

COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2022

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT

2022 DEC 14 A 10:49

Cynthia Williams
TOWN CLERK

Present: John Whritner
Marge Caste
Michel Bekech
Joe Palazzo
Ilene Harris
Joan Bengtson
Margret Hughes

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

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Chairman Whritner called the December 12, 2022 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting to order at 5 p.m.

- a. **Delegations.** There were no guests.
- b. **Approval of Meeting Minutes November 14, 2022.** Mr. Whritner asked for additions, deletions, or corrections to the November 14, 2022 Commission on Aging Minutes.

MOTION (1): Ms. Harris moved to approve the November 14, 2022 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Palazzo. Ms. Harris, Ms. Bengtson and Ms. Hughes abstained from voting. (3-0-3) Motion carried.

- c. **Correspondence.** Cathy Wilson had no new correspondence.

a. STATUS REPORT

- a. **Transportation.** Ms. Wilson reported transportation has been very busy. One driver is going on vacation in December. We will have to schedule lightly as we only have one driver available to fill in. There is an as needed driver but he only wants to drive sparingly. We had a driver who had his passenger endorsement express interest in driving for the Senior Center. Unfortunately, he currently has a medical issue that needs to be addressed and he is not available. We had another gentleman express interest in driving but he does not have a passenger endorsement. He rode with our drivers to see what the position will entail and is pursuing the passenger endorsement.
- b. **Senior Trips.** The following trips are planned:
 - 1. On December 14, 2022 we will have a fun trip to the Griswold Inn. The cost is \$5pp. The fun trips are doing well.
 - 2. In January we will go to La Llorona. The cost is \$5pp.

- c. Day/Overnight Trips. The following trips are planned:
1. April 5 to the Titanic Exhibit in New York City. The trip fee is \$122.
 2. April 20, 2023 for a Tea Lunch and guided tour of the Blithewold Mansion and Gardens. The price is \$130.
 3. May 23, 2023 a Highline Trip and Edge (Observation Deck). The fee is \$132.
 4. June 18 to June 25, 2023 for eight days and seven nights for an escorted Bermuda Cruise. Prices start at \$1299, plus taxes and fees.
 5. August 28 to September 4, 2023 to Discover California Dreamin: Monterey Yosemite and Napa with Optional 2 a night in San Francisco Post Tour Extension. Prices are \$3,279 per person for double occupancy rooms.
 6. October 7 to October 15, 2023 to Northern Italy and Its Lakes. The cost is \$3,399 per person for double occupancy.

1. **Senior Nutrition Program.** Ms. Wilson reported we deliver Monday through Friday. No new developments with the program. Thanksgiving week was particularly busy because we had to deliver 5 days' worth of food as well as weekend meals, in 3 days.
2. **Senior Center Programs Ongoing.** Ms. Wilson informed the Commission today was registration for the January session. The instructors were happy to have an increase to their salary. There were no complaints to the increase in fees to participate in programs.
3. **Senior Center Programs – New.** The Senior Center will begin taking appointments for the Tax Aide program on January 9th. People will be seen beginning in February. The program will be back to its pre-COVID status so we will be able to see more people. We have been receiving phone calls to schedule appointments since October.

d. Budget-General Fund, Revolving Account. The General Fund, Revolving Account is doing well.

e. Revenue. There has been a decrease in revenues because trips are not selling.

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.
- b. **Other Pertinent Business.** There was no other pertinent business discussed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Discussion for FY 23/24 Budget.** Ms. Wilson distributed to the Commission draft budget for the FY 23/24 budget.
- b. **Slate of Officers for 2023.** Ms. Wilson informed the Commission that election of officers will begin in January.
- c. **Retirement of Director.** Ms. Wilson reported her last day will be March 31. First Selectmen Seery has asked her to write a Job Description.

- d. **Other Pertinent Business.** Ms. Wilson listed the 2023 meeting dates for this Commission as follows: January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, no August meeting, September 11, October 10, November 13 and December 11.

MOTION (2): Ms. Bengtson moved to approve the schedule of meeting dates as listed above. Seconded by Ms. Harris. (7-0) Unanimous.

5. **EX-OFFICIO REPORT** Ms. Hardy reported with regrets that the Niantic Cinema has closed. The Town will have another Yale Charette to discuss ideas residents may have. A Yale Charette was done 20 years ago and many ideas were used. There are individuals concerned about the New London Day article that East Lyme will become more like Mystic.

6. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There were no guests.

7. BOARD RESPONSE

There was no response.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (3): Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging December 12, 2022 Regular Meeting at 5:45 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Hughes. (7-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary
