

Commission on Social Services Minutes  
Minutes, May 13, 2010

**Attending:** Judy Zucker, Peg Koellmer, Sue Chalons-Browne, Cathy Pierce, Beth Mason, Betty-Jo Corridon, Judy Mabley, Christine Pfeffer, Roseanne Desimone

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm and the April 8, 2010 minutes were approved.

**.Director's Report: Cathy Pierce.**

Jeffrey Weiser, new Executive Director of Homes With Hope, will speak with us this fall. Jeffrey is taking Peter Powell's place. Cathy reported that the town website includes many ways financial planning and aid may be obtained through town services. There are new cases being addressed every week, and Cathy sees the effects of the stress of frequent financial issues trickling down to the schoolchildren as well as to adults. Unemployment and housing foreclosures are becoming more common. Banking and other lending institutions have various policies and information is often difficult to find.

The Food Pantry is used often. Food is provided by the Village Market and Stop & Shop displays new, attractive food bins prepared by Kiwanis.

**Guest Speaker: Christine Pfeffer, RN-Executive Director of Mid Fairfield Hospice**

Christine described Mid Fairfield Hospice as a non-profit, licensed home care and hospice agency providing quality end-of-life care to patients and their families in our community. The Hospice program is in partnership with Nursing & Home Care and is affiliated with many care-giving facilities in the area, providing caregivers, counseling and respite care. Its major Life Focus Program's goal is to have its clients remain at home as long as possible. The agency works with families exploring the benefits of private insurance and Medicare as well.

**Liaison Updates:**

**Trackside Teen Center: Peg Koellmer**

Peg has been diligently working with the board and members of The Center, exploring fund-raising and ways to increase attendance by the teens and also families. Collaborative programming with town activities and facilities, including the Y, are both creative and productive. A fund-raiser is planned for May 8.

**New Business:**

Cathy announced there will be a Board of Selectmen meeting Monday, May 17 at 7:30 PM. Issues involving CSS and Cathy's report to the Selectmen are on the docket. We are urged to attend.

Sue described a meeting with a representative from B&K Furniture and committee members on June 6 at 7:00 AM. Possible redesign of the Senior Center Room was discussed, including covering the doorways leading to the gymnasium and addressing the ceiling. Changes in the room's interior will likely include furniture, wall and ceiling treatments, book and other wall displays, fabrics and colors.

A discussion was held concerning our June 10 meeting. Included were: cups and plates, utensils, linens, invitations, gifts and food to be prepared.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm

**Next Meeting: 5:30 to 7:00 pm Thursday, June 10, 2010  
Teen Center - Trackside**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Mabley  
Co-Secretary

