



Town of Suffield

Social Services Commission

Thursday, March 9, 2023 - 8:30 AM Meeting Minutes

Held at Suffield Town Hall/Hybrid Teleconference

Call recording available on Town website under Social Services Commission (SSC)

Commission Members Present: Marcia DuFore-Chair, Robin Zatony-Vice Chair, Sharon Bruno, and Nathan Prusi

Department Heads Present: Colin Moll – 1st Selectman
Peter Leclerc – Director of Community Services
Danielle Annibalini – Community Aid

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1. Chair Marcia DuFore called the meeting to order at 8:33 am. Commission Members and Department Heads listed above introduced themselves.
 2. The minutes from the February 9, 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. Vice Chair Robin Zatony made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Sharon Bruno seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 3. Public Comment - NO PUBLIC COMMENT
 4. Department Reports
 - a. Suffield Youth Services – Peter Leclerc updated the Commission on the search for a new director. It is going slow currently. The long hours, more than just 8 am to 4 pm, could be a contributing factor.
 - b. Suffield Community Aid – Danielle Annibalini said that the renters rebate will start up again on April 1, 2023. Spring baskets for 90-100 children will happen the first week of April. There are up to \$400 per child per week financial aid options to attend summer camp. A bereavement group will begin meeting on April 14, 2023 in the Community Aid building. Vice Chair Robin Zatony will provide food availability flyers for the event.
 - c. Suffield Senior Center – Peter Leclerc updated the Commission on the mini-bus. February 2023 was a short, utilized month. They have received state funding for the vans. Two-third of private donations were received to purchase a new vehicle. A car has been purchased for seniors. Senior luncheons had an attendance of 353 for February. They are seeing lots of new faces. There is a welcoming committee that helps greatly with welcoming new people. Enrichment programs are coming up. Painting classes were well attended. There are lots of activities for individuals of all ages.
 - d. Suffield Housing Authority – no one present.
 5. Old Business
 - a. Affordable Housing Task Force Update – Vice Chair Robin Zatony spoke regarding emails back and forth about affordable housing. To provide affordable housing for individuals usually means denser and smaller areas to help with the reduction in cost.

Suffield Social Services Commission

Minutes from March 9, 2023

Page 2

- b. Food Security – Vice Chair Robin Zatony updated the Commission on the group meeting recently and that it has expanded. They will meet again next week. There is less and less funding for this need. State funding was renewed for the free lunch program at the schools.
 - c. Senior Services Fair – Vice Chair Robin Zatony has lots of idea about it and will send them to Peter Leclerc’s assistant. The Commission was asked to collect book titles and authors to help with issues individuals may have so that they could have a resource. These will be included on a flyer to have available at the fair.
6. New Business - NONE
 7. The next meeting for the Suffield Social Services Commission will be held Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 8:30 am at the Town Hall with a Zoom option available.
 8. Vice Chair Robin Zatony made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting for the Suffield Social Services Commission at 9:29 a.m. Sharon Bruno seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Irwin
Recording Secretary

c: Town Clerk
Commission Members
Department Heads