

MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF JAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 5, 2026

ATTENDANCE: Robin Licari, Wally Walters, Lynn Ladieu, Kathy Connelly and Maddie Savage

ABSENT: George McCabe

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Bus Stop Enclosure: Wally Walters and Kathy Connelly state that people waiting for the bus near TOPS are exposed to inclement weather and suggests an enclosure at the bus stop. Kathy Connelly will contact Doreen Abrahamson, Essex County Transportation Coordinator to obtain the bus usage in Au Sable Forks to determine the number of people utilizing bus service in Au Sable Forks. Robin had contacted Doreen regarding bus access to Town of Jay residents.

Expanding Health Care:

Robin knows of one person who has completed the Mercy Care of the Adirondacks Volunteer Training on Feb. 4th. Robin is looking forward to working with additional volunteers to help keep Seniors in their home. There is a new Volunteer Coordinator, Krista Berger who was previously the Essex County WIC Director. Robin talks about a new program at Mercy Care “Health Care Companion Advocate Volunteer Program”. Robin is considering taking this class.

Child Care/Day Care:

No new information reported.

Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health:

Vivid Life Run in Town of Jay – tentative date June 6th. Robin continues to work with Essex County Suicide Prevention Team regarding their 5K race in the Town of Jay.

Youth and Recreation: Kathy Connelly will reach out to music teachers at AVCSs regarding student interest in a jam session at Upper Jay Arts Center this year.

Food Pantry:

Site Visit of the Regional Food Bank of the Northeast scheduled for Feb. 10th at 12:30 PM. Robin reports new donations from Stewarts, Wards Lumber and Rotary Club. Two Grant applications have been applied for from the Adirondack Community Foundation. Food Pantry is doing well and being utilized by people living in Town of Jay and Au Sable Forks. This month’s average of use was 46 people per week.

New Business:

Thrift Store in Au Sable Forks should be opening soon to help ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. Lynn Ladieu talks about the Thrift store that is coming to A Sable Forks on Main Street and how it will help ALICE households.

Cell Phone Coverage:

Group discusses the continuation of poor cell phone coverage in the Town. Group decides to make this a continuing topic for the Human Services Committee because it is a safety issue for everyone in the Town. People are using their cell phones and no longer have land lines. On November 13th, Town Board responded to the Au Sable Free Library petitions containing over 400 people. The video will be reviewed, and Town Supervisor will be asked to attend the next meeting to give an update.

Volunteerism: Wally Walters would like volunteerism to be a continuing topic for the Human Services Committee. Wally talks about the role of Beth and Tim Rowland from the JCN regarding gathering information about who is in need of a service and who is willing to volunteer. Robin states that role of Human Services Committee would need further clarification.

Next Meeting: March 5th

Adjournment: