Wilton Social Services Commission Meeting  
Thursday, March 11, 2021-6:00pm
MINUTES

1. Call to Order – Peg Koellmer, Chair  
   6:08 pm
2. Acceptance of the minutes of February 11, 2021  
   Minutes accepted w/no changes.
3. Committee Reports  
   Comparison of Tax Relief Programs of Nearby Towns – Suzanne  
   • Income limits in almost every town but each town defines it differently  
   • Eligibility generally the same across towns: for over 65, disabled and in some cases, veterans  
   • Requirements similar: Resident, owned property for past year, not delinquent in your taxes  
   • Two types of relief, waiver or deferral  
   • Some towns have asset limits  
   • Benefits on a sliding scale  
   • Will need to meet w/tax assessor for exactly how benefit is calculated in Wilton  
   • A tax benefit for veterans exists in Wilton  
   • Wilton tax assessor will consider on a case-by-case basis, residents whose incomes decreased due to COVID19.  
   • Most towns require residents to apply for state tax benefit as well  
   • The goal is for a more user-friendly program in Wilton

Navigating Covid19 for Non-profits – Danielle?
4. Liaison reports
   SWACA – Sarah
   • Still providing assistance such as in home care and applying for state benefits
   • Looking at how various senior centers are going to be reopening
   Stay at Home Wilton – Peg
   • Group is looking for office space
   • Would like location to be center of town on the ground floor
   • Volunteer drives are mostly at a high-risk group for getting Covid19 so they are unable to serve at the time.
   Wilton Library – Peg
   • Recent information is that the governor is leaving it up to towns to decide when to open to the public
   • Until then, will do delivery by mail
   • Keeping community engaged with programs such as Wilton Reads
   Housing Committee – Bettye
   • Erin Boggs, Executive Director of Open Communities Alliance an advocacy group for zoning reform.
   • Separately, the town is evaluating a number of multi-unit housing projects that set aside a percentage of units for affordable housing.
   • The housing committee is looking for more members.
   Wilton Youth Council – Suzanne
   • Gave a Zoom presentation on the ‘Birds and the Bees.’

5. Sarah Heath report
   • In person services ceased one year ago
   • Food pantry never closed but relocated to the exterior following social distancing requirements
   • Police and Parks and Recreation helped in the relocation
   • Kiwanis provided tens of thousands of dollars of gift cards and donations.
   • Village Market, Caraluzzis, Stop and Shop and various other places also provided donations
   • Social Services Commission pivoted to provide remotely to eligible residents, regular services such as, programming, counseling and referrals.
   • Drive through senior luncheons are hugely popular
   • Grateful to all the volunteer associations
• Hope to hire soon a 30hr/wk youth services coordinator whose duties include a social work and counseling component

6. Public Comment
   No public comments

7. Adjourn
   Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm

Respectfully submitted,
Maxine Tobias