

Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2011

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

Also Present: Cathy Wilson
Senior Services Coordinator
Rose Ann Hardy, Ex Officio
Flo Hurley

Absent: Jane Powers

FILED October 12, 2011
AT 3:00 PM.

J. Carblaw ATC
TOWN CLERK

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Chairman Mountain called the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting of October 11, 2011 to order at 6:00 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.
- b. Delegations. There was no discussion from guests.
- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2011. Mr. Mountain asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2011.

MOTION: Carrie Janus moved to accept the September 12, 2011 Commission on Aging Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Carrie Janus. Marge Caste abstained from voting. (4-0-1) Motion carried.

d. Correspondence. The monthly status reports were made available to the Commission.

2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation. Ms. Wilson reported both vehicles are running well. All drivers are doing well.

The appeal letter was sent out in September. To date \$680 has been received.

B. B. Smith arrived.

(1) Enrichment Trips. The following Enrichment trips are planned: Wednesday, November 9th to the Annual Greek Festival at St. Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church in

New London for a trip fee of \$3; Wednesday November 23 to the West Farms Mall in Farmington, Connecticut for a trip fee of \$4.

(2) COA Sponsored Trips. No COA sponsored trips have been scheduled.

(3) Day/Overnight Trips. The following day trips are planned: Wednesday, November 2 to Newport Playhouse & Cabaret in Newport, R.I. to see "Social Security" for a trip fee of \$83; Tuesday, November 29 to New York Botanical Garden Holiday Train Show and a trip to Little Italy of the Bronx for lunch on your own. The trip fee is \$59; and on Monday, December 19th "Step into Christmas" at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Connecticut for a trip fee of \$74.

The following overnight trips are planned: On November 9-16, 2011 to the French Riviera, prices range from \$2,749 to \$3,179; December 8-10, 2011 to see Niagara Falls and the Canadian Holiday Festival of Lights, prices range from \$365 to \$474 per person; February 3-6, 2012 to Quebec City for Winter Carnival, prices range from \$649 to \$919 per person; March 15-30, 2012 to see Treasurer of Angkor Wat and Vietnam, with an optional two nights Hong Kong post tour extension for \$5,699 to \$6,599 per person; April 7-20, 2012 to Holland and Belgium in Springtime River Cruise with an optional 3 nights in Amsterdam, prices range from \$3,550 to \$3,950 per person; and September 8-19, 2012 to National Parks of America with prices ranging from \$3,829 to \$4,879 per person.

c. Programs.

(1) Senior Nutrition Program. There have been no changes to the Senior Nutrition Program.

Rose Ann Hardy asked if the attendance does not pick up will there be budget implications if meals are prepared at the Senior Center. Cathy Wilson felt there would be.

(2) Senior Center Programs-Ongoing. Ms. Wilson reported all ongoing programs are doing well.

(3) Senior Center Programs – New. Cathy Wilson is considering using a Power Point Presentation for an Informational Meeting on Medicare Part D twice a year.

d. Budget. The budget is doing fine.

e. Revenues. Revenues are doing well.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Other Pertinent Business. Mary Broga asked if Ms. Wilson had discussion with the gentlemen at AHEPA who asked if the Senior Center bus can be used to take

AHEPA residents to the Wadsworth Atheneum. Ms. Wilson informed him that he may request a particular trip at the Senior Center, which would be offered to all senior residents of East Lyme.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Budget Preparation FY 12/13. Ms. Wilson asked those present if there was anything in particular the Commission would like to see in the upcoming budget. They asked her what she would like.

Cathy Wilson would like full time coverage to replace the part-time coverage in her office. The Medicare Part D discussions have been an hour long and the individual must return in order to make their decision.

Ms. Hardy suggested that Ms. Wilson list her increased duties over the last two years and the number of clients she is seeing. Also what duties this full time person could assume.

Ms. Hardy asked what will happen if you do not get this person? Ms. Wilson replied she is presently working some evenings and weekends.

Ms. Hardy asked Ms. Wilson if she would like to change how trips are handled? Ms. Wilson replied she would like to eliminate the subsidized trips and subsidize some programs instead.

b. Building Used as a Shelter Issues. Ms. Wilson reported we could not run programs while the Community Center was used as a shelter. We were able to have the congregate and meals-on-wheels programs. We assisted Waterford with its meals-on-wheels program.

She felt department heads should be informed if a road is closed prior to drivers leaving the building.

We were able to assist with communications.

We were able to help Emergency Management.

Larger individuals were unable to use a cot.

c. List of Repeating Rentals of Sr. Center During Off Hours. Ms. Wilson reported we have six groups that meet at the Senior Center on a regular basis. B. B. Smith asked what is the charge? Ms. Wilson replied if they are a non-profit local group there is no charge. Otherwise they are charged \$50 each time they meet.

B. B. Smith asked what are the hours that the Senior Center can be rented? Ms. Wilson replied Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

d. Other Pertinent Business. Ms. Wilson informed the Commission that last year we received \$130 million for energy assistance. This year we will receive \$65 million. As she is preparing energy assistance applications she is informing individuals they can plan to receive one-half of what they received last year. The income levels have not changed only the benefit levels.

Ms. Broga stated oil companies are waiting longer for payment. The companies who do not participate are referring individuals to the companies that do participate.

Marge Caste visited the Groton Senior Center and highly recommends the expenditure of a TV board.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Carrie Janus moved to adjourn the October 11, 2011 Commission on Aging Regular Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Seconded by Marge Caste. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted



Frances Ghersi, Recording Secretary