

Minutes of the Social Services Commission Meeting
May 14, 2015 – Senior Center – 8:30 a.m.

Members present:

Rob Michalman, Faith Roebelen, Ruth Clark, Bob Brooks, MaryEllen Tunsky

Absent: M. Dufure, S. Kozaczka

Directors: Paula Pascoe, Denise Winiarski, Janet Frechette, Leslie Offenbach

Chairman R. Michalman called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Minutes of the April 9, 2015 meeting: Ms. Roebelen moved to approve the minutes; Ruth Clark seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Citizen Comment: Guest Kathy Dunai, the Town Clerk was present. She noted that there are two members that need to stop by the Town Hall to be sworn in. She would have done so today, but the two members were absent. She also distributed to the members, a sample ballot which would allow a voter to be come a permanently physically disabled elector; this ballot and accompanying doctor's certification, would allow you to receive, automatically an absentee ballot for each election, primary or referendum conducted in the Town of Suffield. This information comes from the Town Clerk, and the Registrars of Voters. It does not prevent you from actually going to the polls, should you choose. If one is interested, one can get permanently physically disabled absentee ballot application, complete it and send it to the Town Clerk's Office with a doctor's note.

Directors' Reports:

Denise Winiarski, Mini Bus Director, distributed her written report. She noted the ridership statistics for March and April, 2015. In March, 617 passengers traveled 6,704 miles on 23 days of service with the average of 27 riders per day. In April, 669 passengers traveled 8,726 miles on 22 days of service with an average of 22 per day.

Over the previous week a citizen comment regarding a Suffield minibus illegally passing a school bus was observed on social media. Director Winiarski was immediately aware and investigated this claim. It was quickly and definitively determined that no illegal actions had taken place as claimed, and the matter was closed.

Janet Frechette, Director of Suffield Social Services, EAA, distributed her written report. She noted that the Renter's Rebate program is fully functional. Applications will be taken at Maple Court on May 28.

Fuel Aid: The State program is closed to new applications. Operation Fuel has approximately \$2200 in Suffield's balance. We have until June 30 to expend this balance.

The Meals-on-Wheels (MOW) volunteers attended a recognition breakfast April 22, and Suffield's Flo Packard, reached her 40th years of service as a MOW volunteer. She also noted that the annual Mail Carrier's Food Drive was held last Saturday and the donations were wonderful and seemed more plentiful than in the past years. Ms. Frechette discussed the fact the EAA provides camp subsidies to eligible youth living in low income homes. The camps do not have to be in Suffield to be considered. Generally, eligible recipients can expect to receive \$250 per child, per summer. The expectation is that the family will pay 20% of the camp cost.

Paula Pascoe, Director of the Suffield Senior Center, distributed her written report of 4 pages. She reported the fiscal statistics of FUND 2171 – Miscellaneous Income, Miscellaneous Expense, Fitness , and noted that the Senior Center will receive some upgrades (heating, electrical, etc) for the kitchen funded by this Fund 2171.

Chairman's Update

Mr. Michalman would like to change the meeting time of the Social Services Commission. It was the consensus of the Commission, that the **JUNE 11, 2015 meeting will begin at 5 p.m. in the Senior Center** (this will be a trial meeting). A vote will be taken at the June meeting on the time. The Commission does not meet in July or August.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary SS.MINUTES.May.14.2015.TWO