

Minutes of the Social Services Commission Meeting
Dec. 11, 2008 – Senior Center – 8:00 a.m.

Members present: Sarah Leahey, David Reed-Brown, Ruth Clark, Faith Roebelen,
Absent: E. Petkovich, L. Formanek, S. Edmonds Van Allen
Also present: Selectman John G. Smith, Directors Frechette, Winiarski, Pasco, and Black
Vice Chairman Sarah Leahey called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
Minutes: Ms. Roebelen moved to approve the minutes of the Nov. 13, 2008 meeting; Ms.
Clark seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Budget Reviews

- Town Social Services – Director Janet Frechette distributed her budget report. The current memorandum of understanding between the Town of Suffield and the Emergency Aid Association extends through June 30, 2012. The EAA is requesting that the Town of Suffield increase compensation by 3%. It is important to note that the demands of delivering social services to Suffield residents have risen considerably over the last few months. Economic factors have impacted all of our needs-based programs. She noted that the 3% increase does not maintain current services, because of the increase of needs for social service.
- Mini Bus – Director Denise Winiarski distributed her budget report. Statistics for November: 754 one way passengers, 5,252 miles, 18 days of service, 42 one way pick ups per day, 587 gallons of fuel used. The payroll reflects union contract salary increases. Non union drivers rate of increase requested: 3%. The proposed budget reflects a zero hour increase for service. The Director noted that usage by adult handicapped has increased as has other demand for transportation by the senior population.
- Senior Center – Director Paula Pascoe distributed her budget report. The payroll (union) reflects contracted salary increases, 3.5%. Other Utilities line item reflects the increased cost of gas, increase of \$1,000, total of \$7,000. It was noted that she had also included a projected budget for 2010-2011 at Calvary Church. Ms. Pascoe requested that the Social Services Commission participate in the Capital Campaign planning. The first meeting will be Jan. 13, 2009 at the Senior Center.
- Youth Services – Director Peter Black distributed his budget report. His proposed budget is flat. He has adjusted the postage line item and the tools and equipment line item in order to provide a cell phone for the Assistant Youth Services Director. After review of his budget; Ms. Leahey stated that she believes in budgeting realistically for both positions. The mileage should be increased to \$900, sufficient for the two positions. A salary increase of 3% should be reflected in the budget. Mr. Black will include the new figures as recommended, and will present a revised budget to the First Selectman.

Vice Chairman Leahey noted the following items for the Agenda of the Jan. 8, 09 meeting:
Mr. Black - update/Juvenile Review Board
Discussion - the capital campaign for the new senior center

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

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary SS.MIN.DEC.11.08