

Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2016

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

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Jan 12 2016 AT 3:15 AM
Ilene Harris
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

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

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

The Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of January 11, 2016 was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

b. Delegations. There were no delegations.

c. Approval of Meeting Minutes - December 14, 2015. Ms. Harris asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2015.

MOTION: Joe Palazzo moved to approve the December 14, 2015 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Joan Bengtson. Mr. Palazzo abstained from voting. (5-0-1) Unanimous.

d. Correspondence. No correspondence was received.

e. Election of Officers. The following slate of officers were presented: Joe Palazzo, Chairman; John Whritner Vice Chairman and Ilene Harris Secretary/Treasurer.

MOTION: Marge Caste moved to accept the above slate of officers for the 2016 Commission on Aging Commission. Seconded by Joan Bengtson. (6-0) Unanimous.

2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation. Ms. Wilson reported we have been using the Waterford R-30 vehicle because the R-3 needed to go to Dawley's for parts and body work. The R-30 is a smaller vehicle, but we have been able to supply transportation.

(3) Senior Center Programs – New. In February Kristen Caramanica is planning a Chinese New Year with a demonstration of a fried rice dish. The cost for the luncheon will be \$9 per person.

A Tax Program will be held this year. Mr. Wilson will assist with technical issues.

A dance is planned for January 22.

An adult coloring program has been well received.

We are trying to bring in programs with low or no cost.

d. Budget - General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson reported we will move a few items out of the General Fund and into the Revolving Account. Between now and the end of the fiscal year, there is not enough money in the Program Account to pay instructors. She would like to use \$5,000 of the money the Senior Center received as a beneficiary of an estate. B. B. Smith asked if Ms. Wilson's intent was to return the \$5,000 to the Endowment Account? Ms. Wilson replied she does not. John Whritner asked if there were any restrictions on the use of that money? Ms. Wilson replied there were none.

Ms. Wilson reported the Drama Club would like to have a Friday night performance and a Saturday matinee. They are interested in soliciting sponsors.

e. Revenues - General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson reported revenues and the revolving account are doing well.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Senior Center Regional Blog. Ms. Wilson reported the blog will launch on January 1. She will approach the business community about advertising. She recommended that the Commission to go to www.seniorcentersct.org for more information.

b. Budget Preparations for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Ms. Wilson reported she met with Mark Nickerson, First Selectman, and Anna Johnson, Finance Director, to review the Senior Citizens Commission budget. Our budget request has increased by 2.3%.

Ms. Harris asked if we charge for transportation? Ms. Wilson replied because our vehicles were purchased through a 5310 grant, we are not allowed to charge.

c. Other Pertinent Business. There was no other pertinent business.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Fundraising Ideas. Ms. Wilson suggested having a Scallop Fest at the beach. John Whritner suggested combining scallop and clam chowder. B. B. Smith suggested incorporating it into the Lobsterfest. Ms. Hardy suggested having it the night before at a school.

Ms. Wilson received paperwork for the 5310 grant and will prepare it prior to April 2016. If the grant is approved, the vehicle will be delivered by September 2017.

b. Senior Trips.

(1) Enrichment Trips. The following enrichment trips are planned: February 10 a trip to Ella Grasso Technical School in Groton. The trip fee is \$3; February 24 to celebrate the Chinese New Year with a trip to Panda Express in New London. The trip fee is \$3.

(2) Day/Overnight Trips. The following Day/Overnight trips have been planned: April 7 with the Lyme Senior Center for a trip to Mohegan Sun. Participants will receive a casino package. The trip fee is \$20; April 17 to the 9/11 Museum with lunch on your own prior to the museum. The trip fee is \$75; April 30 to New York City on your own. The trip fee is \$48; May 11 for a production of "Happy Days" at the Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, NY. Lunch is included for a trip fee of \$97 pp.

January 28-February 7, 2016 for a fully escorted 11 day-7 shore excursions Hawaiian Cruise included in the price starting at \$4,449 pp.

The following three additional cruises are planned: an Alaskan Cruise on June 6-19, 2016, aboard the Holland American "Zaandam" starting at \$4,434 per person with port and government taxes included; August 27-September 13, 2016 for a Trans-Atlantic Cruise for 18 days with flight and motor coach included aboard the Royal Caribbean "Serenade of the Seas" starting at \$3136 pp with port and government taxes included. October 30-November 11, 2016 for an escorted Caribbean Cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean "Serenade of the Seas". Fly out of Boston and return from Fort Lauderdale for 12 nights starting at \$2,027 with port and government taxes included.

A new overnight trip is scheduled for October 9-11, 2016 - "Samson" at the Sight & Sound Millennium Theater in Lancaster, PA for a two night stay at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel. Free time at Longwoods Garden and Philadelphia included. The cost is \$467 pp double; \$429 pp triple; \$556 pp single. Registration has begun.

c. Programs.

(1) Senior Nutrition Program. Ms. Wilson reported Tim Grills who is Director of the Senior Nutrition Program will be resigning. He is involved in an advisory capacity. He would like senior centers to make an effort to increase those attending congregate meals.

Ms. Wilson has advertised for a Meals-on-Wheels driver and has received two responses.

(2) Senior Center Programs-Ongoing. Ms. Wilson reported she has had discussions regarding programs. If the program covers 50% of the class cost it will continue. She also suggested paying for half of a year rather than an entire year. She plans to eliminate any programs that are not doing well.

b. Incident Report - Using Waterford Senior Service's Vehicle. The Commission reviewed the incident report.

c. Parahus Account - Putting a Portion Into Interest Bearing CDs. Ms. Wilson discussed putting a portion of the Parahus Account into short term CDs. Ms. Hardy reported this is done with scholarship funds. We keep enough liquid for two years of scholarships.

d. Other Pertinent Business. Mr. Palazzo reported New London is running a trip to New York City to the Plaza and an eatery for \$79 pp.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: John Whritner moved to adjourn the January 11, 2016 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting at 6:00p.m. Seconded by Joe Palazzo. (6-0)
Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary