

Minutes of the Social Services Commission
Nov. 12, 2009 – Senior Center – 8:15 a.m.

Members present: Ernie Petkovich, David Reed Brown, Ruth Clark, Linda Formanek, Shirley Edmonds Van Allen Absent: F. Roebelen, Sarah Leahey
Directors Paula Pascoe, Peter Black, Janet Frechette Absent: D. Winiarski

Chairman Petkovich called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Directors' Reports:

Youth Services **Peter Black** distributed his written report. He noted that Chrystine Longley, is now officially a member of the Town Hall Union. The state grant was accepted and funds were released for this year. Programs offered: Middle School Quest, (3 days a week, team building activities to 50 students at SMS; Red Ribbon, (funded the purchase of tulip bulbs, signifying the commitment of youth against drug involvement, tulips planted in front of the school) and team building classes at McAlister.

Director **Janet Frechette**, EAA Social Services, distributed her written report.

Highlights noted: Fuel Aid, 105 applications so far. Many applications were processed prior to the Nov. 1 start date. Donations to Fuel Bank have been good. Meals-On-Wheels – We are seeking new volunteers and we introduced new computer scheduling program to volunteers. Health Fair and Flu Shot Clinic – This was very successful – approximately 210 shots were administered.

Holiday Baskets - So far 85 households have registered for both Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. This is really high number of requests.

Senior Center Director **Paula Pascoe** distributed her written report and also her annual report of activities. She updated the Commission regarding the construction progress of the new Senior Center. She is pleased to report that \$214,000 of the target of \$386,000 has been raised through grants and very generous private donations.

MiniBus Director **Denise Winiarski** sent her written reports for September and for October for distribution to the board. She noted in her September report that the Town still does not know if the Municipal Matching grant which was cut from the Governor's budget has been restored. If these funds are cut, 19 hours of service would be lost. She also submitted her year summary of MiniBus services and ridership numbers. She reported 728 passengers traveled 5,184 miles on 20 days of service, fuel usage, 647 gallons for the month of October.

Chairman's Report – Mr. Petkovich asked that the Directors send him their input for the annual report so he may incorporate the data in the Social Services Commission annual report.

He asked the Directors to bring drafts of their proposed budgets to the Dec. 10 meeting, providing they have received their budget packets from the Finance Office by then, and if not, proposed budgets will be reviewed at the Jan. 14, 2010 meeting. He advised the Directors to include real needs in the proposed budgets, even if new line items are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary SS.MINUTES.Nov.12.09

