

Human Services Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2023

1. **Call to Order:** Chairwoman Cathy Beaudoin called the May 16, 2023, Human Services Commission Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. **Attendance:** Chairwoman Cathy Beaudoin, Commissioner Mark Malley and Commissioner Larry Chiucarello. Also in attendance via ZOOM: Vice-Chairwoman Karen Saccu and Commissioner Lee Ulinskas. Meg McCreedy from HRA in person.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
Chairwoman Cathy Beaudoin led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

4. **Invocation:**
Commissioner Mark Malley gave the invocation.

5. **Public Input:** None

6. **Acceptance of Minutes:**
A motion was made by Commissioner Lee Ulinskas, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Karen Saccu to accept the meeting minutes of April 18, 2023. This motion was approved with one abstention.

7. **Communications/Correspondence (If Needed):** None

8. **Human Services Report:** *See attached report*
Meg reported that phone calls have dropped due to energy assistance being done. She will focus on renters rebate. Meg will put an ad for renters rebate in the Plymouth Connection. A task force is created due to hoarding issues.

Meg reported that \$700.00 was spent from Human Services to help the gentlemen fix his vehicle as he was able to get the price reduced to \$1500.00.

9. **Old Business**
a. **Bylaws review** Will be discussed next month.

Scholarship – check will be ready no later than Monday. Commissioner Mark Malley will write a letter from the Commission to the recipients.

10. **New Business:**

April 2023 balance report from the Finance Department.

A discussion took place regarding the balance ledger.

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
2023 MAY 18 AM 9:35
Cathy Beaudoin
TOWN CLERK

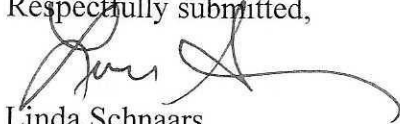
11. **Chairman's Comments:** None

12. **Council Liaison's Comments:** None

13. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business of the Human Services Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Larry Chiucarello, seconded by Commissioner Mark Malley to adjourn. This motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Schnaars
Recording Secretary



**Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc.
Community Services Department
Plymouth Human Services Monthly Report**

April 2023

Submitted by: Meg McCreedy, Helen Supsinskas and Juan Berrios

Reporting Period: April 1, 2023 – April 30, 2023

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	246
Walk-ins	74
Appointments	41
Energy Assistance	114
Housing Inquiries	10
Medicare/Medicaid/Husky/Access Health	12
SNAP Applications/Renewals/Food Bank Referrals	9
Private/Rotary Fuel Bank	3
Senior Services - Home Care, Renters Rebate, Elder/Disabled Tax Reduction, CHORE Services, Mobility	81
VITA	14
Information Services – Legal, Mental Health Counseling, Homelessness, Financial Services, Employment/Training, Veterans Services, Volunteering, CTWater/Sewer Program, Transportation	111

VITA Tax Return Service:

Plymouth office received 14 calls for tax preparation information, appointment scheduling and referrals to other tax prep locations including virtual tax prep. Congratulations on a very busy and successful VITA Season.

Donations Shared With Community:

5 toiletry bags were given out this month as well as assistance with the purchase of healthy liquid/pureed nutrition food products. The toiletry bags consist of personal care products. Clients requested assistance with preparing SNAP applications. Plymouth Food Pantry has taken referrals due to slow processing of SNAP applications.

Private Funds and Rotary Fuel Bank:

There was only 1 request for Rotary Fuel Funds and 1 request for Private Funds based on the criteria of grant funds received from Thomaston Savings Bank Grant.

Renters Rebate:

The application period for renters has begun. 7 applications have been submitted electronically to the OPM Portal for processing and tracking.



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Energy Assistance:

There have been 114 inquiries this month, regarding the Energy Assistance Program. In-Person/Representative Appointments are available at the Human Services Department in Plymouth Town Hall or at HRA's Bristol Office on 55 South Street. Last date for deliverable fuels was 3/31/2023. Remaining funds from Rotary Fuel assistance will be used to provide a onetime emergency oil delivery if needed. The last day to apply for assistance with Electric and Gas is 5/31/2023. We are also receiving many calls from clients that are concerned about when they will see their awarded amounts reflected on their utility bills and match to their Matching Payment Plan. The Town Of Plymouth signed up for the Sewer Bill Assistance Program. Steps have been taken to have this program assistance applied to the sewer bills of those who qualify.

Plymouth Police Department:

The officers performed 4 wellness visits to seniors in the community at the request of the Human Services Office. Follow-up with Elder Protective Services from the prior month, has Case Managers working with 16 residents to improve living conditions for health and safety as well as provide assistance with in Home Care. A Task Force has been created and will be meeting in May to solidify a plan of action regarding hoarding response process as a Team. The Team consists of Mayor Kilduff, Scott Eisenlohr-Blight Ordnance, Charlie Doback-Deputy Fire Marshal, Officer Dean Cyr-Plymouth PD, Lisa Scott-EPS/DSS, Clarence Atkinson-Building Inspector, Donna Dognin-Vet Rep, Meg McCreedy-CSC Plymouth

Veterans Services:

There were 4 referrals to Veterans Strong Community Center in Bristol for veterans that required physical health and wellness services, transportation and mental health needs. Donna Dognin coordinated a Veterans Outreach at VFW 20 to provide information to area veterans, Meg McCreedy attended and represented HRA where she shared information on services provided. Sharon Letts District 6 Service Officer was very interested in a Veterans Coffee House, for those Veterans who want to gather at a place where alcohol is not served. She is also interested in having "Narcans" and "Leave Behind Kits", working with Meg McCreedy and Toni Sterling Community Outreach & Recovery Navigator.