

**Wenham Issues of Social Service and Housing (WISSH)**  
**Board Meeting**  
**February 3, 2009**  
**8:00am**

**Board Members Present:** Trudy Reid, Pat Purdy, Jane Pedersen, Susan Carp, Don Killam, Sue Harnish, Cal Perkins, Tom Tanous.

**Not in Attendance:** Ann Shaw, Don Luxton

The meeting began at 8am.

Minutes of the previous meeting in December were approved.

Items discussed:

- The fund raising effort was a success, with 85 households donating a total of \$7,885. This does not include the pending donation from the First Church of Wenham in the amount of \$1000.
- Pat Purdy has completed the annual report letter and will send it to Town Hall.
- WISSH committee needs to tidy up the web site information. We need to include a mission statement, telephone number for contact, and possibly a place to make a donation.
- Trudy Reid the town's liaison to WISSH indicate that the Lion's Club offers assistance up to \$100 for eye glass frames and up to \$50 for eye exams.
- There was discussion on the MA Open Meeting Law. Applications for financial assistance need to be approved by the Chairperson and 2 board members.
- Discussion again arose about the need to move the "housing" portion of our mission to a new committee that posses more knowledge of real estate, construction issues and legal issues regarding same. Pat Purdy is working on this with Jeff Chelgren, Town Administrator.
- WISSH received 2 requests for Financial Assistance. Approval was obtained for case 249-2009. The other request was from an organization that houses people in transition but this request is outside of our charter and denied.
- Pat Purdy received Ann Shaw's resignation letter. Ann's professional commitments prevent her from participating on the board. We thank Ann Shaw for over 9 years of service to the Board of WISSH.
- The board needs to cultivate new board members, not only to replace Ann Shaw but to add to the committee
- Future meeting dates are May 5, 2009, June 2, 2009, and October 6, 2009.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55am.

Submitted by Susan Carp, Secretary