Minutes

Plainfield Social Concerns Committee

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Cutler Memorial Library

 At a meeting duly warned by public posting, the Plainfield Social Concerns Committee met to consider applications and make recommendations for funding for 2018. The committee has three members and all three members were present: Mary Niebling, Sarah Albert, and Gail Falk.

 The committee reviewed each of the applications and made recommendations based on the following factors:

* The number of Plainfield residents served
* The importance of the services for the health, safety, and well-being of Plainfield residents
* The importance of the services in addressing poverty, abuse, and homelessness
* The extent to which the services are provided to low income and vulnerable Plainfield residents
* The amount funded by the Town of Plainfield in previous years
* Other sources of funding for the services proposed and the agency’s overall budget.
* How the request compares with requests for organizations of similar size and scope

The committee agreed on recommendations for each application with one exception. The majority of the committee decided not to fund the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, on the grounds that Twin Valley Senior Center provides health and nutrition and social services to Plainfield seniors, and Plainfield residents who use the Montpelier Senior Activity Center are people who are able to drive to Montpelier and who are able to pay for classes. Sarah Albert disagreed on the grounds that the Montpelier Senior Center provides a much richer array of exercise and educational programs, and at more times of day than TVSC, and that Plainfield residents would benefit from a lower fee for classes and programs if Plainfield contributed to the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. The recommendations of the committee are reflected in the spreadsheet prepared by Mary Niebling. The total amount recommended is $13,661.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Falk