

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 10, 2023**

Present: Michel Bekech, Chairman
Joe Palazzo
Ilene Harris
Marge Caste

Also Present: Margret Hughes
Wendy Fiore
Joan Bengtson

Also Present: Kristen Caramanica, Director

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TOWN CLERK

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

Chairman Bekech called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

- b. **Delegations.** There were no guests.

- c. **Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2023.** Mr. Bekech asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the September 11, 2023 Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (1): Ms. Harris moved to approve the September 11, 2023 Commission on Aging Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Palazzo. (4-0) Unanimous.

- d. **Correspondence.** The Commission reviewed letter of retirement dated September 19, 2023 to First Selectman Kevin Seery from Roxanne M. Kormos.

2. STATUS REPORT

- a. **Transportation.** Ms. Caramanica reported we have retired our R-3 bus. R-1 bus went in for State annual inspections. Quarterly reporting for R2 was sent to DOT. Quarterly maintenance has been completed. R1 and R2 had their annual lift inspections. All buses are up and running. We have not received any information on delivery of the new bus.

- b. **Senior trips.**

1. Cranberry Bog Tour, Wareham, MA Tuesday, October 24.
2. A Taste of Italian, NYC, Saturday, November 4
3. Newport Playhouse, Thursday, November 16
4. Radio City Christmas Spectacular, Saturday, December 2. This is multi-generational.
5. A stocking stuffer holiday daytrip to Yankee Candle, Thursday, December 14.

- c. **Programs**

- (1) **Senior Nutrition Program.** We have a new volunteer for Tuesdays.

We have requested a menu change and with the change in menu the number of people attending has been increasing. Ms. Caste reported there was an article in the newspaper on TVCCA.

- (2) **Senior Center Programs -Ongoing.** Ms. Caramanica informed the Commission we will have Lunch and Learn programs on reverse mortgages by Norcom Mortgage & LJ Shoreline Realty on October 18 at 12:30 p.m. ECTC will be discussing Dial-a-Ride on October 23. On October 20 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Nancy Souza will teach paper pumpkins, paper apples and mini glitter jar votive candle class. Lotus lantern craft on Oct. 30 at 1:30, cost is \$5.
- (3) **Senior Center Programs –New.** Ms. Caramanica reported we are working on energy assistance. Senior Resources, Cathy Wilson, and Social Worker Jennifer Yu will help folks with Medicare Open enrollment on Friday, October 27.

Starting in November we will have no refunds after the second meeting of a program. A \$2 fee will be charged to process a refund. No fee will be charged if class is cancelled. For a meal event, no refund will be given after the last day of registration (due to food having to be purchased). A refund will be given if a staff member finds a person to replace you. For day trips, a refund will only be given if a person replaces you.

We will have Meet the Candidates on October 19 at 1 p.m. and October 26 at 1 p.m.

- d. **Budget – General Fund, Revolving Account.** Ms. Caramanica reported the General Fund was under budgeted. There was \$225 less in the General Fund. She transferred that amount from other accounts.

Ms. Caramanica informed the Commission we added two new programs: Parkinson's Disease: Living with Intent and Safety and how to structure daily activities.

- e. **Revenues – General Fund, Revolving Account.** Ms. Caramanica stated there was nothing new to report on the General Fund, Revolving Account. Mrs. Caramanica is hoping when the annual appeal goes out in January, we will receive \$1500 for general fund.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Bus Driver.** Ms. Caramanica reported Roxanne Kormos retired. She worked for the town for twelve years. We now have four part-time drivers.
- b. **Potential use of ARPA funds through the State of Connecticut Department of Aging.** Ms. Caramanica plans to meet with the Finance Director and use this ARPA money from the State to extend Social Workers time for another year.
- c. **Other Pertinent Business.** The Commission reviewed an Incident Report.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Annual Report.** All Commission members received a copy of the Annual Report.

- b. **Meeting with the Finance Director.** Ms. Caramanica will meet with the Finance Director on October 12 to review our Fiscal Year 2023/2024 budget as well as new FY 2024/2025.
- c. **Other Pertinent Business.** Mr. Bekech asked if there was anything further on the Feasibility Study. Ms. Caramanica replied she has not.
- d. **EX-OFFICIO REPORT** Ms. Hardy was unable to be present, and there was no report.
- e. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION** There were no guests.
- f. **BOARD RESPONSE.** There was no need for a response.
- g. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION (2): Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the October 10, 2023 Commission on Aging Meeting at 5:35 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Caste. (4-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary