

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2018**

Present: Joe Palazzo
Marge Caste
BB Smith
Mike Bekech
Joan Bengtson
Ilene Harris

Absent: John Whritner

Also Present: Cathy Wilson, Senior Center Director

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
June 14, 2018 AT 12:31 AM/PM
B. Bengtson
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.
- b. **Delegations.** There were no guests.
- c. **Minutes of April 9, 2018.** Mr. Palazzo asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the April 9, 2018 Minutes.

MOTION (1): Ms. Harris moved to approve the April 9, 2018 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Bengtson. (6-0) Unanimous

- d. **Correspondence.** There was no correspondence.

2. STATUS REPORT

- a. **Transportation.** All transportation is doing fine, and busy.
- b. **Senior Trips.**
 - (1) **Enrichment Trips.** On June 13 a lunch trip to Abbott's Lobster in Noank, with shopping to follow. The trip fee is \$5.
On June 27 a lunch trip to The Log Cabin in Clinton, with shopping to follow. The trip fee is \$5.
 - (2) **Day Trips.** On June 9 an escorted tour of the New York Public Library and Morgan Library in New York City, with lunch on your own at the Grand Central Terminal food court. The trip fee is \$94.
On June 22 a trip to the Newport Flower Show at Rosecliff Mansion in Newport with lunch and shopping on your own at the Wharf. The trip fee is \$49.
On July 10 a day spent learning about one of our historic cities, Boston. An escorted tour of Harvard and lunch at The Hong Kong Restaurant and an afternoon ride on the Boston Duck Tour. The trip fee is \$97.
On July 26 to New York City on the Circle Line for a three hour cruise that circumnavigates Manhattan and a stop at Chelsea Market before the cruise for a bite to eat. The trip fee is \$96.
August 14 for a ferry ride to Long Island for a 90 minute tour and a 10 sample wine tasting at Lenz Winery, with lunch and time on your own in Greenport. The trip fee is \$88.

August 21 to Gloucester, Mass. On the Seven Seas Whale Watch boat for a four hour trip to the Stellwagen Bank to check out the whales with lunch on your own beforehand. The trip fee is \$82.

The following overnight trips are planned: August 27-29, 2018 to the Canadian Niagara Falls for 3 days and 2 night tour which includes the Hornblower Cruise. \$679/double, \$619/triple and \$929 single. October 15-25, 2018 for an escorted tour of the Imperial Cities featuring Prague, Vienna and Budapest. \$3,649/double, \$4299 single, \$3,619 triple. (Travel insurance is not included). October 17-19, 2018 to Lancaster, PA to visit the Sight & Sound Millennial Theater and enjoy their production of "Jesus" for 3 days and 2 nights. \$595/double, \$545/triple, \$745/single. November 27-29, 2018 to Stowe, VT to the Trapp family lodge for 3 days and 2 nights. This trip includes a guided tour of Stowe, Ben & Jerry's Factory Tour and Trapp Family History Tour. \$601/double or triple, \$781 single.

c. Programs

1. Senior Nutrition Program. Ms. Wilson was sent a notice that the Director of the Senior Nutrition Program's last day is May 22. The Senior Nutrition Program offers a summer salad in the Choice Program and Ms. Wilson does not wish participate in the summer salad. She will offer the hot meal every day. Ms. Wilson stated we had the Food Service Inspection and received 98%. Certification expires every five years and Ms. Wilson went to Ledge Light Health District today to allow her to be recertified. Meals-on-Wheels has been trending down, because some individuals are receiving home care.
2. Senior Center Programs – Ongoing. All programs are doing fine.
3. Senior Center Programs – New. Ms. Wilson will have discussions with the VNA on a new foot program. Ms. Harris suggested offering a shingles vaccination.

d. Budget – General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson reported the current budget is doing well.

e. Revenues- General Fund, Revolving Account. Revenues are less because some of the trips had to be cancelled.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Budget Request Review for FY 18/19.** Ms. Wilson reported the Commission on Aging budget passed. No overtime is allowed.
- b. **Other Pertinent Business.** There was no other pertinent business discussed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Chair Yoga Issues.** Chair Yoga is in a very small room. The cost is \$24 for 30 classes that must be used within a year. Because of the size of the room and that people purchase passes, there is no way to determine how many people will show up for any given class. This has caused problems because too many people are showing up for the class and the room is overloaded. As of July 1st, 2018, the pass system will be eliminated for this program. At this

time, no new registrations will be allowed until all current users have finished their pass. As of July 1st, the current users will have to register for either the 9:30am class or the 10:30am class so there will be some control on the size of the class. Once the passes are finished, the class will be opened up again.

- b. **Pass Classes vs. Session Classes.** During the FY18/19, all classes using the Pass system will be evaluated. It is very likely that all pass classes will go to session classes.
- c. **Accepting Credit Card Payments.** The Senior Center started using Parks and Recreation mobile credit card machine on a daily basis. Up until May 30th, the receipts were given to Parks and Recreation for that department to deposit. This has proven problematic and the Senior Center will now handle those deposits.
- d. **New Registration Software.** Ms. Wilson is not happy with the new registration software. Rec Track does not handle transportation requests. She is looking into 3 programs and will have quotes available for the July meeting.
- e. **Lions Club Request to Use Vehicles and Drivers for Arts & Crafts Fair.**

MOTION (2): BB SMITH moved to loan two vehicles and two drivers to the Lions Club for the Arts & Craft Show and that the expenses for the drivers' salaries and gas will be paid by the Lions. Seconded by Ms. Harris. (5-0) Unanimous.

- f. **Update on Medicare Savings Plan.** Ms. Wilson reported the State of Connecticut wanted to cut programs for the Medicare Savings Plan. The Medicare Savings Program is a national program but Connecticut used higher income limits so more people could qualify for the benefit. The State of Connecticut paid the Part B premium for Medicare that is usually taken out of an individual's Social Security check. This program also either paid the premium for a Part D prescription insurance plan or helped to subsidize it. The State of Connecticut planned to scale back this program by using the Federal income limits. This caused a huge outcry and as of July 1, the State of Connecticut plans to maintain the income limits currently in place.
- g. **Other Pertinent Business.** Ms. Wilson asked the Commission to consider re-naming the Senior Center "The East Lyme Senior Center" and naming the dining room of the Senior Center the Nicholas Parahus Room.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

6. BOARD RESPONSE

There was no further discussion from the Commission.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (3): Ms. Bengtson moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of June 11, 2018 at 6:15 p.m. Seconded By Ms. Harris. (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary