

Shelburne Social Services Committee
Wednesday, April 29, 2020
Zoom Meeting

Present: G. Grover, P. Fontaine, S. Furry-Irish, E. Limanek, B. Marden, L. Riell

Call to Order: 4:35 PM

Note Taker: Linda Riell

Agenda: modified and approved

Citizen Participation: Lee Krohn

Feb. Minutes: approved

Treasurers Report: \$16,700 remains in the account (to be spent by June 30) and \$5,000 in the Community Fund (can roll over)

OLD BUSINESS:

- Racial Justice Update (Patricia): The book discussion group moved to online, P. Fontaine hosted on Zoom and reports it was very successful. The program will resume in the Fall.
- Vermont Community Foundation (Patricia): group members from all around the state discussed that migrant workers are left out of the loop and food insecurity is a huge issue. Migrant Justice helps with working farms in Shelburne. A second topic that came up was the issue of day care and how it might be resumed in VT amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. The third item discussed was that the Abenaki Community has been hard hit. Patricia will contact Migrant Justice and Abenaki Helping Abenaki to get more information as to what their needs are.
- Access to Social Service Files: Georgene's last meeting is this evening, she turns leadership over to Sue and Elaine. They will need to create a new email address for the committee and Georgene will send files to the new address. They will contact Nini Anger at the Town Offices if they need assistance.

NEW BUSINESS:

GRANTS: (discussed, rubrics applied)

- United Way: \$5000 grant is approved. Sue will email cover letter and check request to Peter Frankenburg (Georgene will provide some templates for the letter). Contact person is John Cronin, he won't be able to come speak in front of the committee personally as he has done in the past. Sue will let him know of this situation as well.
- Shelburne Food Shelf: reports \$30K in donations during these hard times. Has withdrawn the request for a \$500 grant and asks that the committee help another group that needs the funds more. Decision is to table this item. To be re-visited at May meeting.
- Steps to End Domestic Violence: \$2600 grant is approved. Anna Burke is the contact person. Police report fewer calls for help as people are remaining at home and it is difficult for women to be able to make calls for help. There remains a great need to help families leave unsafe situations.
- JUMP: \$2000 grant is approved. Wanda Hines is the contact person. This organization gives help to individuals and families (rent, utilities, food, mental health support etc).
- Camp Scholarships: after discussion it is decided that since it's unknown at this time whether there will be summer camps, it's low priority right now and we'll hold off on considering scholarships.

- Restorative Justice Program: a grant request is to assist with victim support. Decision is to table this for now. Sue will reach out for more information and explain that we are prioritizing our financial support in another direction right now but would like to re- consider their program at a future time.
- Liveable Wage Survey Questions: some committee members have submitted responses to Georgene. She will forward to Sue. If you have not answered the questions and still wish to, please email them to Sue and she will summarize.

FINAL ITEM (added to the modified agenda): Good bye to Georgene as she leaves the Social Services Committee and a huge thank you for her years of service. And a big thank you to Sue and Elaine for taking the helm as co-chairs!

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday May 27, 2020. Time to be determined, either 4:30 pm if on Zoom or 6:30 pm if in the Town Office Meeting Room.

ADJOURNED at 6 PM!