

NHLWAA
Executive Board Committee
Minutes
May 18, 2017

Present: Dana Brien, Pat Murphy, Suzanne Carr, Todd Marsh, Ellen Tully, Liz Sayre, Jill Jamro, Robert Mack, Lena Nichols, Karen Emis-Williams, Denise Grieg, Sue Benoit,

Guests: Kerry Nelson - DHHS – DFA, Sarah Kelly, DHHS

Pat called meeting to order at 9:30am

Guests: Kerry discussed decrease in food stamp benefits relating to cooling expenses. Standard utility expense is an annualized amount and additional cooling expenses should be allowed in determining eligibility for food stamps. They researched and found 400 cases and changes were made in the amount of FS clients were eligible for. If we have someone who saw significant decrease in FS, refer to DHHS either through the local office or central intake. Client will need verification and it can be uploaded through NH Easy. The Director's memo relating to this will be sent to Pat and she will forward to the Board. Dana mentioned Pin number on more DHHS documents – this is not the EBT pin.

Sarah had posters to distribute re: TANF/FS employment and training. Liz will distribute at the June Conference.

Minutes:

Correction on page 2. Motion by Dana, second by Lena to approve with correction. Approved.

NHLWAA:

1. Treasurer's Report: There is a balance of \$28,054.84. Motion by Liz, second by Bob to approve. Approved.
2. Pat presented the membership rate and draft letter. Editorial suggestions were made. Motion by Liz, second by Karen to approve letter with changes.
*Denise reported that we have joined the NH Center for Non-profits and all Executive Committee members have the ability to access. Link sent out to Board members.
3. NHHPP – noting to report
4. Utility meeting – on 6/7 Jill and Denise from Manchester will attend. Issues identified and Jill will bring them forward. Big concern with call center whose staff apparently work on commission which has resulted in responses to clients being very harsh, aggressive and inhumane.
5. NHLA Poverty Law – Denise and Lena gave overview – very familiar material, they could have taught 80% of it. Could consider offering the information at an afternoon meeting in September.
6. EAP Board meeting – Karen reported that they anticipate 32,000 applying for next year. Third party suppliers are not eligible for LIHEAP discounts. Fuel assistance will not count children's SSI as part of household income in determining eligibility.

7. Next meeting is 9/21 at 9:30am. Decision to meet 8/17 at 9:30 – working lunch included to review By-Laws.

Committees:

1. Technology – may be training in July
2. Legislative – no updates
3. By-Law Review committee:
Denise will have a list of recommendations for review at our meeting on 8/17.

Conferences/Trainings:

A. Meetings

- i. June conference
 1. Morning – Welfare 101
 2. Mock Fair Hearing
 3. Food cost – Motion by Bob, second by Todd to approve up to \$800 toward the cost of the food for the conference. Approved.
- ii. November Conference – Training committee will finalize via email or meeting
 1. Utility
 2. Leveraging local resources
 3. Emergency management, general preparedness, role of municipal welfare
- iii. September Session 9/21/17
 1. AM – McKinney Vento and work with schools – perhaps Linda Thistle Elliott to present?
 2. PM – Poverty Law conference update

Motion by Dana, second by Ellen to adjourn at 11:17 am. Approved.

Elizabeth C. Sayre
NHLWAA Board Secretary