

MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF JAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE-OCTOBER 2, 2025

ATTENDEES: Robin Licari, Wally Walters and Lynn Ladieu. **ABSENT:** Kathy Connelly, Maddie Savage, George McCabe

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Robin contacted Schelling McKinley and he reported that the land has been cleared for the Orchard Lane Home and a family is pursuing financing for the home. If the financing does not come through then project will start next year.

EXPANDING HEALTH CARE: Mercy Care of the Adirondacks continues to be a popular program in the Town and surrounding Towns

CHILD CARE: Robin has tried the online link given by Alan Jones of ACAP regarding finding Child Care in our area. The site listed a Child Care Center at 14207 Rt. 9N which is the location of Holy Cross which has the Early Head Start and Head Start program. Robin has emailed Alan asking for confirmation if there is a Child Care Center at this location. No response at this time. Lynn talks about the Child Care Center in Keeseville which is less expensive and has more hours of care than Little Peaks in Keene. Robin will obtain more information regarding the Keeseville Child Care Center. Wally states that the issues of Child Care in this community will be in the Comprehensive Plan for the Town. Robin reports that 90% of Child Care in our area are in private homes where the childcare workers are not registered. Therefore, there is no ability to list these private homes. Robin talks about the attempts by ACAP to train childcare workers to become registered and how they support these child care workers that have been regulated. There is a person designated by ACAP, Erykah Davis to help residents find registered childcare workers in this area. Lynn questions what is the need in the Town. Wally states the surveys distributed by the Comprehensive Special Planning Board did not address the need in the Town.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: The Chalk the Walk event on September 27th was very successful with 12 sidewalk squares completed at the Au Sable Free Library and the Tahawus Cultural Center. Robin states that her favorite square was done by a 9 year old with a big pink cat head with the message "Always have a Pawsitive Catitude". One of the most successful things about the event was people talking about the high risk of suicide and the prevalence in the community. QPR is still being considered for the future. Essex County Suicide Prevention Team has designated their next 5K Race for Suicide Prevention to be in the Town of Jay. Robin has obtained the Iron Man Route through the Town of Jay as the possible route to be used. Race will be on June 14th.

YOUTH AND RECREATION: Kathy continues to work with the Upper Jay Art Center regarding having a Junior Jam session at their venue. Robin reports establishing a school contact with the School Social Worker, Alexis Bechard.

FOOD BANK: Robin talks about her difficulty working with the representative, Idris Morgan from the Regional Food Bank. He is very young and has routinely given her misinformation. She requested the name of his Supervisor and Idris sent her first name. Robin requested full name and contact information. The good news is that people from the community have volunteered. Robin states that the staff of the Food Bank will have to pick up the food from Plattsburgh on Mondays every two weeks which means that Food Bank will have to store more food. Robin met with Cheryl Gill, Director of the Food Bank at Jay/Wilmington Ecumenical Food Bank who is very supportive and helpful. Lynn talks about the JCAO Food Bank in Black Brook and suggests Robin also visits this site that is open on Mondays and Thursdays. Wally states that his wife Terry is willing to build cabinets and gives time frames when Terry would be available. Lynn talks about the AVCS Backpack Program at the Elementary School which is also a partner of the Regional Food Bank.

NEXT MEETING: November 6th

ADJOURNMENT