## 1. Call to order

Chair Doherty-Peck called the special meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. on January 10, 2018 in the library at the Senior Center.

2. Roll call

Present were commission members: Doherty-Peck, Doherty, Taylor, Ziegler, and Liaison Pollard. Absent with cause: Members Skinner, Adams, and MacNeil, and Liaison Lt. Bunnell.

3. Approval of minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2017 by Ziegler and seconded by Doherty. All in favor.

- 4. Approval of the bills None
- 5. Correspondence

None

- 6. Remarks from the public None
- 7. Reports
- A.

 Doherty-Peck reported that the holiday programs went well and between Thanksgiving and Christmas, she provided approximately 700 Food Baskets for the individuals, including seniors, and families in need, and 100 Hot Home-Cooked delivered meals for seniors and disabled residents spending the holidays alone. There were well over 500 children who received toy / gift baskets.
Doherty-Peck reported that she is starting some new programs this month. She is adding a new evening Painting Class, a new evening Zentangle Art Class, a new Quarterly Financial Workshop (offering one in day time and one in evening each quarter), and a one-day craft class – Winter Floral Arrangement Class.

(3) With all the new classes, Doherty-Peck reported the need to have fundraisers to offset the cost of the class as each program will continue to be offered for free to our seniors. Doherty-Peck is thrilled to be able to announce that the Mohegan Tribe has given her a concert in the SKYBOX for a fundraiser for the senior center. Concert is for Little Big Town and will be held on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are \$100 and include the show and a full buffet dinner.

# Β.

Liaison Pollard was welcomed and introduced to the Commission.

C.

Lt. Bunnell was unable to attend.

#### 8. Old Business

A. Discussion was held regarding the requirements of Home Health Care Agencies per State licensing or lack of. Issues, such as monitoring workers and situations is needed. Lengthy discussion of getting State agencies involved to mandate licensing and monitoring as well as the possibility of setting up a website for rating purposes and to notify public of infractions. Needed is education, to those working with the elderly, as well as educating the elderly and their families on how, what, where to look for the best solutions for their loved ones. Also, checking into schools to offer PCA training and introduction of working with the elderly to students. Ziegler stated he has meetings with members from the State and would arrange for them to come to a Commission meeting to discuss our issues and possibilities for changes. Liaison Pollard stated she would ask questions with her employer about requirements for Home Health Care and bring that information back to Commission.

B. State budget cuts – there was some positive news, Doherty-Peck reported that the State passed the "Restore MSP" program. The Governor has said he will veto the restoration bill though the count to restore the MSP program was only voted against by 3 representatives. There would be enough numbers to override the Governor's veto should he decide to vote that way. This is a huge victory for our seniors statewide!

9. New Business

A. There was no new business at this time.

B. Doherty asked to have the representative from the Alzheimer's Association to come back and speak to Commission on programs and services, which could also be of a big benefit to our Home Health Care initiative. Doherty-Peck stated she will arrange another visit.

10. Remarks from the public No public

## 11. Remarks from the commission

Taylor asked about the Wii Bowling League that some of the seniors would like to get started again. Doherty-Peck explained this is definitely happening and should be started soon.

## 12. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 by Doherty and seconded Ziegler. All in favor.