

Town East Haven, Ct  
East Haven Counseling & Community Services commission  
Minutes

The regular meeting of the East Haven Counseling and Community Services Commission was held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 595 Thompson Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Maurice Bunnell; seconded by Eileen DeMayo.

Present: Commissioners Cynthia Rojas, Eileen DeMayo, Julia Coppola and Executive Director Peter Lynch.

Absent: Commissioner Kenneth Sittnick

Item #1- Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Maurice Bunnell to approve the Minutes of the Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 meeting as received; seconded by Eileen DeMayo. Motion carried unanimously.

Item # 2 Review of Mission Statement

The Mission of the East Haven Counseling and Community Services Department is to improve the quality of life of the people of the Town of East Haven by providing a network of comprehensive, effective Mental Health Services that foster Self-Sufficiency, Dignity and Respect so as to empower individuals to live up to their ultimate potential.

The Commissioners made some suggestion of replacing some words and adding more to define exactly what the Agency is responsible for. Maurice Bunnell suggested that we try to take the stigma off mental illness. Peter said that he would like to take a couple months and have the staff, commissioners and possibly the consumers to review the statement, so that everyone has some input to the new mission. He suggested a joint meeting to with Youth Commission, to explore incorporating Youth Services into our mission statement. The Agency serves adults, children and family, so the mission statement should reflect this. The mission should reflect our community and the individuals that are served. Would like to discuss, plan and get feedback on the Mission more at the Nov. and Dec. Commission Meeting.

Item #3 Discussion of the charter and the role's of Commissioners

Section 17. Community Counseling and Services Bureau

There shall be a Community and counseling and Services Bureau in the Town of East Haven consisting of five members, who shall have all powers and duties as prescribed by the General Statues, as amended. The Mayor shall annually appoint a member or members in accordance with Chapter II, Section 6. The term of said member, so appointed, shall expire on the first day of February at twelve o' clock noon. The Mayor shall annually appoint alternate or alternates sufficient in number to fill the terms expiring, not exceeding three in total number whose terms shall be three years, or until their successors have been appointed and qualified, and whose terms shall expire on the first of February at twelve o' clock noon.

The Charter pertaining to the commission was reviewed. Executive Director discussed possible roles for the Commissioners in a large advisory capacity, explained that the commissioners aren't restricted in their role as advisor, they can reflect without staff, contracts and politics. The commissioners stated to be more involved in understanding and promoting recent changes as well as input to upcoming budget process. Possibly look into some private funding and grant funding. Some suggestions were made about fundraising within the community.

Item #4 Old Business – None

Item #5 New Business- None

Mr. Bunnell motioned to adjourn at 8:10p.m. ; seconded by Ms. Coppola.

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Teena Fucci

Clerk