

**EAST LYME COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 2018**

**Present:** Joe Palazzo, Chairman, Mike Bekech, Joan Bengston, Marge Caste, Ilene Harris, John Whritner

**Also Present:** Cathy Wilson, Senior Services Coordinator  
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex-Officio, Board of Selectmen

**Absent:** B B Smith

**1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

Chairman Palazzo called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of February 12, 2018 to order at 5:00 PM.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was observed.

**b. Delegations**

Mr. Palazzo called for delegations.  
There were no delegations.

**c. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2017**

Mr. Palazzo called for any corrections, additions or deletions to the Regular Minutes of the Commission of December 18, 2017.

**\*\*MOTION (1)**

Ms. Caste moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of the Commission of December 18, 2017 as presented.

Mr. Whritner seconded the motion.

**Vote: 4 – 0 – 2. Motion passed.**

**Abstained: Ms. Bengston, Ms. Harris**

**d. Correspondence**

There was no additional correspondence.

**2. STATUS REPORT**

**a. Transportation -**

Ms. Wilson reported that R3 is back from being repaired and R2 is going in for its quarterly maintenance. All the vehicles are running well and the drivers are also doing well.

**b. Senior Trips**

**(1) Enrichment Trips – Ms. Wilson reported on the following trips for March:**

On Wednesday March 8 they will go to the 99 Restaurant & Pub in Groton with shopping after at TJ Maxx. The Trip fee is \$5.

On Wednesday March 22 they will take a luncheon trip to the Seahorse in Noank with shopping after at Ocean State. The Trip fee is \$5.

**FILED**

Feb 15 2018 AT 10:05 AM/PM

Ilene Harris  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**(2) Day/Overnight Trips – Ms. Wilson reported on the following upcoming day trips:**  
April 5, 2018 – Mohegan Sun with the Lymes Senior Center (pick-up in EL) – No meal included. Trip fee \$22. Registration has begun. Moderate walking.

April 24, 2018 – Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA with lunch included after the Museum. Trip fee is \$79. Registration has begun. Moderate Walking.

May 5, 2018 – New York City on your own. Bus leaves East Lyme at 7:45 AM and leaves NYC at 7:30 PM. Trip fee is \$48. Registration begins March 1. Lots of walking.

May 9, 2018 – Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, NY to see 'Sister Act'. Lunch included. Trip fee is \$99. Registration begins March 1. Minimal walking.

May 24, 2018 – A day in the Berkshires of MA visiting the Berkshire Botanical Garden, and tour Chesterwood, the home & studio of Daniel Chester French. Lunch on your own at Barrington Brewery. Trip fee is \$85. Registration begins March 1. Moderate walking.

Upcoming overnight trips:

March 19-20, 2018 – Ski Getaway with the Groton Senior Center to the Summit Hotel in Mount Snow, VT. Ski costs not included. \$367/double or triple, \$227/single. Registration has begun.

October 15-25, 2018 – Escorted Tour of the Imperial Cities featuring Prague, Vienna & Budapest. Starting at \$3619/triple. Travel insurance not included. Registration has begun.

October 17-19, 2018 – Lancaster, PA to the Sight & Sound Millennial Theater to see 'Jesus'. 3 days and 2 nights. \$595/double, \$545/triple, \$745/single. Registration begins March 1.

**c. Programs**

**(1) Senior Nutrition Program – Ms. Wilson reported that there have been no changes.**

**(2) Senior Center Programs - Ongoing – Ms. Wilson reported that these programs are doing well.**

**(3) Senior Center Programs - New – Ms. Wilson reported that they have started the Tax Program and that it has been going well. There have been no issues with having to re-schedule due to inclement weather. They are starting a new 'cookbook club' in conjunction with the Library. People bring in a personal recipe and the actual cooked item and they sample and discuss. In conjunction with Reiki they have someone who can do massage therapy and will do it for \$27/hour. This would be by sign up. They also have a retired person who was employed in Medical billing who will give a presentation on what to look for in medical billing and where they can see if there are errors that do not belong on the billing that they should not be charged for. Also, Liberty Bank will give a presentation on information regarding the Free credit report that people can get each year and how to avoid being scammed into having to pay for it.**

**d. Budget – General Fund, Revolving Account**

Ms. Wilson reported that the only weak area is in office supplies as they purchased a new electronic safe and shared in the advertising expense for the new person with HR. However, they can move things around so that this will work out.

**e. Revenues – General Fund, Revolving Account**

Ms. Wilson reported that while they are a bit off at this point, they will have to see how things progress as the trips start up again. Otherwise they are doing well.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. Budget Review Request for FY 18/19**

Ms. Wilson reported that the budget that she put through is still intact. She will see when she presents to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

#### **b. Other Pertinent Business**

Ms. Hardy asked that Ms. Wilson explain to the Commission what has happened with the Rental Rebate program through the State.

Ms. Wilson said that it was reduced by 7% last year and also another 7% for this year and they will have to see how long this program survives with the State budget problems as they are.

Ms. Hardy said that they have withdrawn the 7% reduction for this year and that now the Town will have to scrounge around to cover the program thru this June 30, 2018. The State sent the people to the Town to look for the rebate dollars. This created chaos in the Town offices and here. The Board of Selectmen during budget reviews will see if they can find enough money to cover it for this year. Right now it is not an optional program.

Mr. Bekech said that there is also the 'Homeowner's Program' that is out on a limb and the local option of the Town so they will have to decide what they will do.

Ms. Wilson said that the homeowners appreciate the break that they get on their taxes. She added that the problem with all of this is that no advance notice is given to the local municipalities from the State.

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. Senior Center Associate Position**

Ms. Wilson said that they received 35 applications with one being from in-house; they interviewed eight from outside and the in-house person and in the end hired the in-house candidate. She has just begun working full time as she had to give notice to another department.

#### **b. Proposed Expenditures from the Parahus Account**

Ms. Wilson reported that Mr. Dagle had given them his Board of selectmen stipend to use for items in the kitchen. They have needed some new utensils for a very long time now so she ordered \$327.94 worth from the WB Mason kitchen division. She said that she will need a motion for this.

#### **\*\*MOTION (2)**

Mr. Whritner moved to approve spending up to \$350 for utensils needed in the kitchen.

Ms. Harris seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.**

Ms. Wilson also noted that they are looking for some type of stainless steel covering for the island as the current top is very old and is starting to have pits in it.

#### **c. Other Pertinent Business**

Ms. Wilson noted that the TEAM sessions seem to be going fairly well.

### **5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

There was no public discussion.

**6. BOARD RESPONSE**

There was no public discussion.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*MOTION (3)**

Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of February 12, 2018 at 5:33 PM.

Mr. Whritner seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6 - 0 - 0. Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,  
Recording Secretary, Pro-tem