

## **MINUTES FOR TOWN OF JAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE – AUGUST 7, 2025**

**ATTENDANCE:** Kathy Connelly, Wally Walters, Lynn Ladieu, Robin Licari

**ABSENT:** Sue Pagano, George McCabe and Maddie Savage

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Robin discusses conversation with Schell McKinley from Habitat for Humanity. Habitat continues to look for a family for home to be built in Town of Jay. There were problems regarding sending an incorrect application to families and families not realizing they would need preapproval from a bank. Robin asked Schell for a new application and has not received the application at this time.

**BLIGHT WITHIN THE TOWN:** Link to the Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers was included in a post to JCN. Copies of the Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers will be distributed at Jay Day. There is a copy posted at the Town Community Center. Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers information was referred to in posting in JCN as an alternative to prevent incidents of dumping at the Stickney Bridge. Kathy states she will continue to look into annual recycling events throughout the year and post on the Town of Jay calendar. Robin will ask Adirondack Enterprise to use information from the Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers in their 2026 Community Resource Guide. Robin will ask Town Supervisor to add information about Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers in his next quarterly Supervisor's report.

**EXPANDING HEALTH CARE:** Referrals continue to Mercy Care of the Adirondacks from many different organizations including MHA for services such as respite and transportation to medical appointments. Robin talks about methods to streamline the referral process. Currently Mercy Care volunteers are providing services to 7 individuals in Keene, Wilmington and Jay. Robin expects demand will increase and more volunteers will be needed.

**MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE:** Robin is now a member of the BRIEF (Building Resistance In Essex Families) program which includes a Zoom meeting with all the Directors of the various Behavioral Health and Human Services organizations in Essex County. Robin states that SUNY representative did a presentation regarding providing apprenticeships to people seeking education in fields such as CASAC, dental hygienist and CNA. SUNY gives \$6,000 worth of educational classes to eligible individuals who are in the apprenticeship program. Robin talks about the QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) program and shows a short video from this program. Robin is interested in presenting this information to residents in the Town of Jay because it is educational and geared towards the general public. Lynn suggests coordinating with the Schools when they return in September.

**YOUTH AND RECREATION:** Brian Heinz presented a very interesting and educational creative writing class at the Au Sable Free Library. 10 people originally attended first session but only 3 attended the second session. Committee members discuss reaching out to cultural organizations such as Upper Jay Arts Center, JEMS, and Tahawus Cultural Center about presenting programs for teens. Kathy will reach out to Gabrielle Schultz from the Upper Jay Arts Center regarding January Jam having a Junior Jam also. Kathy likes the Upper Jay vibe for teens.

**FOOD BANK:** St. James Episcopal Church has applied to become a Regional Food Bank. Regional Food Bank has 3 months to respond to this request. Food must be in locked cabinets in Parish Hall because the area is also utilized for fellowship and AA meetings. Some of the storage of food will be at the Town Community Center due to lack of space at the St. James Episcopal Church. Robin is optimistic that the Regional Food Bank will approve the application. Carol Hackel, Town Clerk will have access to the Food Bank. Lynne talks about the importance of communication with Carol regarding inventory.

**NEXT MEETING:** September 4, 2025

**ADJOURNMENT:**