



Council For Human Services Meeting

Town of Nantucket

131 Pleasant Street

Nantucket, MA, 02554

www.nantucket-ma.gov

Council for Human Services Members: Veronica Bolcik (Chair), Sue Mynttinen (Vice-Chair), Suzanne Keating, Tara Restieri, Kelly Steffen, Claudia Valle, Amanda Wright, Sarah Wright

Health and Human Services Staff: Jerico Mele (Human Services Director), Alexandria Richards (Office Manager)

~MINUTES~

Thursday, March 27th, 2025

131 Pleasant St, Trailer

This meeting was held in person with remote participation using ZOOM

Attendance: Veronica Bolcik, Amanda Wright, Sue Mynttinen, Suzanne Keating, Kelly Steffen

Staff: Jerico Mele, Alexandria Richards

- I. Establish Quorum
Veronica established Quorum at 4:12 pm.
- II. Acceptance of Agenda
Sue made a motion to accept the agenda it was seconded by Suzanne and accepted by all members in attendance.
- III. Approval of Minutes from 1.23.2025
Sarah motion to approve minutes was seconded by Tara and accepted by all members in attendance.
- IV. Public Comment
No comment.
- V. Update on CRC process, overview of grant submissions, and deliberation results with report of suggested awards submitted to Fin Com
Veronic gave a step-by-step update on the process for CRC up to this point.

She informed the committee that the CRC will need to work on a letter to request more funding that factors in inflation and cost of living. She explained that the committee is thinking of an increase of 15% to their current funding to cover the years that there has been no increase.

Tara suggested acquiring data from their grant recipients on their specific increased cost of goods and services in the recent years to help justify why the committee needs more funding.

Veronica confirmed grant recipients will be invited to an event in June to showcase and celebrate being awarded grants and it will be a new requirement in the contract that they will highlight to the public that certain programs were funded by Town of Nantucket Grants.

VI. Review Consultants Report from 10/7/24 in prep for joint meeting with CRC

Committee received updates and currently there are discussions being made to potentially combine both the Contract Review Committee and Council for Human Services into one body however there are not finalized decisions yet.

VII. Human Services Director Report

Jerico gave updates to the committee on the details surrounding the upcoming Opioid Grant. He mentioned that he will be using the current Substance misuse application & process as a guide to establish the application for the Opioid grant.

Jerico highlighted Ackcares.net, it is a centralized community calendar for all behavioral health and community resources. It is a goal in the future for it to be more widely used and updated with more community human Services events and resources on Nantucket.

VIII. Community Human Services related items submitted by CHS members for updates and discussion

Sarah Wright gave updates on the following:

She spoke with the Immigrant resource Center in Hyannis and raised the question of availability of funds for immigration travel related expenses.

She informed the committee that on March 29th SourceHub will be providing immigrant Legal and Health Clinic at the Nantucket Highschool from 11 am - 2 pm.

The transportation task force suggested adding a member from Hyline and Steamship to promote greater communication across all sectors.

Jerico also added a reminder that South Coast legal is a Contract Review Grant recipient that can offer Legal help to Islanders in need of immigration as well as various situations, and they offer in person appearances at the Saltmarsh Senior Services periodically.

IX. Other Business

Veronica reminded committee members of the upcoming required Conflict of Interest and Open Meeting Law Trainings offered by the Town to keep up to date and remain in compliance.

There are a few committee members with expired terms Veronica requested Alexandria send out an email to them including the application to renew their terms.

Veronica brought the idea to invite the Police chief Jody Kasper to one of their upcoming meetings to bring awareness to what is going on with Human Services and promote awareness.

X. Next meeting April 24, 2025, at 4:00 pm

Veronica confirmed the next meeting date will be April 24th at 4:00pm.

XI. Adjournment

Tara motioned to adjourn it was seconded by Amanda and accepted by all members in attendance at 5:18 pm.