

**EAST LYME COMMISSION ON AGING
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 2014**

Present: Philip Mountain, Chairman, Marge Caste, Ilene Harris, Joe Palazzo,
John Whritner, B.B. Smith

Also Present: Cathy Wilson, Senior Services Coordinator

Absent: Joan Bengtson

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Sept 19, 2014 AT 9:55 AM PM
Karen Palazzo
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Chairman Mountain called the Commission on Aging Special Meeting of September 15, 2014 to order at 5:00 PM.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was observed.

b. Delegations

Mr. Mountain called for delegations.
There were no delegations.

c. Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2014

Mr. Mountain called for any additions, deletions or corrections to the Commission on Aging Regular Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2014.

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Whritner moved to approve the July 14, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Commission on Aging as presented.

Mr. Palazzo seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

d. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

2. STATUS REPORT

a. Transportation

Ms. Wilson reported that the vehicles are currently going through the quarterly inspections. Also, the Dial-A-Ride program no longer allows any unspent funds to be carried over into the next funding year. Fortunately the funding has continued. She noted that the nine (9) Town area spends around \$8,000/month with this program.

Ms. Harris asked if it is a yearly grant.

Ms. Wilson said yes.

b. Senior Trips

- (1) **Enrichment Trips** – Ms. Wilson reported that the Culinary program is back in operation at the High School and that on Friday, October 3, 2014 they would be going for a 'free' lunch sponsored by the culinary students.

On Wednesday October 8 they will take a trip to The Promenade Shops at Evergreen Walk with lunch on your own at Rein's Deli. Trip fee is \$4.

On Wednesday October 22 they will take a luncheon trip to On the Rocks at Fox Hopyard in East Haddam. Trip fee is \$3.

- (2) **Day/Overnight Trips** – Ms. Wilson reported on the following upcoming day trips:
October 9, 2014 - Westchester Broadway Theater to see 'South Pacific', lunch included, Trip fee \$104. *Wait list.*

October 23, 2014 – Mohegan Sun – with The Lymes Senior Center, Trip fee is \$20.

November 6, 2014 – Culinary Institute in Hyde Park, NY, lunch and kitchen tour. Trip fee is \$94. *Wait list.*

December 11, 2014 – NY City – Holiday Sparkle with lunch at Brazil, Bryant Park. Trip fee is \$90.

Ms. Wilson noted that it is important for people to sign up even if it is on a wait list as that could possibly get another bus to go on the trip. She said that recently a Lighthouse cruise/lunch trip had a wait list that enabled them to fill another bus so they had two buses go.

c. Programs

- (1) **Senior Nutrition Program** – Ms. Wilson reported that TVCCA is starting a new program – a 'Fly by Knights' promotion. It currently sounds more involved in the production rather than the delivery and is in Bozrah. She also reported that they have drivers for all of the routes now.
- (2) **Senior Center Programs - Ongoing** – Ms. Wilson reported that she has tried to do 12-week programs and is now trying to tighten that up a bit and still keep it in the fiscal year as the cards for the programs are good only for a year.

She said that the tennis courts at the High School are being re-done and that she asked if they could line one for pickle ball however that request was denied as they have said that they would be using the courts for championship matches.

The showing of movies on Mondays has cost them a \$200/yr license fee however the participation does not cover that expense. The Library also has this license but they are not allowed to share it. A suggestion was to ask the Library to sponsor a movie in the senior center perhaps one afternoon per month.

A yoga instructor has approached her about having other yoga classes. As there is no open room here, it was suggested to have them off-site. Ms. Wilson said that they cannot subsidize off-site classes so they would have to charge enough to cover the costs.

Ms. Caste said that she thinks that people come here because they want to attend the classes here. There is also the issue of getting people to the classes and insurance.

- (3) **Senior Center Programs - New** – Ms. Wilson reported that they held a pig roast this past Friday and that it went really well and may become an annual event. They also had a juggler for entertainment who was good.

She reported that the drama club is doing really well and will do a production on October 30, 2014 of Plaza Suite. She is thinking that they could possibly do a luncheon theater as the play is almost three hours long.

Ukulele starts next week, they have around 16 people.

Open enrollment for prescription drugs will start soon and they are planning on having open enrollment fairs here, in Waterford and at Rose City to help with this. The one for East Lyme will be held on November 5, 2014 with more details to come.

d. Budget – General Fund, Revolving Account

Ms. Wilson reported that they are doing well as it is still very early in the fiscal year.

e. Revenues – General Fund, Revolving Account

Ms. Wilson reported that they had \$10,000 in August revenues.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Expansion of Senior Center

Ms. Wilson reported that the expansion option is on the Board of Selectmen's agenda for this week Wednesday and that it was tied to the medical clinic idea. She noted that there are now four proposals regarding the medical clinic and that she would keep them informed as this all progresses.

b. Transportation Services

Ms. Wilson said that things have calmed down with respect to bags and services. She suggested that they could look into having senior center bags for grocery shopping that zip so that things do not fall out.

Ms. Smith asked how many bags the average person uses.

Ms. Wilson said that it may not be the issues of the number of bags but rather of getting them on and off the bus for the people.

Ms. Harris asked if it would be possible to look into an outreach program with Stop & Shop.

Ms. Wilson said that they would have to have a means to pay and that she has encouraged people guarding their personal information.

Ms. Caste suggested asking for 'grocery aides' – a person who would be willing to ride the bus say on Thursday for the shopping run and help carry the bags to the bus and then off the bus to the home.

c. Potential Need for an Additional Driver

Ms. Wilson reported that she has Mr. Hallisey on call as a driver and that this is working out. She is still reviewing the Monday run as it is awkward with multiple events and people/places.

d. Other Pertinent Business

There was none.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review of Day/Overnight trips for FY 13/14

Ms. Wilson reported that they offered 20 day trips with 6 being cancelled. They had 312 different passengers. They did not make as much money as 4 of the trips did not make money however they did not want to cancel them as then people do not look to travel. They added about \$1900 to the revolving account last year.

b. Incident Report

Ms. Wilson noted that they had a copy of this and explained how the doors open on the bus and that the driver scraped his leg on them two times. She had public works sand and tape the area to help solve the problem.

5. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

6. ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION (2)**

Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the Commission on Aging Special Meeting of September 15, 2014 at 5:45 PM.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 - 0 - 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary, Pro-tem