
Monthly Report to the Woonsocket City Council
Department of Human Services
Department of Economic Development

Completed on March 10, 2010 for the
March 15, 2010 City Council Docket

Monthly Report

Department of Human Services

- Assisted 8 individuals with filling out the Rhode Island Property Tax Relief 1040H form. One individual who came into the office did not qualify because total household income exceeded the \$ 30,000 maximum allowed. Qualified individuals have until April 15th to file.
- Linda Plays/ Chairperson of the Complete Count Census 2010 Committee had an organizational meeting at city hall. The committee planned a Census Community Awareness Day in Woonsocket. An outreach was made to the state coordinator for materials and novelty items to give away. A date has not been selected as of yet. Arrangements have been made to speak with the community prior to the city council meeting on March 15th. Steve Moreau will do the interviews to be broadcast on local cable access TV. We are trying to reach as many people in the community as possible to make them aware of the importance of the Census. The same message will be delivered in English, Laotian, Cambodian, Spanish, French and Chinese. Plays sat down with Russ Olivo from the CALL and talked about how important it is for members of the community participate in the Census. A front page story was in the Call on March 4th.
- This department along with the Mayor is reviewing the Adopt-a-Corner Program. An evaluation of the areas to be adopted, fees, bid process and overall evaluation of the program in underway. It has been several years since this very popular program started and it is a great way for a business to advertise all year long for a very minimal price. There are approximately 15 sites that have large signs and 50 that have small signs. There are some scattered sites in the city that have available spots to be adopted.
- Assisted elderly individual explaining the Senior Services lunch and activities programs. He was not familiar with how he could go there and have a daily meal.

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- Met with the Veteran's Advisor to go over his activity and mileage reimbursement and taking Veteran's to medical appointments.
- Attended the Senior Citizens Center Advisory Board Committee meeting.
- Assisted an individual who was trying to set up a payment plan for paying delinquent water bills. Referred him to Zeno Trabucchi of the Water Department Also referred said individual to the Family Resources housing specialist pertaining questions he had regarding his vacant apartment.
- Led the efforts of this year's American Cancer Society Daffodil Days. All city departments were encouraged to participate. A total of \$ 235 was raised.

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Department of Economic Development

- Met with a total of 7 investors in commercial real estate or new businesses to market City and State incentives and to offer additional assistance; toured their facilities and reviewed plans
 - Briefed interested parties on Council action to revamp Job Creation Incentive Program and impact on their proposals
 - Made referrals and follow-ups with City officials as required
- Along with the Mayor, conducted 3 additional meetings in Highland Industrial Park, with same objectives as above
- Met with 2 existing businesses to address regulatory compliance and communication issues
- Conducted effort on behalf of preservation of the State's Motion Picture Production Company Tax Credit Program
 - Gathered signatures of support from over a dozen local businesses that benefitted from production activity in the City
 - Submitted letter to House Finance committee in lieu of formal testimony
- In response to invitation from the National Endowment for the Arts to apply for a competitive grant, coordinated with Planning Department staff and a wide group of invited members of the arts community to collaborate on a statement of interest document as first step in the application process
 - Conducted two meetings to garner and refine ideas for a proposal
 - Gathered background research needed to support letter of proposal