Seven new board members are inducted at Community House’s Annual Meeting

WEST HAVEN (Aug. 15, 2014) – At its Annual Meeting recently, the West Haven Community House inducted seven new board members including a local high school principal, a West Haven police officer, a retired principal, a former City Council member, several prominent business owners and a high-ranking college vice president.

Community House Board President Stacie Phan and West Haven Mayor Ed O’Brien, a former board member himself, both greeted members of the public, board members, staff and “Forever Friends” award winners attending the Annual Board Meeting held at the agency’s main campus at 227 Elm Street.

Phan briefly looked back at the recently completed 2013-14 fiscal year including budgetary and programmatic successes and challenges, while also looking ahead to the agency’s planned 75th anniversary celebration in 2016. Mayor O’Brien thanked everyone for their continuing efforts on behalf of the agency’s clients, including children in the Head Start pre-school, students in the agency’s School Age Programs and adults with developmental disabilities served in Day and Residential programs.

New board members inducted that evening included:

Barbara L. Thompson, an inside sales manager at The Lighting Quotient, a West Haven based manufacturer and assembler of energy efficient lighting products and solutions that was founded in 1977 by architectural lighting innovator Sy Shemitz. Thompson is a current West Haven resident who attended

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Fairfield University and Gateway Community College.

Patrick J. Clifford, the principal of Notre Dame High School of West Haven. Clifford is a West Haven resident who received his BA degree from Fairfield University, and MA degree from Southern CT State University. Clifford is affiliated with several educational organizations including the American School Counselor Association, the American Counseling Association and the National Catholic Educational Association and is a member of St. Lawrence Church.

Edward Granfield is a West Haven resident and president of Oyster River Energy Inc. of West Haven. He is a graduate of West Haven High School and attended Penn State University. Among his memberships and affiliations, Granfield is a member of the CT Energy Marketers Association, the CT Motor Transport Association and the West Haven Elks and he is active in youth sports.

Audrey L. Jefferson is a West Haven resident and is a police officer in the West Haven Police Department. She is a graduate of Platt Vocational Technical School. Officer Jefferson was assigned to Bailey Middle School as a resource officer for many years and is active in fundraising work for charitable organizations.

Thomas J. McCarthy is a West Haven resident who has been active in many community organizations including WHEAT, the West Haven Seahawks, Project Hope, local politics and youth sports. He attended St. Colmans College in County Cork, Ireland, and lists himself as a “long-suffering season ticket holder of the New York Jets.”

Thomas Miranda is a retired principal and former Kids in the Neighborhood director at the Community House. The West Haven resident attended high school in Gary, Indiana, and received his BA, MA, and CAS certification from Calumet College and Ohio State University, respectively. He is a member of the National Association for the Education of Youth Children, AARP, Casa Otonal Inc. and attends Metropolitan Community Church in New Haven. Among Miranda’s interests are child care, after school programs and community service.

Ronald M. Quagliani is a West Haven resident and former city Chief of Police who currently serves as Associate Vice President of Public Safety and Administrative Services at the University of New Haven. He attended Notre Dame High School and holds a M.S. in national security and public safety and a B.S. in criminal justice, law enforcement administration, both from the University of New Haven. He also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Quagliani is a member of the Rotary Club of West Haven, the West Haven Chamber of Commerce, the Bailey Middle and West Haven High School Governance Council and he is a board member of the Greater West Haven Federal Credit Union.

In addition to inducting new members, at the Annual Meeting fiscal year 2014-15 board officers were names, with Phan continuing as board president, Ken Prisco serving as first vice president, Bill Heffernan III as second vice president, John Onofrio as treasurer, Jay Brennan as secretary and Gene Sullivan as assistant secretary.

In addition, Nancy Guman and Frank Paolino were nominated for their second three year terms on the board. Guman is assistant vice president and branch manager at Webster Bank on Campbell Avenue, while Paolino in the principal at Carrigan Intermediate School.

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