

Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2012

Present: Philip Mountain
B. B. Smith
Carrie Janus
Marge Caste
Ilene Harris
Mary Broga
John Whritner

Also Present: Cathy Wilson
Senior Services Coordinator

FILED IN EAST LYME
June 13, 2012 AT 12:45 PM
Karen Galbo, ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Chairman Mountain called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of June 11, 2012 to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

b. Delegations. There were no delegations.

c. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 14, 2012. Mr. Mountain asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2012.

MOTION: B. B. Smith moved to accept the May 14, 2012 Commission on Aging Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Ilene Harris.
John Whritner abstained from voting.
(6-0-1) Motion carried

d. Correspondence. There was no correspondence.

2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation. Ms. Wilson reported the R-3 bus recall has been repaired. There was also a mechanical issue with the doors that has been resolved. The R-2 recall will be scheduled for repair. In April we introduced a second run to New London, because we had a waiting list every Monday. On the first and third Wednesday we added two more runs. Ms. Wilson will show the statistics for the three months to determine whether or not it should be continued.

Since individuals have the Dial-a-Ride option, this service is being taken advantage of.

Ms. Wilson met with Mr. Formica, and he was agreeable to her helping AHEPHA write a grant for a bus.

(1) Enrichment Trips. The following enrichment trips are planned: July 11 to Rein's Deli in Manchester for lunch paid for by each individual, with a stop at Evergreen Walk Mall in South Windsor. The trip fee is \$4 and July 25 to the Monte Cristo Cottage in New London with lunch beforehand at Captain Scott's in New London. The trip fee is \$5. Admission is included in the trip fee.

(2) COA Sponsored Trips. There are no COA sponsored trips scheduled.

(3) Day/Overnight Trips. The following Day Trips are planned: July 3 Tall Ships & Gray Hulls for the upcoming Harborfest of 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts for a narrated up-close look at more than 30 Tall Ships, with lunch included. The trip fee is \$96; July 8 to see Bernadette Peters at a matinee performance at Tanglewood; July 26 to Newport, R.I. Wine & Sail for a narrated cruise of Newport Harbor and lunch at the Mooring Restaurant with a trip to the Newport Vineyards in the afternoon. The trip fee is \$96; August 7 for Highlights of the Hudson to enjoy the Walkway Over the Hudson, the longest pedestrian bridge in the world and for a Hudson River Cruise. The trip fee is \$90; August 23 to Rockport and Gloucester to shop and for a bite to eat. The trip fee is \$40; September 6 to the 911 Museum in New York City; September 19 to the Big E in Springfield, Massachusetts for a trip fee of \$42 and September 29 to Waterfire in Providence, R.I. for a trip fee of \$35; October 2 to The Culinary Institute of America and FDR Home, Library and Museum for a trip fee of \$81 and October 24 for the Jack-o-Lantern Spectacular at Roger Williams Park Zoo in R.I. for a trip fee of \$48.

August 9-10 to Lake George and Saratoga Race Track for a cost of \$275 per person double occupancy; September 8-19 to National Parks of America (Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, Yellowstone National Park and Mount Rushmore) for a cost of \$3,829 per person to \$4,879 per person; September 25-26 to Amish Country and the Millennium Theater production of "Jonah". The trip fee is \$279 per person for double occupancy; January 27-February 5, 2013 for an Eastern Caribbean Cruise on the Norwegian Gem. Prices range from \$1,319 to \$1,669; March 7-20, 2013 to The Plains of Africa-Kenya Wildlife Safari. Prices start at \$7,199 per person; April 19-May 1, 2013 for the Best of Portugal including the Islands. Prices begin at \$3,969.

c. Programs.

(1) Senior Nutrition Program. Ms. Wilson reported she received a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Formica from Deborah Monahan and Tim Grills of TVCCA that on May 8 TVCCA received notification on the final allocation of funding for the Senior Nutrition Program, congregate and Meals on Wheels program that for fiscal year 2011-

2012 the funds were less than expected and there will be a reduction in services beginning the week of June 4, 2012 through September 30, 2012. Services will be provided four days per week. The program has been cancelled on Monday. Ms. Wilson informed the Commission that we are able to use our budget to continue this service until June 30. This has been discussed with Mr. Formica. Any volunteer who delivers Meals-on-Wheels on Monday will not be able to receive mileage reimbursement. TVCCA has indicated that they expect to know its budget status by August. We are serving a small number of people for congregate meals. Ms. Broga felt Meals-on-Wheels will always be needed. Ms. Wilson stated senior centers are considering eliminating congregate meals. Ms. Janus asked Ms. Wilson if it is possible to work with the school system on the congregate meals. Ms. Wilson replied that is a possibility.

Ms. Wilson reported each Town has a different relationship with TVCCA. Most of the Northeastern part of Connecticut accepted it. In Southeastern Connecticut it is different in each Town. Mr. Grills has approached us to promote congregate meals. Ms. Wilson invited AHEPHA, Twin Haven and churches on Wednesday June 13 at noon to taste the quality of food and have discussion with Mr. Grills, TVCCA Director of Nutrition Services.

(2) Senior Center Programs-Ongoing. Ms. Wilson stated the Lions Low Vision and the VNA nurses managed clinics continue to have a low attendance. The Bereavement Program with HOSPICE also has low attendance. Letters have been sent to local physicians, churches and funeral homes to make them aware of the bereavement program.

(3) Senior Center Programs – New. Line dancing class is doing very well. Beach yoga is not doing well. Tennis will begin next Monday. Golf started last Monday.

d. Budget. A transfer of \$2,000 has been made to the Payroll Account. All other accounts are doing fine.

e. Revenues. Revenues are doing well.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Budget Request FY 2013. Ms. Wilson attended the May 14 Annual Town Meeting. The entire budget passed by Referendum.

As of July 1 we will have a Special Revenue Account for trip fees to go in and out of.

b. Volunteer Recognition Event. The Volunteer Recognition event will be held on July 18.

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

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Final Report on Energy Assistance for 2011/2012. Ms. Wilson reported 387 energy assistance applications were processed for a benefit of \$157,888.44.

b. Purchase of Office Furniture. Ms. Wilson received a check from TVCCA in the amount of \$4,000 for administrative costs of the Energy Assistance Program. This check was put into the Parahus Account and she would like to purchase new office furniture with it.

She contacted W. B. Mason on the cost of new furniture for the Commission on Aging Office. The cost is \$4,583.02. She would like to use the \$4,000 towards the office furniture. She also had discussion with the Finance Director and First Selectman about the additional cost, and they agreed that she could spend the additional monies from her budget.

MOTION: Carrie Janus moved to approve the expenditure of \$4,000 from the Parahus Account towards office furniture for the Commission on Aging Office. Seconded by Mary Broga. (7-0) Unanimous.

c. Full Time Administrative Secretary Position. Ms. Wilson reported we have a part time administrative secretarial position which will go to full time. Half of the present administrative secretary's time has been spend in the Parks and Recreation Office. The Parks and Recreation Commission Office have asked that she remain in their office until August. The union requires that this position be posted in house and that an interview panel be formed.

d. Donation. The Lions Club made a donation to the Senior Center of \$1,000. Ms. Wilson would like to use \$500 for the Celebrate 90+ Tea and \$500 towards the Volunteer Recognition event.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to approve the expenditure of \$500 for the Celebrate 90+ Tea and \$500 towards the Volunteer Recognition event. Seconded by Ilene Harris. (7-0) Unanimous.

e. Award from CASCP. Ms. Wilson showed Commission members the award the Senior Center received from the Connecticut Association for Senior Center Personnel.

f. Other Pertinent Business. Ms. Wilson reported the Lions Club asked if they can use the Senior Center bus as a shuttle to the Lobsterfest and Art Show. They will reimburse us for gas and the driver.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Carrie Janus moved to adjourn the June 11, 2012 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting at 6:50 p.m. Seconded by John Whritner. (7-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted



Frances Ghersi, Recording Secretary