

**EAST LYME COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 14th, 2022**

**Present:** John Whritner, Chairman, Joan Bengtson, Marge Caste, Ilene Harris,  
Mike Bekech (by phone)

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

**Absent:** Joe Palazzo

**1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

Chairman Whritner called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of March 14, 2022 to order at 5:00 PM.

FILED

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was observed.

March 17, 2022 AT 10:05 AM/PM

**b. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

Breake Honour ATC  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**c. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2022**

Mr. Whritner called for any corrections, additions or deletions to the Regular Minutes of the Commission of February 14, 2022.

Ms. Harris said that her first name was spelled incorrectly.

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

Ms. Bengtson moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Commission of February 14, 2022 as amended.

Ms. Caste seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.**

**d. Correspondence**

There was no new correspondence.

**2. STATUS REPORT**

**a. Transportation -**

Ms. Wilson reported that they received confirmation on the 5310 grant acquisition which is for the same vehicle that they have except the backdoor will have two (2) windows so the drivers can see out. The price is \$77,284 and the grant was for \$77,250 – the Town pays the difference of \$34. With this grant one responsibility is quarterly reports; Title VI – language assistance.

Ms. Wilson said that parking the buses at the new Public Safety building is working but not really convenient. They are waiting on the equipment to arrive for the camera installation.

**b. Senior Trips**

**(1) Enrichment Trips –** Ms. Wilson reported on the following trip:

The Hideaway for this Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup>. The Trip fee is \$5.

**(2) Day/Overnight Trips –** Ms. Wilson said that they are doing a Newport Playhouse trip on April 25, 2022 with the trip fee being \$105.

**Upcoming overnight trips:**

**Note: For all trips – trip insurance is strongly recommended for an additional \$399pp.**

August 21-20, 2022 – Colorado Rockies – 9 day trip, visit four national parks. Transportation & transfers included as well as 11 meals. \$2999pp double occupancy. Registration has begun.

August 26 – September 2, 2022 – Alaskan Cruise – 8 days on Celebrity Solstice. Air Fare included. Prices start at \$2501pp. Registration has begun.

October 6-15, 2022 – Shades of Ireland – 10 days. Includes 13 meals. Visit Dublin, Blarney Castle, Kilkenny, Waterford and more. Transportation and transfers included. Prices start at \$3699pp double occupancy. Registration has begun.

October 2022 – Planning a trip to see David at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. More details to follow.

**c. Programs**

**Senior Nutrition Program** – Ms. Wilson reported that the Café meals started again this month. Ms. Hardy asked if people coming for the café meals stayed for any of the programs after the meal and also if people come for the programs before the meal and stay for the meal – Ms. Wilson said not really – they are not coming for programs and the meal of the meal and then programs.

**(1) Senior Center Programs - Ongoing** – Ms. Wilson reported that the Reflexology person and program are back; the AARP safe driving program was cancelled for February and March but they are looking to hold it in April and the AARP Tax Aide program has been reorganized to accommodate more people. She also noted that the newsletter was using a new template – provided by the publishers of the newsletter.

**(3) Senior Center Programs - New** – Ms. Wilson reported that there is a new club program – ROMEO – Retired Old Men Eating Out where men only will go out to eat once per month and meet and make new friends – this month's trip is to the Monkey Farm in Old Saybrook on Wednesday, March 23. Trip fee is \$5 for transportation.

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

Ms. Wilson reported that the budget is doing okay and is on track. They are in the black and they are on target where they should be. She also reported they estimated for \$1500 in donations and that they have now received \$2000.

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

Ms. Wilson reported that this is doing fine.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Review of FY22/23 Budget**

Ms. Wilson reported that her budget had passed the Board of Selectmen okay and that she would go before the Board of Finance this evening.

Mr. Whritner and Mr. Bekech said that they would also attend.

Ms. Hardy noted that would be the limit as they could not have a quorum in attendance.

**b. Request for ARP Funds**

Ms. Wilson said that they were requesting a full time social worker and the Feasibility Study for the combined areas in the Community Center for more space. She said that they submitted that to the Committee and that she had heard from Mr. Seery that both items had made it out of Committee and were now going to the Board of Selectmen.

**c. Approval of Title VI Plan**

Ms. Wilson reported that they have a system where they can call and have language translated if necessary. They currently do not meet the threshold however they do have a plan in place. She noted that they would have to approve the plan.

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

Mr. Bekech moved to approve the Title VI plan of the East Lyme Senior Center as presented. (See attached)

Ms. Harris seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.**

**d. Feasibility Study**

Ms. Wilson said that they had submitted items that they deem most necessary.

Ms. Hardy explained the process noting that they are also trying to pull items off of the capital improvement plan that would qualify.

Ms. Harris asked if it was like a 5-year plan or if they want to tie it all together.

Mr. Whritner explained that usually when you hire someone for the study, they speak with all of the parties involved and put together a plan on how things might be done.

Ms. Hardy noted that it was announced that one of the kivas was being shut down. While this might present a space opportunity it could also be re-purposed by the school system itself.

Ms. Wilson concurred that her thought was also that they would repurpose the area.

**e. Other Pertinent Business**

There was none.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Review of Incident Report**

Ms. Wilson reported that there were very minor incidents.

**c. Other Pertinent Business**

There was none.

**5. EX-OFFICIO REPORT**

Ms. Hardy reported that she thinks that they will find the dollars for the cameras for the building and that they may be able to knock some walls down and re-invent some areas within the building. She noted that there is a piece of land that they might be able to put a small building on however it would require a pedestrian walkway. She said that she would look into it and let them know.

Ms. Hardy noted that they had the piano put into the church bulletins to see if anyone was interested. She also reported that the budgets have been forwarded to the Board of Finance – 65% is the BOE and the rest the Town and debt, etc.

**6. BOARD RESPONSE**

Ms. Harris asked if any of the Homesteads that the Town owns might like the piano.

**Ms. Wilson said that they have advertised it on social media and have had some interest but it would remain to be seen if they come through. She also said that they are looking to have the bingo equipment sold as they are using a laptop and screen that are much better for them.**

**Ms. Wilson noted that she would be on vacation for the next two weeks.**

## **7. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

**There was no public discussion.**

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of March 14, 2022 at 5:45 PM.**

**Ms. Caste seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 5 - 0 - 0. Motion passed.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen Zmitruk,  
Recording Secretary, Pro-tem**



# TITLE VI NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Notifying the Public of Rights Under Title VI

## East Lyme Senior Center

The East Lyme Senior Center operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with the East Lyme Senior Center.

For more information on the East Lyme Senior Center civil rights program, and the procedures to file a complaint, call 860-739-5859; or email at [cwilson@eltownhall.com](mailto:cwilson@eltownhall.com); or visit the Senior Center Office at 37 Society Road, Niantic, CT.

For more information, visit:

[www.eltownhall.com](http://www.eltownhall.com) - search for Senior Center or  
[www.seniorcenterct.org](http://www.seniorcenterct.org) - search for East Lyme Senior Center.

A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, Office of Contract Compliance, Attn: Title VI Coordinator, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111; or with the Federal Transit Administration by filing a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590.

If information is needed in another language, contact 860-739-5859.

February 2022



Attachment COA 3/14/22