

MINUTES

Commission on Aging Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Community Center Room 107

Members Present: Phyllis Jachimowski, Chairman Evelyn Molner, Robert Newton, Kathryn Rich and Suzanne Reilly.

Guest Presenter: Suzanne Garvey, Seymour Library

Others Present: Mary McNelis, Community Services Director, Bonnie Wilkes, Municipal Agent and Lucy McConologue, Elderly Services Manager

1. **Call meeting to order:** Evelyn called the meeting to order @ 10:06 a.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Approval of May 22, 2019 meeting minutes:** A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Suzanne to approve the **May 22, 2019** meeting minutes with the noted correction to the Elderly Services Manager Report that the Baltic Sea trip not the Mediterranean Cruise information session for next year has 33 individuals signed up. motion carried.
5. **Presentation: Suzanne Garvey, Seymour Public Library Librarian** reported that the mission of the Library is "**Lifelong Learning**". Ever since the Flood of 1955 and since the library is now located on hill (built in 1958), it's been difficult to get older adults to 'visit' the library. There is not a dedicated bus to bring individuals to the library. Recently the renovations have been completed in the downstairs area; next they need to work on the HVAC Systems.
Activities include Arts and Crafts, Music Events and Movies are held monthly. In the past they used to have up to 69 people attend their events, and lately the numbers have been much lower, it may be attributed to the ongoing renovations. Circulation: 69,000 each year. Their movie availability has increased via Digital, live streaming and the Indy flicks are popular. The eBooks stats are starting to climb.
They advertise via Face book, Instagram and Voices. Mary added that they are excited to announce that there will be a Quarterly Newsletter town wide and the Library will have their own designated page. And, in the next fiscal year, they will be merging the Community Center and Library Computer systems, so they will have the 5,000 people included in their mailing lists.
6. **Elderly Services Manager Report:** Lucy presented her current report for September - highlights included the new Time for Me, Caregiver Support Group to start on November 4th, from 1:30 - 3 pm; it will be a social, and fun environment. Dr. Ed Hendricks, PhD Professor will be the facilitator.
Mary informed us that the 2020 Ford 28 Passenger Town Bus has been ordered, it's ADA complaint and can accommodate 2 wheelchairs. The cost was \$103,980. The bus includes Seatbelts, USB ports, heated mirrors, and should be received midyear next year.

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There will be a Flu Clinic October 4; TEAM Inc. will now be taking Energy appointments has the Center, Mahjong has 2 classes at this time, Band Jam is doing well, the New Acoustic group will begin in January, and Pickle Ball is now offered 3 days per week. Space is getting tight in the building; they received the Mathies grant again which supports the 'free' exercise classes. The Clubs are doing better, More activities with the Veterans Program, there are new veteran's resources and referrals, the second Veterans Lunch will be free to all veterans. Suzanne mentioned it would be great for the Commission Members to help serve at the Veterans Luncheon to be held on November 14th. The Wii Bowling group continues and they are improving in hopes to go on the road and participate in tournaments with other senior centers. Wellness and informational Programs continue to do well.

Mary added, Membership's numbers are at 418 to date, there were 323 members last year at this time. We ended the year on June 30 with a total of 530 members. We ought to be able to exceed the number this year.

The October 24 Senior In-House Luncheon will feature Polish food and First Selectman Kurt Miller will take questions on the New Proposed Community Center.

7. **Municipal Agent Report** - Bonnie shared that in the last month:
 1. Referral to Protective Services for the Elderly as a result of an anonymous complaint. Collateral contact and follow up with several town departments and Protective Services.
 2. Assisting and referring residents to resources for unpaid medical bills.
 3. Assisting a resident who is a caretaker for a disabled relative.
8. **Financial Report:** Mary shared the financial report for the Elderly Services department all the income and expenses are on target.
9. **Public Comment:** None
10. **Old Business:** None
11. **New Business:** Suzanne asked Mary if the Commission on Aging Committee may also have space in the Newsletter on occasion to share information with our residents.
12. **Member Comment:** None
13. **Prepare October 23, 2019 meeting agenda** – Suzanne will not be able to attend the October meeting and asked that someone please take the minutes of the meeting on her behalf. Future topics to consider includes inviting Teila Cheever to come to speak to us again and also consider having a future meeting in at one of the Senior Housing locations.
14. **Adjournment** A motion was made by Phyllis and seconded by Bob to adjourn, Motion carried. (11:23 am)

Respectfully Submitted, Suzanne Reilly, Secretary - Commission on Aging