

Minutes of the Social Services Commission Meeting
October 13, 2016 – Senior Center - 8:30 a.m.

Members present:

Bob Brooks, MaryEllen Tunsky, Ruth Clark, Faith Roebelen, Sharon Kozaczka. Absent: Rob Michalman, Marcia Dufore

Directors present:

Janet Frechette, Leslie Offenbach Absent: Paula Pascoe

Vice Chairman Bob Brooks chaired the meeting in the absence of Chairman Rob Michalman.

Mr. Brooks called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting: Ms. Roebelen moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Clark seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Citizen Comment: None

Directors's Reports –

Paula Pascoe, Senior Center Director, was absent, but she emailed her written report to the members of the Commission prior to the meeting. The Committee reviewed and discussed her report.

Janet Frechette, EAA Director, distributed her written report to the members. She reported that approximately 30 applications have been processed for the State's Energy Assistance Program so far. Operation Fuel: deliverable Fuels – closed. The EAA can continue to accept applications for electric and gas utilities until October 31. Meals-On-Wheels: We are still not able to add new referrals. New applicants are placed on a waiting list until more funding is available. Suffield on the Green was a great success; we recruited several new volunteers. There will be a Food Drive at the Polls, Nov. 8. to solicit donations for the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is well stocked thanks to Bob & Susan Kemp's Airways Golf Course Food Drive. The ginormous truck load of food donations was very much appreciated.

Leslie Offenbach, Director of Youth Services Bureau, distributed her written report and noted that her report had been also been emailed to members of the Commission.

*She attended the Juvenile Review Board - 2 follow up cases were reviewed

*She updated the BoS of the North Central Opioid Addiction Task Force

*She is arranging for a drug collection at the Senior Center.

*There was a very good showing (14 persons) at the Suffield Local Prevention Council.

*On November 17, at 7 p.m – A Public Forum, “Drug Abuse in Suffield: It’s Here, It’s real.

*She continues to participate in the Community Advisory Board spearheaded by the School Superintendent.

Chairman’s Update: Mr. Michalman advised the Commission by email of the status of the Survey. The survey was processed and went out in the mail on Tuesday of this week. He asked the Commission if they would consider printing some extra Surveys to distribute to town residents. The deadline is October 31. He will keep the Commission updated of the Survey/Review of results.

Unfinished Business:

- A. The hoarding issue will be placed again on the next agenda for discussion.
- B. The coordination of bus trips with joint effort of the Senior Center, Parks & Recreation and Mini Bus will be placed on the Agenda for discussion.

New Business: none

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary SS.Minutes.13.2016