWN OF LEDYARD

Youth & Social Services Board

Meeting Minutes - Draft Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mikayla Bozym

Regular Meeting - Hybrid Format

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 **5:00 PM** **Council Chambers - Hybrid Format**

REMOTE MEETING INFORMATION

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81301043826?
pwd=ZDB0ekdaNU9IdHRyWkNrMjR1MStwQT09
Meeting ID: 813 0104 3826 Passcode: 528437
One tap mobile +13017158592,,81301043826#,,,,*528437# US (Washington DC)
Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bozym called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building.

II. ROLL CALL

Present	Chairman Mikayla E. Bozym
	Private Youth Agency Representative Lisa Smith
	Police Department Representative Dan Grimm
	School System Representative Heather Shipley
Excused	Community-at-Large Representative Maria Nott
	Community-at-Large Representative Charlene Rand
Absent	Under Age 21 Representative Mackenzie Hope

In addition, the following were present:
Mayor Fred Allyn III
Mary McGratten - Town Council Liaison
Naomi Rodriguez - Town Councilor
Kristen Chapman - Social Services Coordinator
Kate Sikorski - Youth Services Director

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None

IV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

V. REPORTS

1. Youth Services Report January 2023

Youth & Social Services
Report for Ledyard Youth Services
January 17, 2023

JRB (Juvenile Review Board):
December: 1 review- case remains open
January: 1 new intake for JRB/ Truancy

Truancy:
No cases

Counseling:
Case Load Summary
Kate- 21
Glenn-11
Natalie- 11
Lena- 14
LPC-9 families
Total families: 66 active cases
Intakes to be scheduled: none

Groups:
1. GFS/JWL Lunch Bunch 1st grade- completed 8 weeks
2. Started GFS/JWL Kindergarten Lunch Bunch

New Interns:
Kate will start the interview process for URI interns in January.
Kate Attended a CCSU Intern Placement site meeting

Budget:
Review current Budget and prepare for FY 2024

2. Social Services Report November/December 2022

Report for Ledyard Social Services
November/December 2022

Food Pantry Statistics
November 2022
Total Client Visits - 82
Total # of Eligible Clients Served - 112

December 2022
Total Client Visits - 90
Total # of Eligible Clients Served - 140

Total New Clients November - 7
Total New Clients December - 7
Total New Clients 2022 YTD - 53

Referrals - November/December
CT State Department of Social Services (Norwich Office) - 1
LICEAF - 2
TVCCA Energy Assistance - 6
TVCCA Other - 2
Groton Human Services - 1

Social Services Account Balances
Linda C. Davis Food Pantry - $106,357.04
LYS Enrichment Grant - Parks & Rec Scholarships - $1657.32
LYS Enrichment Grant - Parks & Recreation Scholarships ARPA - $7912.50
Miscellaneous Assistance - ($1,204.92)

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MOTION to approve the Youth & Social Services Board regular meeting minutes of November 15, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Heather Shipley
SECONDER: Lisa Smith

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Holiday Programs 2022

Ms. Chapman shared an update on the holiday programs. At the Thanksgiving event Ledyard Social was able to provide food baskets and $20 grocery store gift cards for 67 households. For the Christmas event Ledyard Social Services provided food baskets and $20 gift cards for 82 household. 101 children received gifts from community members. Ms. Chapman stated that she appreciated the support of Gales Fire Company for allowing the use of their hall and grateful for the staff and volunteer support provided at the event from both fire companies. Ledyard Public Works also assisted with the events along with Food Pantry volunteers. Ms. Chapman stated that remaining gifts were donated to St. Vincent DePaul Place, an organization serving the larger Norwich area community. Ms. Chapman stated that 41 community members and organizations participated in the holiday programs by providing food baskets or adopting a family to provide gifts.

Ledyard Rotary Foundation along with the Liberty Bank Foundation and raised $4,216.75 towards food baskets. Ledyard Social Services worked with Village Market and utilized these funds to purchase 50 food baskets and 85 $20 Stop & Shop grocery gifts cards with funds

remaining for next year's program. Mayor Allyn III added that the thought behind the gift cards was to get away from storing and handling turkeys. The use of gift cards also gives guests the flexibility to purchase a protein of choice for the holiday meal.

2. Any Old Business Proper to come before the Board

Mayor Allyn made the Board aware that LICEAF (Ledyard Inter Church Emergency Assistance Fund) will be sending out their spring fundraising letter in April. Mayor Allyn shared that this organization does a lot of good work in the town by offering emergency grants for rent and mortgage assistance, car repairs, utility assistance ect.. Mayor Allyn noted that this past year LICEAF took in approximately $15,000 in donations and has paid out $34,000 in grants to Ledyard Social Services Clients.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. MOTION to approve the FY 2024 Youth & Social Services budget.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Lisa Smith
SECONDER: Heather Shipley

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

2. Food Pantry Updates
- Rotary Foundation Partnership
- Connecticut Foodshare Fee Structure Update

Ms. Chapman shared that the Linda C. Davis Food Pantry has partnered with the Rotary Foundation as a 501c3 sponsor of the food pantry. This sponsorship will allow the pantry to access all donated and purchased food products through CT Foodshare. The only options available to the pantry up until this point have been TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) USDA commodities. Ms. Chapman stated that 5-7 items were previously available each week and we are now seeing 3-4 pages of products avialable. Ms. Chapman stated that the sponsorship from the Rotary Foundation will allow us to access donated product from many grocery chains such as Whole Foods, Costco and BJ's.

Ms. Chapman also gave an update on the new fee structure CT Foodshare will be implementing. During the time that the Linda C. Davis Food Pantry has been partnered with CT Foodshare all fees have been waived. During the qaurtlery meeting Ms. Chapman attending, CT Foodshare sahred that it is unsustainable without the additional funding CT Foodsshare was able to access during the pandemic to continue a $0 fee structure. The following structure will take place beginning on July 1, 2023.

- No Membership Fee
- No Shared Maintenance fees on donated food (government food will continue to have no fee)

- No Delivery fees
- Grocery Purchasing Program (GPP) All purchased food at 100% cost (w/no markup)

Ms. Chapman stated that CT Foodshare has begun charging 50% for several purchased items at this time. Ms. Chapman also stated that with the buying power CT Foodshare has the cost of items will still be much less than purchasing food at retail from other locations such as Aldi or Village Market.

Ms. Chapman also shared that CT Foodshare has an Outreach team able to assist with SNAP applications by calling 860-856-HELP.

3. Nomination & Election of 2023 Board Officers

Motion to nominate Ms. Mikayla Bozym for the position of Chairman for 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Heather Shipley
SECONDER: Lisa Smith

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

Motion to nominate Ms. Heather Shipley for the position of Vice Chairman for 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Mikayla E. Bozym
SECONDER: Lisa Smith

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

Motion to nominate Ms. Lisa Duzy-Smith for the position of Secretary for 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Dan Grimm
SECONDER: Mikayla E. Bozym

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

Motion to approve the slate of Youth & Social Services Board officers as nominated for 2023:

- Chairman Mikala Bozym

- Vice Chairman Heather Shipley
- Secretary Lisa Duzy-Smith

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Heather Shipley
SECONDER: Dan Grimm

AYE	4	Bozym Smith Grimm Shipley
EXCUSED	2	Nott Rand
ABSENT	1	Hope

4. Any New Business Proper to come before the Board

Ms. Chapman shared that an additional $20 million in funding has been approved by the Legislature for CEAP (CT Energy Assistance Program). TVCCA (Thames Valley Council for Community Action) administers the program for Southeastern CT. Ms. Chapman stated that in real dollars this will equate to an additional $430 in funding for those households that qualify. A household recieving the largest benefit available would receive $2,320.

Ms. Shipley suggested that people go online and change their energy supplier. Ms. Chapman attended a webinar provided by Eversource and is able to provide residents with additional direction for those having trouble paying their bill. Mr. Grimm suggested that those who are able should explore the option of solar energy. Ms. Chapman stated that she continue to take energy applications.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Shipley moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Grimm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.
VOTE: 4 - 0 Approved and so declared

Respectively Submitted,

_____
Chairman Bozym
Youth & Social Services Board

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.