HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 21, 2015

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
15 DEC 24 PM 1:16

Commissioners Present: Bill Campbell, Michael Winkler, Karen Roy Guglielmi
Commissioners Absent: Charita Alston, Terilyn Rogers, James Purnell
Staff Liaison Present: Marina Rodriguez, VSS, Michele Hill, YSB

Approval of Minutes
Special meeting of 8/17/15 minutes were approved

Communications & Correspondence
- Correspondence from Cornerstone Shelter to Commissioners dated 8/17/15 in regards to 32 School St.
- Communications with Finance re: Human Services budget timetable for FY 2016-17

Human Services – Agency Presentation:

Tri Town Shelter
Pieter Nijssen, Executive Director, made the presentation and answered questions. Tri Town Shelter is a private non-profit, 15 bed emergency shelter that serves families and individual adults. Tri Town was founded in 1984 by a group of concerned citizens from the 3 towns of Vernon, Ellington, and Tolland; and, in 1986 it secured funding from the State of Connecticut for shelter operations. It has been funded by the State since that time, until this year. Tri Town Shelter has an intake process and there is an Individualized Service Plan developed for each adult resident in order to move them toward self-sufficiency. Each shelter resident meets weekly with staff for case management and service plan review. Programs include: in-house 12 step meetings, workgroups, testing & support services. Shelter residents have access to a computer lab/learning lab & library located in the shelter. Staff consists of the Director, shift supervisors and part-time staff. Tri Town Shelter is overseen by its volunteer Board of Directors. There was discussion about the HEARTH Act, State requirements, and the newly implemented State protocol for homeless families & individuals to access shelters. There was discussion about Tri Town Shelter's future, and sustaining shelter operations without State money. Pieter explained that Tri Town plans to remain open through 2015, and that they are in negotiations with another entity that would provide funding for the long term.

Budget Timetable Update
Marina distributed a draft timetable for moving process up to early fall. The Commission asked Marina to contact Finance again and see if it would be feasible.

Regular meeting: Monday, October 19, 2015

Submitted by Marina Rodriguez