

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Seldon and Neuwirth, Deputy Mayor Schulman

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager, David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services, Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director of Senior Services, Camilla Jones, Director Social & Youth Services, Jane Low, Chair – Beautification Committee, Marie MacDonald, Donna Banks,

Absent were: Councilor Washington and Merritt

Absent was: India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Report from Committee Chairs

Social & Youth Services

Ms. Camilla Jones gave a brief update regarding programs and events for Social & Youth Services:

- Medicare open enrollment: October 15, 2016 – December 7, 2016
- Access Health open enrollment: November 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017
- Renter's Rebate ends on October 1, 2016
- CRT began accepting energy assistance applications on September 6th.
- 2016 Season of Giving will start soon for Thanksgiving baskets and Adopt-a-Family, notices will be sent to both families and donors
- Youth Services sponsored three successful summer camps
- Boo Bash event in collaboration with Leisure Services, town departments and community sponsors will be October 21, 2016.
- After school programs will start in October 2016

Senior Services

Mrs. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell gave a brief update regarding programming for Senior Services:

- The 9th Annual Senior Expo will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 9:45 a.m.
- The Senior Center will sponsor a CVS Flu Clinic and Foot Care Clinic on September 27, 2016.

Leisure Services

Mr. David Melesko gave a brief update regarding programming for Leisure Services:

- Summer programs ended on Friday, August 26, 2016. Bloomfield youth participated in many recreational activities which included camps, swimming, field trips, arts & crafts, sports, dance, music, drama, hiking and more.
- Swim lessons concluded on August 19, 2016 and saw good growth in afternoon and morning sessions.
- Special Needs swim lessons were utilized this summer 10 participants taking advantage of the program.
- The pool was closed for the season on Sunday, August 28th.
- The fall 2016 program brochure was completed and posted online. The publication was mailed to all residents.
- Hosted Connectivity meeting on Wednesday, August 31, 2016. Currently, the main priority of the group is to develop a walking path/trail surrounding the golf course. An exploratory hike will be conducted on Friday, September 9, 2016 to verify the route. The group will meet again in late September.

Beautification Committee

- Mrs. Low reported that mums have been ordered and planting will occur during the third week of September 2016.
- The Adopt-a-Spot proposal is still under review at the Town Attorney's office.
- The criteria for Beautification Awards is still under review as well.

CEEC

No report available due to technical difficulties of recording equipment.

2016 Back to School Fun Fair

Ms. Donna Banks gave a brief overview of the Back to School Fun Fair event held on Saturday, August 20, 2016. This event was very successful, approximately 495 backpacks were distributed. There were several options regarding the purchase of school supply kits and backpacks and estimated costs for next year's event.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Deputy Mayor Schulman to approve the minutes of June 7, 2016.

Review and Discussion on the Conservation on Race /Human Relations Commission

Ms. Jones gave a brief overview of the conversation on race relations in town at the Senior Center on August 9, 2016. The general conversation involved a facilitator from First Congregational Church, Rev. Edwin Ayala and our own Chief of Police, Paul Hammick. There were over 100 people in attendance at this event. It was

recommended by Deputy Mayor Schulman and State Representative David Baram to continue discussions involving this discussion of race relations in town and abroad.

There was some discussion regarding the differences between the Human Relations Commission and the Community Awareness Taskforce. It was noted that the appropriate outlet for continued discussion and possible solutions would be the reactivation of the Community Awareness Taskforce.

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Deputy Mayor Schulman to reactivate the Community Awareness Taskforce. The composition of this taskforce will be determined in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

DRAFT