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BY: LK

**Wilton Social Services Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, September 14 at 6:00 PM  
Senior Center Lounge at Comstock Community Center**

**Present:** Sarah Heath, Pam Kelley, Deborah Low, Anne Mitrione, Michael O'Connell, Christine Tenore

**Guests:** Phoebe Musico, L.C.S.W., Adult and Family Social Worker

**Others:** Stephanie Kim of the Wilton Villager

**1. Welcome and review of the role of the commission**

Pam Kelley welcomed commissioners to the meeting and reviewed the role of the commission. Christine Tenore read the charge. Debbie Low suggested reviewing the Commission's goals in a future meeting.

**2. Review of the minutes of the special meeting on June 15, 2017**

Motion made by Pam Kelley, seconded by Ann Mitrione, to approve the minutes as submitted. No objections noted.

**3. Staff Guest: Phoebe Musico, L.C.S.W., Adult and Family Social Worker**

Pam introduced Phoebe to the commissioners. Phoebe described her role in the department and summarized her activities in July and August. Phoebe also described her previous work experiences.

**4. Director's Report**

Sarah reviewed the report that was previously submitted to Commissioners and answered questions.

Discussion regarding Sarah's involvement in the Blight Issues in town.

Discussion regarding the food pantry, how it is stocked and when. Also, an explanation was given about the way the food pantry is stocked (donations, drives, town budget and Wilton Community Assistance Fund) and how it is always has food available.

A few questions came up regarding the JRB and Go Zen, Colleen Fawcett of Wilton Youth Services is always available to answer specific questions, and she will attend the Commission meeting in January.

### 3. Review of commissioners' term start and end dates

At a recent meeting with First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, Genevieve learned that there has been confusion about Commissioners' term start and end dates. All terms begin on Dec. 1 and end on Nov. 30. Mike circulated an updated Roster of Commissioners, with revised term end dates.

Commissioners who were appointed on other dates were filling a vacated seat and finishing their predecessor's term. Several Commissioners' terms are expiring on November 30. If they would like to be reappointed, they should let Genevieve know. She will pass their names on to Lynne.

### 4. Discussion: Guest speakers for future meetings.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of inviting guest speakers to future meetings. They considered organizations and individuals in the community whose work they would like to learn more about.

One idea is someone to overview affordable housing and how it works in Wilton. Sarah Heath will investigate. Another suggestion was someone Christine Tenore knows who can speak on the senior population. Pam Kelley will will investigate having Lynn Sapphire from United Health Care R &D come and present to the commission

### 5. Regional "Wellness Month" in October

Genevieve is the town representative to the Southwest Regional Mental Health Board (SWRMHB), our regional grass-roots mental health group which was established by the legislature. In September, SWRMHB organizes wellness events across lower Fairfield County. The goal is two-fold: to offer people information about promoting

mental and emotional wellness, and to screen people for anxiety, depression, substance use and other common problems and refer those who are at-risk to treatment.

Genevieve is going to approach the Wilton Y about the possibility of them hosting a wellness table at an October event, or even in the lobby on a weekday. In the past, they hosted a weekday morning table which was well-received by Y visitors. Genevieve and Sarah will staff the table. Genevieve will offer information and activities, and Sarah will handle screenings and referral.

Discussion on events coming up in Wilton for a wellness table, concern being privacy/confidentiality for screenings. One idea was the Village Market and another was the Library book sale.

6. Adjourn

Next meeting – October 12

Respectfully submitted,

Mike O'Connell, Secretary

