



Town of Wilton, CT  
COMMISSION ON SOCIAL SERVICES  
Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2016

Present: Judy Zucker, Christine Tenore, Michael O'Connell, Cathy Pierce, Pam Kelley, Danielle Mancuso, Ann Mitrone

Absent: Phil Lauria, Deborah Low

Special Guests: Dick King, Stay at Home Wilton; Erin Burk-Leaver, Community Advocate for the Center for Elder Abuse Prevention

Chairman Judy Zucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. She informed the Commission to expect a new member at the March 2016 meeting, bringing the Commission membership to a full state. Mike O'Connell circulated the Member roster for updates.

Pam Kelley motioned to have the minutes from the January 14, 2016 meeting approved. Danielle Mancuso seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Directors Report

Cathy provided a summary of the Southwestern CT Task Force on Heroin and Opiate Addiction meeting she attended earlier in the month. Based upon recent CT epidemiology incidence analysis, the family impact is occurring in a bi-modal fashion, with cases reported in population groups split between 18-23 and 45 – 55 years of age. Wilton is presenting a town-wide education seminar to address both population segments April 20, 2016 at the Wilton High School Little Theatre. The education program for the younger population of the audience will be modeled on a program delivered earlier in the year in New Canaan.

Cathy reminded the Commissioners of an upcoming seminar on Underage Alcohol and Drug Abuse at the Wilton Library on February 23, 2016.

Cathy and Christine Tenore, Commissioner, reviewed the "Planning for Life and Beyond" education seminar series launched last month for Wilton Seniors.

#### Guest Speaker – Erin Burke-Leaver

Judy Zucker introduced Erin to the Commissioners. Erin leads the Center for Elder Abuse Prevention at the Fairfield-based Jewish Senior Services Center (<http://www.jseniors.org/services/advocacy-education/elder-abuse-prevention/>). The Center is the first of its kind in Connecticut, opening in September 2007, to empower victims through safe haven and services while championing safer communities for older adults. They work closely with the Coalition for Abuse Prevention of the Elderly (CAPE) and are governed under the CT Statutes for the Protective Services for the Elderly (PSE).

Erin delivered an in-depth presentation of the types of elder abuse along with statistics regarding aging population living arrangements. She discussed several techniques for screening situations for potential elder abuse, including a detailed review of the Caregiver Abuse Screening (CASE) process.

An extensive and interactive question and answer session followed.

#### Liaison Reports:

No liaison reports were provided.



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Upon motion to adjourn made by Christine Tenor, seconded by Pam Kelley, and unanimously approved, the meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Connell, Secretary