

**Human Services Advisory Meeting Minutes  
Special Meeting**

**Recorded Meeting Link**

[Human Services Advisory Committee 01/10/2023 - YouTube](#)

**Present:**

Ethel Mantzaris (Advisory Board, Chair)  
Julia DeLapp (Member at Large)  
Will Bigl (Commission on Aging)  
Shamim Patwa (Mansfield Advocates for Children Rep.)

**Staff:**

Patricia Schneider (Director of Human Services)  
Katherine Bell (Youth Services Supervisor)

**Absent:**

Victoria Nimirowski (WAIM)

- I. Call to Order at 3:28 p.m.
- II. Julia DeLapp motioned to approve the minutes from September 28, 2022 meeting. Ethel Mantzaris seconded the motion and it was approved by all members present. Shamim Patwa and Will Bigl abstained from the vote.
- III. Departmental Update (P. Schneider)
  - a. Staffing Update – The candidate for the Youth Services Social Worker took another position somewhere else. The posting will go back out for that position. Currently the Director of Human Services position is posted. Patricia has asked HR to list both of these positions as open until filled. This will allow interviews to be taken care of on a rolling process. The part time Kitchen Assistant was hired and has started. The Nutrition Coordinator position has not been filled. Katherine Bell reported that in Youth Services, Robin Kraemer joined the department in December as the newest Social Worker. They are currently working on the second interviews for the Youth Services Early Childhood Services Coordinator.
  - b. Program Update – The Maple Road Café is up and running and has been well received from patrons. The Youth Services diversion program is being well utilized. The school transition plan has been announced for the move to the Mansfield Elementary School. In the fall, there were 70-80 students involved in the COPE program between the two elementary schools. The Youth Services Enhancement grant received some additional funding for direct service programming.

- c. Budget Update – It was reported that the Town is currently in the middle of the budget process with a new program called ClearGov. The committee will need to discuss an amount that they would like to see given to agencies for the annual agency grant distribution. This should be put on the next meeting’s agenda to discuss.

Emine Yavuz from the public introduced herself.

#### IV. ARPA Agency Funding

The grant applications are out on the website and have been sent out to the previous agencies with a return date of January 18, 2023. There have not been any submissions received at the time of this meeting. One of the agreements is that if there are funds remaining after the first series of applications, the applications can go back out for others to apply. When the grants are received in the Human Services department, they will be sent out to the committee for review. The committee will then score the grants based on the criteria required.

It was discussed to cancel the January 25, 2023 regularly scheduled meeting in order to obtain all the grant applications and then have a special meeting on February 1, 2023 at 3:30pm in person at the Senior Center.

The dates for the upcoming meetings were set as follows: March 29, 2023, May 24, 2023. September 27, 2023, December 6, 2023 and January 31, 2024. Will Bigl motioned to accept these meeting dates for the regularly scheduled meetings. Shamim Patwa seconded the motion and it was approved by all members present.

#### V. New Business

- VI. Public Comment. Emine Yavuz stated that they enjoyed listening to the meeting and was glad to be on the call. She said that if the group needs anything she would volunteer.

- VII. Shamim Patwa motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:07 p.m. Will Bigl seconded the motion and it was approved by all members present.