

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP YOUTH AND SENIORS AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES (LIFE STAGES) FUNDING
AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2023

Meeting minutes

In Attendance: Stephen Hardy, Dave Barta, Melissa Frey, Sharon Weingarten

1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2022 MINUTES

The committee voted 3-0-1 to approve the minutes from February.

2. TRUSTEE AND CHAIR REPORT

There was no report from the chair or the trustee.

3. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Community Partnerships Coordinator (CPC) Steve Anderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He advised the committee that he would like to move away from the paper being used in applications to a more digital format. He advised that new liaison assignments will be done after the April Town Meeting April 11th, 2023. After that the next meeting will be in May.

4. LIAISON REPORTS

Belle Lerner-North Shore Legal Aid

Since we last communicated about this in late September, I have the following update:

5 cases: 1 Power of Attorney, 4 Domestic Violence cases, 2 of the DV cases were advice and counsel. The third case, we succeeded and obtaining both an Emergency Order of Protection (EOP) and a Plenary Order of Protection (POP) for the client. The fourth case, we succeeded in obtaining an EOP for the client and we are working on the POP. In the meantime, our social worker has been coordinating services, including shelter, and job-hunting assistance, for the client. We continue to hold monthly clinics with New Trier Township, and we continue to attend monthly meetings at the Social Service Committee and the Community Response network.

Total cases in 2022: 22, 4 DV, 5 Housing, 2 Immigration, 11 Power of Attorney

Edward Olinger-Winnetka Youth Organization

Since flooding closed the WYO drop-in center, the Winnetka Community House gave the agency a temporary space on the 2nd floor for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The Winnetka Park District will be giving them a space on Wednesdays at their Indian Hill location by New Trier High School (Winnetka Campus). For the actual center, Safiyah Hassan, the Executive Director, will be going this week to instruct the cleanup crew where to move their belongings. They have completed the cleanup of the drywall and floor. They are hoping to be back in the actual center as early as next week. They still need to assess the damage from the flooding. They will be putting a notice in the township dispatch this week regarding their change in venue and upcoming activities.

Sharon Weingarten-North Shore Senior Center

I met with Tish Rudnicki by phone this week.

We discussed 3 items:

1. Transportation services

Pre-pandemic they had 8-10 volunteer drivers & even the daily scheduling is done by a volunteer.

Now they are beginning to recruit volunteer drivers again.

2. Lifelong Learning Program

Tish reports that Lifelong Learning is very active. 3 sessions/year.

They are esp. proud of Peer Led Program (They took over this program from National Louis University)

3. Situation with staff & salaries

****Currently there are 8 soc work positions open. Job involves home visits and writing lengthy reports, etc. Salary only 40,000! Similar entry level jobs with managed care companies start at \$50,000. NSSC is beginning to lobby legislators because they are contracting this program with the State. At this point, they are/will be using social work interns (3) to do some of this work. These interns will be paid a small stipend. I asked if they were allowed to use their own money (from fundraising, etc.) to help with salary expenses & Tish said Yes.**

Their fundraising efforts have been very successful. Last year: \$350,000- Year end appeal last year: \$250,000 Gala. A Golf outing is being planned.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

CPC Anderson talked to the committee about updating the contract application process from paper applications to a digital format. Melissa brought up potential security concerns regarding digital applications. Steven Anderson advised we likely end up using either Microsoft or Google Forms with an updated application. The committee members discussed the application itself and advised that some of the questions are repetitive. There was also discussion of either sub-committees or a point person to cover certain sections of the application. This could be the financial section, the actual results in the community, etc. The committee advised that they would like to have liaison reports done a quarterly rather than monthly basis. This along with the "pop in visits" to agencies can be discussed as something to be changed going forward. There was a suggestion to move the time from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM that will be discussed among the whole committee for potential change of meeting time.

6. ADJOURN

The Committee voted to adjourn at 8:48 P.M.