

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER, CONNECTICUT
Community Health Committee



Minutes – May 24, 2011 Meeting
Location: Deep River Town Hall

Meeting Minutes:

Attendance: Committee Members - Maura Carver, Nancy Howard, Kate Bender, D. Recchia, Russ Marth. Absent: J. Nickse, C. Walker, C. Olson

1] Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm by Chairman Marth.

2] Approval of Minutes from March Meeting

Minutes from the April meeting were presented. Motion made by K. Bender and seconded by M. Carver to accept them. No discussion was forthcoming. Motion to accept minutes approved: 4-0.

Old Business

3] Voucher / Referral Documents

The documents were ready to be sent to Rosie Bininger (the Town's Social Services Coordinator). [Note: these were subsequently forwarded to Ms. Bininger later in the week and with a brief discussion by telephone.]

4] F.I.S.H.

This item was tabled to next meeting pending review and advice from C. Walker.

5] Muster / Family Day / Holiday Activities

Decision made to have at least one table (on Elm Street in front of K. Bender's house) to solicit donations for the Deep River Community Fund. If possible, and with permission to be sought, a second table would be set up on Main Street. CHC members were asked to volunteer and a suitable number said "yes." The times would be set for a couple hours before the parade. R. Marth will provide jars for collection, and some signage. Name tags, it was decided, would be a good idea for identification and branding, to be made and worn at any events. D. Recchia will provide pin-on name tag devices.

For Family Day in September, the CHC would have a table outside the Town Hall. D. Recchia and K. Bender volunteered to do blood pressure checks and it was decided to ask a nurse from the VNLV to assist, as a volunteer. This would also be a time to explain the function of the CHC, introduce the VNLV and collect donations for the Deep River Community Fund, as well as non-perishable items for the Town's food pantry. Networking with schools and

other organizations, including local Girl Scouts (for holiday program, too) was discussed. An ad asking for food donations should be placed in the Deep River Quarterly publication, other places as possible, including posters in local schools (Junior and Senior High, as well as the DR Elementary School. Plans to be fleshed out in subsequent meetings.

The holiday basket program was also discussed. Question arose as to whether there are two holiday basket programs or just one. It was also discussed that we should help with the "Stuff a Cruiser" program, which is very successful. Among other items discussed, the question arose if certain elementary school classes might "adopt" a family in need? Another discussion/question focused on the most appropriate types of foods?

6] Officer Elections

No action was taken on this item, tabled to next meeting.

7] Public Relations

No new items were performed, no actions discussed except as noted.

8] VNLV Questions / Discussions

Because of one more vacancy on the CHC and also on the VNLV Board, there was some action over the course of the previous weeks. R. Marth discussed the ongoing search from the perspective of both organizations. Action on whether the CHC can continue to properly supply VNLV Board members was discussed. It was noted that the Board of Selectman and CHC Chairman were planning to meet at some future point to review the rules on membership for both the CHC and the VNLV.

It was also noted that the VNLV had awarded \$4,000 (from its own coffers) in scholarships to four nursing candidates. Eleven candidates sought these scholarships and were interviewed on May 16 and 17. The VNLV scholarship committee was comprised of four Board members, including the CHC Chairman R. Marth. A Deep River resident, a Valley Regional senior, was one of the recipients.

9] Financial Review and Donation Mailing

The Chairman informed the committee of a very generous donation that was received during the previous weeks, totaling \$15,000. The gift, deposited into the Deep River Community Fund account, was bequeathed from the estate of a longtime Deep River resident. In light of that unexpected gift, it was decided by consensus to delay the donation mailing until the fall or a time to be decided upon as the financial needs of the Community Fund dictates.

Financial review was requested, but not received in time for review by the committee. [Note: Financials were received and mailed to committee members the next day. It was noted that any personal information should be deleted from future financial documents.]

10] Other Items

There were no other items for discussion and no citizens were present.

11] Adjournment

D. Recchia made motion to adjourn, seconded by N. Howard. Passed 4-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell Marth, Chairman
(May 31, 2011)