

Minutes of the Social Services Commission Meeting  
Dec. 10, 2015 – Senior Center – 8:30 a.m.

Members present:

Faith Roebelen, Ruth Clark, Bob Brooks, Marcia Dufore, Maryellen Tunsky

Absent: R. Michalman, S. Skozaczka

Directors present: Paula Pascoe, Janet Frechette, Leslie Offenbach

Absent: Denise Winiarski

Vice Chairman Bob Brooks called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Citizen Comment: None

Minutes of the Nov. 12, 2015 meeting: Faith Roebelen moved to accept the minutes as amended by the change of facepage to Facebook. The minutes were seconded and approved as amended.

Directors's Reports

**Paula Pascoe, Director of the Senior Center,** reported that 120 persons attended the Thanksgiving Dinner held November 18. It was very successful. The concert, Jack and his Guitar, held December 6 was poorly attended. The Decorate the Boxwood Tree program presented by Lucille Loiseau, was well received and well attended. The Christmas dinner sponsored by the Police Department is fully booked. Lester Smith of the Suffield Observer will cover the event. A blood drive will be held at the Senior Center Dec. 15, 2015 from 1:30 til 6 p.m..

**Janet Frechette, Director of the EAA, Town Social Services,** distributed her written report. Fuel Aid: So far 103 applications have been submitted by Suffield residents. The first day residents could receive a fuel delivery from the CT Energy Assistance Program was Nov. 10. The process of certifying “urgent” application should be processed within 24 hours, but this year the process has been very slow and not efficient. OPERATION FUEL has reopened as of Nov. 11. The maximum grant is \$500 per every 12 month period. The EAA Private Fuel Bank: due to the slow processing issues with CRT, we have tapped this source more regularly than what should be typical for this time of year, and light of the milder temperatures.

**Leslie Offenbach, Youth Services Director,** reported that she was finishing up the three week cycle of enrichment program in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade focusing on feelings and empathy. She met with the school psychologist at McAlister to identify the needs of the students and what small groups she can offer to meet their needs. She is working on a “flyer” to give to the school administration describing each program that she is trained in and can offer the schools. Currently she still does not have access to Facebook from work. As of Dec. 7, IT reported that IT was too busy to this. She believes that this should be somewhat of a priority as she feels it is somewhat hindering her job and ability to communicate via social media.

Mr. Brooks noted that there will be two meetings in January; one will be a workshop to work on the Survey, and the regular meeting on Jan. 14, 2016. The date of the special workshop meeting will be posted at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary SS.MINUTES.Dec.10, 2015