

Personnel Action Committee
Minutes for 02/01/18 meeting
Starting Time: 6:10 p.m.



Committee members – Ralph Figy (present), William Onyski (present), Cindy Harris, Chair (present)

The Law Dept. has requested that this Committee ask if anyone is recording, audio or video, or live streaming this meeting. If so, please state your name --- none.

Agenda Item #1

The appointment of Eileen Rockwal, 5 Blueberry Ridge, as a member of the Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021, replacing Barbara Sokolowski, resigning.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Ms. Rockwal is very interested in serving on this Board. She states she has a strong desire to give back to our Community and believes this becomes evident when seeing her past accomplishments which include being on the Westfield State University Alumni Council for 7 years, chairing the Finance Committee as well as the Awards, Scholarship and Recognition Committee. A Foundation Board Member, she is still also an Interfaith Committee member. Also, she recently has volunteered as a Pastoral Council Member at Blessed Sacrament Church.

She also shares that she enjoys being involved with people in general but became very interested in learning of the challenges for our older population from her sister who is an outreach worker for a Senior Center and that she would like to be an advocate for our seniors.

She has a BA and is employed by Onsite Mammography, Westfield, as the Human Resource Director, previously their Office Manager and earlier was in Customer Service.

Director of the Council on Aging and Senior Center Tina Gorman states she believes Ms Rockwal will bring a different and unique perspective to this Board, which she sees as a very positive point and that Ms Rockwal will be a terrific addition.

Agenda Item #2

The appointment of Kerry Ann Kielbasa, 31 Crescent Ridge Road, as a member of thre Council on Aging for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2021, replacing John Leary, Jr., resigning.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Ms Kielbasa states she has a passion for working with older adults and has extensive experience in the field of aging. She was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Town of Granby, CT's Senior Center when employed by Granby as Director of Human Services from 1990 to 2015. During that time she was involved in designing and building a new Senior Center and initiated numerous programs and services to enhance the quality of life for Seniors including benefit counseling, transportation, meal programs, social service programs, supervising staff and volunteers and preparing an annual budget.

She also served on the Phase 2 Building Committee for our Westfield Senior Center, wants to continue to serve in a vital role involving the Center, and believes she would be a "good fit."

She has an MBA and is affiliated with many memberships regarding Seniors and continues to serve as a National Peer Reviewer for Accreditation for the National Council on Aging.

Director of Council on Aging and Senior Center Tina Gorman states Ms Kielbasa was phenomenal as a member of the Building Committee. She brought the Seniors point of view with great insight, was great to work with, and can't say enough good about her. "Her face lit up at the thought of this appointment."

Agenda Item #3

The appointment of Jeffrey L. Gosselin, 330 Elm Street, Apt 305 as a member of the Commission with Disabilities for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2019, replacing Paul V. Condarcuri, resigned.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Mr. Gosselin's background is especially suited for this important Commission. His work experience and educational training in Human Services and Special Education matches perfectly with the mission of this Commission.

He is employed as a Teacher Assistant working directly with students with disabilities in the Northampton Public School System.

Also, importantly, he was a Counselor and program supervisor at the Carson Center working directly with individuals with disabilities. He also was responsible for training new counselor interns and for reviewing ADA (American Disabilities Act) legal requirements. He served on the Westfield School Committee. He wants to serve our Community by helping others, and this particular Commission, he believes is a good match for his skills.

Councilor Onyski and Councilor Figy state they both are very glad to see Mr. Gosselin continuing to be involved in our Community and he has done a wonderful job in the past.

The minutes for the meeting of 02/01/18 were approved on a 3-0 vote on 02/01/18.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.