

Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2015

Present: Philip Mountain  
John Whritner  
Joe Palazzo  
Ilene Harris  
Marge Caste  
Joan Bengtson  
B. B. Smith

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
January 14, 2015 AT 4:10 AM/PM  
Karin Palazzo, at  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Also Present: Cathy Wilson, Senior Services Coordinator  
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex officio

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Chairman Mountain called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of January 12, 2015 to order at 5:00 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.
- b. Delegations. There were no delegations.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to add to this evening's Agenda, as item 1 c. Election of Officers for 2015 and under New Business Senior Center Survey and State Department of Aging Report. Seconded by Joe Palazzo. (7-0) Unanimous

c. Election of Officers for 2015. The Commission was asked for nominations for Commission on Aging officers for 2015.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to elect the following slate of officers for 2015: Philip Mountain, Chairman; Joe Palazzo as Vice Chairman and Ilene Harris as Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by B. B. Smith. (7-0) Unanimous

d. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2014. Mr. Mountain asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2014.

MOTION: Joan Bengtson moved to approve the December 8, 2014 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Joe Palazzo. B. B. Smith abstained from voting. (6-0-1) Motion carried.

e. Correspondence. There was no correspondence.

## 2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation. Ms. Wilson reported the quarterly report on the R-2 for DOT is being completed. Two vehicles have gone to the Town Garage for quarterly inspections. There were no major issues. All drivers are doing well.

Transportation has lessened during the holidays. Ms. Hardy asked if Ms. Wilson felt it was because family members were around and took care of their transportation. Ms. Wilson agreed and felt it was also due to Senior Services reduced schedule.

### b. Senior Trips.

(1) Enrichment Trips. The following enrichment trips are planned: February 11 to Ortega's Authentic Mexican Food located in Groton and on February 25 to the Old Lyme Inn. The trip fee for each of these trips is \$3.

(2) Day/Overnight Trips. The following Day/Overnight Trips were planned: April 9 to Mohegan Sun. The trip fee is \$20 per person; April 16 to Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, NY to see "West Side Story". The trip fee is \$99 with lunch included; April 25 to New York City on your own. The trip fee is \$45 per person; May 14 to the Port of Galilee in Narragansett, Rhode Island. The trip fee is \$78 per person; and on May 28 for a Lobster Roll Cruise on Cape Cod Bay in Massachusetts. Lunch is included. The trip fee is \$86 per person.

On March 27-29 for two nights at Cherry Blossom Time in Washington, D.C. The trip fee is \$451 per person for a double/triple and \$611 for a single room; May 26-28 for a two night trip to Williamsport, PA. The trip fee is \$411 per person for a double/twin and \$511 for a single; July 4-10 for a tour of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island for five nights and one private stateroom on the "Nova Star". The trip fee is \$1,637 per person for a double and \$1,567 for a triple and \$2,217 per person for a single; October 12-14 for a No Fly Cruise out of Baltimore to the Sunny Western Caribbean. It includes two nights in Baltimore with a tour of the US Naval Academy and a Baltimore Ghost tour on Halloween night. The trip fee is \$1,882 per person which includes taxes. There will be a trip presentation at the Senior Center on February 25 at 1:30 p.m.; on January 28 to February 7 for a eleven day Hawaiian Cruise, including seven shore excursions for a cost of \$4,449 per person. There will be a trip presentation at the Senior Center on February 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Ms. Bengtson asked if any of these trips require a passport? She was informed the Caribbean and Nova Scotia trips do.

### c. Programs.

(1) Senior Nutrition Program. Ms. Wilson reported we have not had a TVCCA Site Server since October. Volunteers have been delivering the meals.

(2) Senior Center Programs-Ongoing. All ongoing programs are doing well. By the middle of December people are busy with the holidays and we do not have as many programs at that time. We are now getting busier.

(3) Senior Center Programs – New. Ms. Wilson reported we normally have volunteers that assist seniors with income taxes. This year we are unable to get volunteers so we are not offering it. Ms. Harris suggested requesting a reduced rate from companies that take care of income tax.

d. Budget - General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson reported the General Fund, Revolving Account is doing well and the current budget is doing fine.

e. Revenues - General Fund, Revolving Account. Ms. Wilson stated revenues are doing well. She has asked for an additional \$15,000 for Day trips.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Budget Review for FY 15/16. The Commission reviewed a revised Commission on Aging Fiscal Year 2015/16 budget.

MOTION: John Whritner moved to revise the Commission on Aging Operating Budget for 2015/2016 in the amount of \$267,162. Seconded by Joan Bengtson. (7-0)

b. Other Pertinent Business. There was no other pertinent old business.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

a. First Budget Review Date. Ms. Wilson will meet with Mark Nickerson tomorrow to discuss the upcoming budget.

Ms. Bengtson felt the baby boomer generation will increase the workload of Senior Services. Ms. Wilson plans to include statistics on that with the budget.

Ms. Bengtson asked do you offer a special discount for veterans? Ms. Wilson replied at the present time we do not, but she will put it on next month's Agenda.

b. Update on Dial a Ride Grant. Ms. Wilson reported at the end of March we write this grant. Because in the Town of Groton a woman embezzled money, our grant will be reduced. The Town of Groton is trying to obtain victims compensation.

c. Potential Job Description for Potential New Position. The Commission reviewed the job description. There was a general consensus that it was fine. Ms. Wilson will request Mark Nickerson to review it.

d. 25th Anniversary of the Senior Center in 2015. Ms. Wilson has been thinking of ways to celebrate the Senior Center's 25th anniversary. Ms. Hardy reported it opened on August 1990 with a reception. The Lt. Governor and state delegations attended, the High School band and chorus performed. The architect gave a tour of the building. John Whritner felt September would be a better month to have it.

e. Potential Fundraising Walk/Run. Ms. Wilson agreed to speak to Mr. Putnam about a walk/run during the month of May, and she will bring information on it at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Harris suggested requesting help from the Leos and Lions clubs.

f. Senior Center Survey. Ms. Wilson asked Commission members to complete the Senior Center Survey and return it to Senior Services.

g. State Department of Aging Reporting. The State Department of Aging is concerned about senior safety and would like senior centers to develop a plan.

h. Other Pertinent Business. Mr. Palazzo reported that whoever is using the Senior Center kitchen on weekends is not cleaning up before they leave. John Whritner suggested requesting a revocable deposit. Mr. Palazzo suggested that they be informed in writing that it is their responsibility to clean up after themselves.

## 5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Bengtson moved to adjourn the January 12, 2015 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting at 6 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Palazzo. (7-0)  
Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary