

Fairfield Township Board Meeting Minutes January 19th, 2009

Present: Township Trustee, Julie Collins; Board Members Steve Needham, Margaret McCabe and Marjorie Fitzgerald; Township Attorney, Cy Gerde; Township employee, Susan Parkinson; and visitor, Kathleen Clark.

Meeting Called to Order: Chairman Needham called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Minutes: The minutes from the January 6, 2009 meeting were read silently. A motion to approve was made by McCabe and seconded by Needham. The minutes were approved unanimously without corrections.

Old Business: January 20, 2009 party to honor Board members was rescheduled for February 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. Location and details remain the same.

New business:

- A. Trustee Collins presented the Annual Report for 2008 to the Board for approval. Collins advised the Board that Net Results was having difficulty configuring their system with the State Board of Accounts, but that Net Results has until January 31st to correct the problems. The Annual Report will be published February 12th in the leader and Journal & Courier. **Needham made a motion to approve the 2008 Annual Report as presented; McCabe seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**
- B. Collins opened discussion regarding the Township’s contract with Salvation Army and whether we should renew the contract for \$13,200, reduce the amount, or not renew the contract at all. The contract is for budget counseling and emergency housing referrals for our clients. General agreement was reached that while an on-going, positive relationship between the two offices is important, further discussion with Salvation Army and investigation into other budget counseling options is warranted before a decision can be made. **Needham made a motion to table discussion of the Salvation Army contract; McCabe seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**
- C. Collins opened discussion regarding the Township’s contract with Tippecanoe Community Health Clinic. Contract is primarily for client prescription referrals. The Board agreed that the Clinic is a valuable community resource for the under/un-insured members of the community and that the Township should continue support. **McCabe made a motion to approve the contract (\$20,000 for 2009); Needham seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**
- D. Collins proposed a resolution to raise the Fairfield Township Standard’s Maximum Gross Monthly Income Limit to 100% of the 2009 federal poverty level, allowing for the following deductions: 1) medical costs for elderly and/or disabled household members (“elderly” referring to those members who are age 60 or older and “disabled” referring to members who are receive SSI, VA Disability or Medicaid as a blind or disabled individual); 2) documented court-ordered child support payments; and 3) 50% of documented dependent care (child care). **McCabe made a motion to approve the resolution to raise the Maximum Gross Monthly Income Limit with allowances included; Needham seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**

Household Size	Maximum Gross Income
1	\$ 867.00
2	\$ 1,167.00
3	\$ 1,467.00
4	\$ 1,767.00
5	\$ 2,067.00
6	\$ 2,367.00
7	\$ 2,667.00
8	\$ 2,967.00

Each additional member add + \$ 300.00

E. McCabe expressed concern over public awareness and perception of the Trustee's office. Discussion was held regarding the political movement to centralize and consolidate Trustee's offices; business and political entities that support the movement; reasons for wanting to do so; concerns that centralization would diminish the opportunity for valuable, individualized casework (with examples from our office); and what Board members and staff might be able to do to help. Collins reminded the Board of her trip to the Statehouse in February to meet face-to-face with legislators. She also mentioned inviting legislators to our office. McCabe suggested sending letters or submitting advertisements to the Journal & Courier. Attorney Cy Gerde proposed setting up an e-mail data base. The suggestion was also made that clients sign a petition to put the Trustee's office on the bus route.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 10th, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment: McCabe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Needham. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Margaret McCabe, Secretary
Fairfield Township

MM/sp