



To: Social Services Commission Members
From: Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare
Date: March 18, 2014
Subject: Questions from Social Services Commission Agenda

Per your informational request, please see the following:

- a) Inform commission on the City of Stamford's operation and the resources it provides.

See Charter definitions of Commission attached.

- b) Provide a location for regular meetings and hearings
Val Pankosky in the Mayor's Office is working on setting up a regular meeting room going forward (requires Mayor's request to Board)

- c) Give insight on how to expand the commission including alternates

Expansion of the Board, or addition of alternates, would require either a charter revision or a vote of public referendum. The Commission would begin this process by sending a letter of request to the Mayor.

- d) Determine a city representative that the commission Chair and it's members can reach out to for direction/questions

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Sharona Cowan – Director of Mandated Services, Health Department

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Kathy Ruther – Secretary, Public Safety, Health & Welfare

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Sec. 6-6.1. Role of Commission in city social services. [5]

- A. The Social Service Commission of the City of Stamford acts as an oversight committee in areas pertaining to the social welfare concerns facing the residents of Stamford, including, but not limited to:
- (1) Promoting policies and strategies which direct appropriate city departments to provide residents of Stamford with guidance and information with regard to programs which address shelter, sustenance and health needs.
 - (2) Promoting coordination between those city departments concerned with social welfare, including the Board of Education, and the many nonprofit organizations also working in that area.
 - (3) Exercising such other rights and discharging such other responsibilities as shall be necessary and proper for the purpose of this Commission.
- B. The Social Services Commission Coordinator, in addition to the duties as created in § 6-9 below, shall report to the Social Services Commission and shall assist the Commission in its duties as an oversight committee for social welfare concerns, Fair Rent and Human Rights.
- C. This section shall take effect upon enactment.