

## RTM Health and Human Services Committee Report

**Meeting date:** May 28, 2024

**Members Present:** Wendy Batteau, Jennifer Johnson, Jack Klinge, Karen Kramer, Sal Liccione, Julie Whamond. **Present for DHS:** Elaine Daignault

**Agenda:** To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the request of the Human Services Director, to approve applicants to the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program pursuant to CGS 12-630aa et seq.

The RTM Health and Human Services Committee met on May 28, 2024, at 7:30 pm via zoom, to review and make recommendations to the full RTM on applications to participate in the 2024 Neighborhood Act Tax Credit program from four non-profits. The program provides a State corporation business tax credit for businesses making cash donations to qualifying non-profit and municipal programs. Per Ms. Daignault, these do not necessarily have to be part of our DHS, nor even primarily located in Westport; she receives and accepts the applications. This request is not for an appropriation but for the certifications of the programs. The applicants:

1. Homes With Hope, Inc., for installation of a new heat pump at the Gillespie Center (\$150,000.) The benefits include improved environmental sustainability; cost-savings and long-term infrastructure investment, lower maintenance needs, improved air quality, and improved comfort for Gillespie Center clients (eg.the food pantry is currently unheated).
2. Waveny Lifecare Network, Inc., for a homebound patient-caregiver respite program. (\$20,000.) While Waveny is located in New Canaan, Westport has contracted with the group to provide aid to homebound residents. Particular attention is paid to patients and families of adults 65 and older, many of who live with multiple limitations and fixed or limited incomes.
3. The Westport Historical Society, Inc., (\$35,000.) for ongoing preservation and basement remediation in the historical structure built in 1795.Improvements include reparation of leaks, creation of a mold-free air quality environment for preservation of storage of the collections, and for the health of employees and guests.
4. The Saugatuck Cooperative Apartments, (\$20,000.) In response to the lack of affordable senior housing the 95-year old former elementary school was converted to housing 30 years ago. Now essential infrastructure equipment- specifically apartment hard-wired smoke alarms and non-functioning HVAC components - at their expected end of life, require replacement.

The committee discussed the parameters of the NATC program and the natures, locations, and needs of the applicant organizations, but as the RTM role is solely to certify the eligibility of the groups, we focused on that. On a resolution by Liccione and seconded by Klinge, the committee voted unanimously the recommend full RTM approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Batteau,  
Chair, RTM HHS Committee