

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
Lake County,) } SS.
Town of Shields)

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP met at the Shields Township Office for a Special Meeting to interview applicants for social service grants for the current fiscal year on February 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: <u>Gale Strenger Wayne</u>	Supervisor
<u>Laura Carney</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Mary Woodson</u>	Town Trustee

Trustees Lynn Baehr and Cele Bull and Clerk David Barkhausen were absent.

I. Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Strenger Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was taken, reflecting those present and absent as noted above.

III. Social Service Grant Applicant Presentations

The Board heard presentation from eight of twelve applicants for social service grants for the current fiscal year. The other four were to be heard from on February 18th.

1./2. Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Senior Center and Family Services

Present were Les Hammar, Roger Mohr and Marge Burda from the Senior Center and Janet Fryer (Senior Advocate) and Frank Wagner (Ms. Fryer's supervisor) from Family Services.

The two agencies together are requesting a combined total of \$30,000 - \$25,000 for the Senior Center and \$5,000 to Family Services to fund a portion of the Senior Advocate position. The total cost for the position is approximately \$70,000. (In the past, money from Shields going to the Senior Center went directly to transportation, but the Senior Center has received a one-time gift to fund the transportation for this year).

The Senior Advocate position has been in place since the 1970's and has been funded by United Way through 2009. However, changes in the local United Way chapter have put that funding in doubt. The United Way of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff has been absorbed into United Way of the North Shore which is focusing on health and wellness programs in the most needy communities. Also, there is a new rule that they will no longer cover more than 40 percent of the cost of any program.

Ms. Fryer provides a number of services to senior citizens in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. Seventy-four percent of her clients live in Shields Township. She does home visits for those who are unable to come to the Senior Center. She facilitates two support groups and provides basic social services to at least eight clients per day. Mr. Hammar pointed out that by helping seniors obtain the services they need to stay in their own homes, the senior advocate saves significant tax dollars. Winchester House, the local nursing home costs taxpayers approximately \$61,499 per resident per year.

3. Mother's Trust

Executive Director Cheri Richardson spoke for Mother's Trust. They are asking for \$15,000 this year.

Mothers Trust is a non-profit organization based in Lake Forest and offering assistance to children in need in Lake County.

Ms. Richardson provided a report showing how the funds from Shields Township were spent last year. Many of the services provided by Mother's Trust complement or replace Emergency Assistance or General Assistance provided by Shields Township. According to Supervisor Strenger Wayne, fifty percent of Shields Township cases are referred to Mother's Trust.

According to Ms. Richardson, 10 percent of their referrals come from Shields Township. Ms. Richardson noted that most of their clientele lives in Shields Township and that there has been an increase in requests from Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. In 2008, they handled 75 cases referred from Shields for a total of \$11,274, aiding 159 children at an average cost of \$70 per child. In 2009, they handled 98 cases from Shields for a total of \$11,578, assisting 211 children at \$55 per child.

In 2008 Mothers Trust gave away \$175,000. In 2009, they had a shortage of funds and had to implement a moratorium on any housing assistance (security deposits, rent, utility bills) from August to November. The total amount they gave away in 2009 was \$125,000. For 2010, they are very positive about their fundraising efforts and are hoping they will not have to limit any funding requests like they did last year.

4. Daisy's Resource Center

Dr. Daisy Brooks represented Daisy's Resource Center, accompanied by her husband, Waddell Brooks. They are requesting \$5,000 this year to support their vocational program. It includes courses in cosmetology, nursing, child development associates, GED, computer and basic office skills. The grant would subsidize the tuition costs for these programs. Many of the students cannot afford to pay full tuition for these programs. Almost all of the students attending the vocational programs are from North Chicago and Shields Township because of their location in North Chicago.

5. Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (Formerly known as LACASA)

Alexandra Beiriger, Grant Manager, represented the Zacharias Center. They are requesting \$5,000 for this year. (Our records show no funding of Zacharias for the last 4 years. However, Ms. Beireger was quite certain they did receive funding in 2007 and told the Board she would provide that information).

They are the only rape crisis service in Lake County. They provide advocacy, counseling, and prevention and education services. In 2009, they served 1,009 people in Shields Township, 60 percent of which were children under the age of 18. The \$5,000 requested would go to the children's program to fund travel, programming and professional training.

6. NICASA (Northern Illinois Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse)

Tricia Bowdidge represented NICASA. They are requesting \$4,000. (Our records reportedly show no funding for the last four years, but she is certain we have funded them in the past. Ms. Bowdidge submitted a supplementary letter stating that NICASA received Township funding of \$4,000 in 2007/2008, \$3,200 in 2006/2007, \$2,000 in 1999/2000, \$2,000 in 1998/1999, and \$2,000 in 1997/1998.)

NICASA provides comprehensive substance abuse, prevention, intervention, treatment and support services for women. They run an outpatient program in North Chicago, which includes transportation to and from treatment and child, care. They provide these services at no charge at their North Chicago site. As part of the treatment process, they help the women obtain housing, employment counseling and job skills training.

They have experience a 15% cut in their State funding. Their grant receipts are down as well. They are currently seeing a strong increase in demand for their services in North Chicago.

7. Lake County University of Illinois Extension

Vickie Brown and James Reaves represented the University of Illinois' Extension program. The Extension provides a number of educational programs that takes the research from U. of I. out into the community. Among other things, they provide after school education for children through 4-H and other programs.

They are asking for \$2,600 to fund 100 children to participate in an after-school program in North Chicago at the cost of \$26 per child. They have not received money from Shields Township in the past. They have received a majority of their funding from the State. That funding has been cut, and they are seeking alternative sources of support.

8. GLASA (Great Lakes Adaptive Sports Association)

Cindy Housner represented GLASA, which provides sports and recreational programming for youth and adults with physical or visual handicaps. There are no geographical boundaries to participate in their programs. Many of their programs are held at the Great Lakes Naval Base. This summer they are hosting the National Junior Disability Championships for 300 participants and their families. They are requesting \$3,000. They have not received money from Shields Township in the past.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting concluded with no formal adjournment at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Attest

David N. Barkhausen, Town Clerk ¹

¹ The minutes were prepared from notes taken at the meeting by Trustee Laura Carney.