

Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2016

Present: Joe Palazzo  
Joan Bengtson  
Marge Caste  
John Whritner  
Ilene Harris  
B. B. Smith

FILED

*Dec 16 2016 AT 11:24 AM/PM*  
*(Signature)*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: John E. Donnelly, III

Also Present: Cathy Wilson, Senior Center Director  
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex officio

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Chairman Palazzo called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of December 12, 2016 to order at 5:00 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

b. Delegations. There were no guests.

c. Approval of Meeting Minutes - November 14, 2016. Mr. Palazzo asked for additions, corrections or deletions to the November 14, 2016 Commission on Aging Minutes.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to accept the November 14, 2016 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Marge Caste. B. B. Smith abstained from voting. (5-0-1)

d. Correspondence. There was no correspondence.

2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation. Ms. Wilson reported all vehicles will need quarterly review.

Her full time driver has been able to drive some afternoons.

b. Senior Trips.

(1) Enrichment Trips. The following enrichment trips are planned: January 11, 2017 for a lunch trip to Go Fish in Mystic, CT. The trip fee is \$3; and January 25 for a lunch trip to The Olive Garden in Waterford, CT. The trip fee is \$3.

(2) Day/Overnight Trips. Ms. Wilson reported plans are being made for 2017 Day/Overnight trips. The following potential trips for 2017 are being considered: the NY Botanical Garden, NY Museum of Natural History, Greenport, LI; Plum Island Winter Solstice Concert/Event; Rockefeller Estate; Boston Lighthouse Cruise; Brooklyn Botanical Gardens; Perkins Cove, ME; Lake George Cruise, NY; Washington, DC; Finger Lakes, NY; Ocean City, MD; Nantucket, MA; a trip to the Casino; a trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and a free day in New York.

c. Programs.

(1) Senior Nutrition Program. On Wednesdays and Fridays we have had as many as 15 individuals in the dining room. We are serving 25-35 meals-on-wheels. Ms. Harris asked if the increase is due to programs prior to dining in? Ms. Wilson felt this was possible on Fridays.

(2) Senior Center Programs-Ongoing. Ms. Wilson reported ongoing programs are doing well. She is considering price increases for Zumba, Chair and Yoga.

(3) Senior Center Programs – New. No new programs are planned, because the Senior Center is at capacity.

d. Budget - General Fund, Revolving Account. Payroll for part time drivers has increased.

e. Revenues - General Fund, Revolving Account. Revenues are doing well.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Open Door Program at Waterford Senior Services. Ms. Wilson received letter dated December 6, 2016 from Waterford Senior Services acknowledging receipt of \$1,000 from East Lyme towards the Open Door Program. Waterford is pleased with this Program. They feel it is a positive service for caregivers. Ms. Caste stated there are twelve individuals in the support group.

b. Budget Process for FY 17/18. Ms. Wilson reported she had a preliminary discussion with Mark Nickerson, First Selectman. She will submit a budget removing her instructor payroll account. She would like to upgrade Anna Hartung's classification and add a few more part time bus drivers' hours. There will also be an increase in longevity. She informed the Commission the First Selectman was very supportive of our budget.

MOTION: B. B. Smith moved to approve the proposed General Fund budget for the Commission on Aging for fiscal year 2017/18 in the amount of \$235,111.  
Seconded by Joan Bengtson. (6-0) Unanimous.

c. Other Pertinent Business. Mr. Palazzo asked if any fundraising has been done? Ms. Wilson replied the Drama Group is fundraising.

Ms. Smith suggested a candlelight walk on the Boardwalk in spring, with vendors and music. Ms. Wilson suggested having this event in May to celebrate Older American's month.

Ms. Hardy suggested distributing baskets to shut-ins.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Change in Bistro Program. Ms. Wilson reported TVCCA had a budgetary crisis and cut congregate meals to four days per week.

We have been charging \$5 for a bistro meal. To date we have lost \$1500. TVCCA has recently informed us they will charge \$4, \$6 or \$8 depending on the amount of side dishes and the size of the servings. We no longer have a Site Server. We are volunteer based. Ms. Harris asked what happens if you don't have any volunteers? Ms. Wilson replied she and her staff work in the kitchen. After discussion, Ms. Wilson stated in February she will try the \$4 menu which gives a choice of nine entrees and one side dish.

b. Meeting Schedule for 2017. Commission members reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2017.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to approve the Commission on Aging meeting schedule for 2017, as presented. Seconded by Marge Caste. (6-0) Unanimous.

c. Expenditures from the Parahus Account. Ms. Wilson reported the following funds were expenditures from the Parahus Account: A \$5200 stage, the repair of the outdoor grille, a pig box, a 55" TV, a \$1,000 contribution to Waterford for the Open Door Program, and \$1,050 to Parks and Recreation.

d. Receipt of Grant Funds from the Rotary Club of Niantic. Ms. Wilson informed the Commission the Rotary contributed \$500 towards the stage.

e. Other Pertinent Business. Ms. Wilson plans to discuss the purchase of a stove from the Senior Center with Mr. Burkhardt of the Lions Club. She has contacted Tim Grills for his recommendations on a stove. She will also contact Flanders Fish Market for its recommendations on a stove.

#### 5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public for discussion.

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** B. B. Smith moved to adjourn the December 12, 2016  
Commission on Aging Regular Meeting at 6:05 p.m.  
Seconded by Marge Caste. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary