

COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 14, 2022

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT

2022 NOV 17 P 12:02

Cathy Wilson
TOWN CLERK

Present: John Whritner
Marge Caste
Michel Bekech
Joe Palazzo

Absent: Ilene Harris
Joan Bengtson
Margret Hughes

Also Present: Cathy Wilson, Director

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

Chairman Whritner called the November 14, 2022 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting to order at 5 p.m.

- b. Delegations. There were no guests.

- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes October 11, 2022. Mr. Whritner asked for additions, deletions, or corrections to the October 11, 2022 Commission on Aging Minutes.

MOTION (1): Ms. Caste moved to approve the October 11, 2022 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Bekech. Mr. Palazzo abstained from voting. (3-0-1) Motion carried.

- d. **Correspondence.** Cathy Wilson reported she had no new correspondence.

2. STATUS REPORT

- a. **Transportation.** Ms. Wilson informed the Commission all vehicles went through quarterly maintenance and annual lift inspections. We have had R-1 for five years and the town will now become its owner. The only vehicle requiring quarterly reporting to DOT is R2.

Transportation is very busy. There are a lot of medical and physical therapy appointments. We are trying to work out a schedule for the two vehicles every day. When we have trips, we have a third driver. She is considering three vehicles on the road on Tuesdays and Thursdays for lunch trips. Our gas usage is higher. We may need to keep the R-3 bus as a back up vehicle. It will need to maintain its insurance and continue to be inspected and registered. We hope to have an additional part-time driver.

Dial-a-Ride is a huge help to the transportation schedule. And the town of Franklin has joined in.

- b. Senior Trips. We are planning to meet with Waterford and Old Lyme on November 17.
 - 1. Enrichment Trips. On December 14, 2022 we will have a fun trip to the Griswold Inn.

c. Day/Overnight Trips. A trip is planned to the Newport Playhouse on December 7 and to New York City on your own on December 3. We have had to cancel the last few trips because of not enough registrations. No new day/overnight trips have been planned.

- 1. **Senior Nutrition Program.** Ms. Wilson reported on November 1 Ledge Light did a kitchen inspection. Because of new regulations, we now need a handwashing option in the dishwashing area. Mr. Bence will have discussions with Niantic Plumbing.

Ms. Wilson received notice on November 1 that supper meals are cancelled. As of November 16, they will be resumed but only for clients who previously had them. No new clients will be offered supper meals. Weekend meals are only available to those clients who currently receive them. No new clients will receive them.

Additionally, the program will no longer offer monthly holiday meals. They will only provide holiday meals for St. Patrick's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Emergency meals will be distributed the beginning of December.

- 2. **Senior Center Programs Ongoing.** Ms. Wilson reported senior programs are doing well. In December we plan to have another vaccine clinic, and provide access to COVID testing.
- 3. **Senior Center Programs – New.** There will be a holiday concert, a holiday light tour and a mocktail party.

She is doing emergency assistance and Medicare reviews. She is fortunate to have volunteers willing to help.

c. Budget-General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson distributed copies of information on the General Fund and Revolving Account for fiscal year 2022/2023. The upcoming budget review will be in January.

d. Revenue. Ms. Wilson plans to send the annual appeal letter in January to the users of the Center's transportation service.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Request for ARP.** Ms. Wilson reported she will need an RFQ for the feasibility study. Public Works has agreed to help us with it and schedule it. First Selectman Kevin Seery suggested beginning with a part-time position so the money can last longer. She plans to renovate the current closet to be made into an office.
- b. **Review of Program Charges.** Ms. Wilson will increase instructor's fees by \$3 for this session
- c. **Review of Program Charges.** She will increase the cost for classes by fifty cents.

d. **Other Pertinent Business.** There was no discussion of other pertinent old business.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Preliminary Budget Discussion for FY 23/24. Ms. Wilson distributed the Commission on Aging budget for last year. At this Commission's December meeting she will offer suggestions for the FY 23/24 budget. She would like to increase a part-time driver and will need to renovate the closet into an office.

b. Dial-a-Ride Update. An annual report of the rides provided by Dial-a-Ride was provided to the Commission.

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

5. **EX-OFFICIO REPORT** Ms. Hardy was unable to be present, and there was no report.

6. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There were no guests.

7. BOARD RESPONSE

There was no response.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (2): Mr. Palazzo moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging November 14, 2022 Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Caste. (4-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary