

**Town of Brentwood**  
**Regional Associations Committee Meeting**  
January 8, 2024

Committee members present: Rebecca Dunham (Chair), Laura Hajjar, Michelle Siudut, Karen Veinotte (alternate)

Committee members not present/excused: Bob Stephens, Lynn Austin

Guests present: Letty Bedard

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 5 pm. Motion by Michelle to allow Karen to vote as full member; passed 3-0.

Rebecca gave an overview of the application process as it pertains to this committee.

Minutes of January 17 2023 were reviewed; corrections were made to accurately reflect the terms of appointment. Motion by Michelle, second by Karen to approve as amended; 4-0.

Rebecca distributed the submission she wrote for the 2023 Town Annual Report. Motion by Karen, seconded by Laura to approve; passed 4-0.

Rebecca distributed/reviewed the Town of Exeter application process. In comparison, we decided to amend our own process from "Incomplete forms **will** not be considered for funding" to "Incomplete forms **may** not be considered for funding". Rebecca will ask the Communications Committee to draft a more official looking application. Discussion about changing "Regional Association" name; we decided to keep with the state-described name, and also it is what is known by our residents. Rebecca explained our budget line has been moved under the Welfare budget.

Our total budget for the year is \$18,000. We received 7 requests for a total of \$20,357.

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**Austin 17 House**

2024 Request: \$5,000 ***Committee approved \$3,000***

Previous Requests: 2021 requested \$1000, received \$1300; 2023 requested \$5000, received \$4750

Budget/Expense/Revenue: unclear/\$139,998/\$192,591

Brentwood residents served: 250-500\*

Meets criteria; Silver status. Application received 10/31, 11/1, or 11/2 (not date stamped) – no clear date; incomplete sections, no attachments, no description of how grant would be used. RAC reached out to Director twice to discuss application issues. Missing information received in December, Director understands committee may not accept late and incomplete application materials.

Mission: "The mission of Austin House is to build confidence, creativity and resilience in the youth and families of our communities. We serve youth and families in the Greater Rockingham County Area, including youth and families that border NH, including Amesbury, Methuen and Beverly MA. The staff and volunteers of Austin House are key pillars to our success as an organization. Some of the ways we work to increase revenue is hosting annual fundraising events throughout the year to generate funds. We recently built a Donor Stewardship Task Force to better connect with those who have given in the past, and build better relationships. Lastly, our Executive Director is constantly looking for state, local and federal grants to support the mission and expansion of Austin17 House." Participated in 2023 NH Gives program; 49% of revenue for services vs. overhead. Donations from Brentwood residents: \$5,400.

*\*December 8 materials: board list, IRS 990 extension for 2022, cover letter, description of use of funds; 16-20 Brentwood residents through Boy Scouts monthly, 3-5 Brentwood youth and families through weekly activities. Anticipated use of grant for 2024 - mentor stipends- \$2,000, supplies and food - \$3,000.*

**Community Children's Fund**

2024 Request: \$1,000 **Committee approved \$1,000**

Previous Requests: 2020 through 2022 requested/received \$1000; 2023 requested \$1000 received \$940  
Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$105,420/\$114,721/\$116,345  
Brentwood residents served: 15 children/6 families

Meets criteria; no charity rating. Completed application packet. IRS 990 2021. Mission: revenue used to provide vouchers for warm clothing, footwear, and bedding for children in need in 12 towns through a voucher program. Families in need identified through partner social service agencies; "income at or below 185% Federal Poverty level."

Volunteers and board members fundraise through business and corporate initiatives, Patriot "Kick the Kids", "Jumpball Jam Festival", Tree Festival in Exeter, "Chase the Ace" gaming, comedy shows and 'round-up' programs. Total value of vouchers distributed to towns: \$103,430; Vouchers: Ages 0-12 \$130, ages 13-19 \$750. In addition, \$500 to Swasey School for discretionary use by nurse. Value of services- 91% of expenses, overhead 9%.

**Rockingham Nutrition/Meals on Wheels**

2024 Request: \$2,100 **Committee approved \$2,100**

Previous Requests: 2020 and 2021 requested/received \$1340; 2022 requested/received \$2040; 2023 requested \$2100, received \$2040  
Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$4,241,717/\$4,270,900/\$4,270,900  
Brentwood residents served: 26 residents

Meets criteria; Silver rating on Guidestar. Completed application packet. Improved quality of packet this year. Audit and IRS 990 2021. Mission: "RNMOw exists to help older and/or disabled adults of Rockingham County maintain their health, well-being, and independence. We provide nutritious meals both in a community setting and via home delivery in all seasons; unlike many agencies we serve both hot and cold meals. While our clients' nutritional needs are important, we know that we are also delivering a crucial serving of human interaction that can counteract feelings of isolation and loneliness."

The request will support home-delivered meals as well as wellness checks; grant covers the gap between reimbursement rates from state contracts and the actual cost; 89.7% of revenue for services vs. overhead. Federal guidelines require RN/MOW to raise matching funds. Testimony of importance of a wellness checks, from the family of one client, who had collapsed and received necessary medical care. Participated in 2023 NH Gives.

**SNHS**

2024 Request: \$5,707\* **Committee approved \$5,707**

Previous Requests: 2020 through 2022 requested \$5,707, received \$5,700; 2023 requested \$5707, received \$5647  
Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$117,827,096/\$118,280,690/\$117,827,096\*  
Brentwood residents served: 87 households/\$142,067\*\*

Meets criteria; Charity Navigator: 4-Star rating (scored 92%). IRS 990 2021, auditors FY 2021 and 2022; FY is 8/1- 7/31. Attachments complete, one section of application blank, information sent 11/8 via email to K. Clement and RBD - who had contacted to ask for detail: revenue percentage calculations - 97% federal funds - fees, state, county, and donations 3%. Very detailed chart of services to Brentwood residents and program details. Grant from Brentwood will be used for general operating expenses of RCA's Raymond Resource Center. Mission: "provide activities designed to assist low-income participants, including the elderly poor, to secure and retain meaningful employment, attain adequate education, and make better use of available income; to ameliorate the causes of poverty within the community; to meet urgent and immediate individual and family needs, including health, nutrition, housing and

employment-related assistance; and to address the problems and barriers which block the achievement of self-sufficiency.” Serves 37 communities in Rockingham County. Paid staff responsible for fundraising.

\*Expense for 2023 is forecast/estimate 7/23/23; in 2022, \$20 million added for homelessness

\*\*Significant increase in 2023 value of benefits to Brentwood residents for fuel assistance, electricity, and emergency rental, 2022 benefits value was \$61,137.

### **Society of St Vincent dePaul**

2024 Request: \$2,500 **Committee approved \$1,500**

Previous Requests: First year request

Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$487,724/\$538,821/\$415,638

Brentwood residents served: 35 residents

Meets criteria; Goldstar rating. Completed application packet; application did not list ask amount (RBD called 11/2). Serves 6 towns: Exeter, Stratham, East Kingston, Kensington, Newfields, and Brentwood. 35% of revenue for services vs. overhead. Mission: “As a community assistance organization, we help people impacted by poverty to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.” Purpose of this request: “to restart the Senior Pantry; for clients age 60+ to visit the pantry at a slower paced environment and supplemented by guest speakers discussing relevant information and services for our clients.”

General services include emergency assistance for rental and utility payments, auto repair, CSA farm shares, homelessness assistance, urgent dental care. Of the 2,630 client households, Brentwood represents 35; (2023 request by Exeter was 10K). Donations from Brentwood residents: \$7,095. Of note: donations from Peach Project in Brentwood to NH Foodbank totaled for \$60K, plus additional \$19,000 + raised in December 2023; 3 food pantries in Brentwood. Participated in NH Gives.

### **TASC**

2024 Request: \$750\* **Committee approved \$750**

Previous Requests: 2020 through 2022 requested/received \$750; 2023 requested \$750, received \$690

Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$154,913/\$154,913/\$117,134

Brentwood residents served: 5 (59 rides/803 miles)

Full name: Transportation Assistance for Seacoast Citizens. Meets criteria, Goldstar rating. Completed application packet. IRS 990 2022 EZ. Serves Brentwood, East Kingston, Exeter, Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye, Seabrook, Stratham. Mission: “TASC’s mission is to help people maintain their health, independence, and dignity by mobilizing volunteer drivers to provide rides to eligible residents of the New Hampshire Seacoast. Funds will be used to defray the costs of making TASC’s volunteer driver program available to residents of Brentwood. These costs include but are not limited to outreach to the community, recruiting volunteers, volunteer background checks, insurance and mileage reimbursement.”

There is no cost to rides, voluntary donations accepted. TASC is participating in the gaming at The Brook, and are reaching out to new sources for potential grant funding. Staff, board members and volunteers are responsible for fundraising. Percentage of revenue for services vs. overhead: 15%. Donations from Brentwood residents: \$650.

### **Waypoint**

2024 Request: \$3,300\* **Committee approved \$3,300**

Previous Requests: 2020 requested \$1600, we did not fund; 2021 requested \$1500, we did not fund;

2022 no request; 2023 requested \$3300, received \$3240

Budget/Expense/Revenue: \$19,782,782/\$20,390,765/\$19,775,773

Brentwood residents served: 21 families

Meets criteria; Silver charity rating. Completed form. IRS 990 2021. Waypoint provides services statewide though programming that varies by region. Mission “empowering people of all ages through an array of human services.” Formerly Child and Family Services of NH, merged with Richie McFarland in 2022-23; Waypoint range of statewide services is much broader than RMCC offered; stronger

infrastructure. "Waypoint offers a range of services including developmental, speech, occupational and physical therapies; health care coordination, parent education, homeless youth and young adult services. Grant request will be used to support services out of the Stratham Family Resource Center; services are individualized, based on needs; coordinates services with other community providers".

Fundraising by professional staff and board members. Special efforts such as "Touch a Truck," NH Gives, donor stewardship program; stronger communications.

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Motion by Karen, second by Laura to approve \$17,357 with the following:

\$3000	Austin17House
\$1000	Community Children's Fund
\$5707	SNHS
\$2100	Meals on Wheels
\$1500	St Vincent dePaul
\$750	TASC
\$3300	Waypoint

Approved 4-0

Laura's and Lynn's terms expire this year. Lynn is stepping down, for personal reasons. Laura is still willing to serve.

Motion by Laura, seconded by Karen to adjourn at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Siudut