Commission on Social Services Minutes February 12, 2009

Attending: Cathy Pierce, Peg Koellmer, Sue Chalons-Browne, Edward Raposa, Judy Zucker, Leslie Rogers, Judy Mabley

The meeting, chaired by Leslie Rogers, was called to order at 5:45 pm.

January 8, 2009 minutes were approved.

Director's Report – Cathy Pierce

Cathy discussed an April training session for new CHOICES volunteers offered by the Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on Aging. She hoped to find two Wilton volunteers who would pursue the training and then assist Wilton residents with Medicare and Medicaid questions and long-term care needs. Sue Chalons-Browne and Peg Koellmer expressed an interest in this training program.

There are a growing number of new families (17 families during the past two months) in need of fuel and energy assistance, access to the Comstock food pantry and information relating to foreclosure and other economic concerns. Community organizations are helping to keep the food pantry well-stocked.

Expanded information related to the Social Services Department on the town website is planned.

Wilton Social Services Department staff has been meeting with social service departments in neighboring towns to discuss ways to help area families learn more about available economic resources and strategies. A regional one-day event ("Consumer University") will address these recession-related issues on April 18th.

Other Business

The Angel Food Ministries website is recommended reading.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting – March 12, 2009 5:30 to 7 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Mabley, Co-Secretary