

SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Present: Marybeth Dwayne, Estelle Knurek, Kathi Liberman, Donna Mattison, Claire Mehan, Joe Mehan, Jane-Helen Ross, Gerry Seklecki, Christine Taylor, Mary Thibeault.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair Kathi Liberman.

Public Comments:

GUESTS: Jane Koley, Senior Housing Developer for Corporation for Independent Living (C.I.L.), was the guest speaker. The mission of C.I.L. is to create and sustain housing and other community resources that provide affordability, accessibility and independence to those in need. Since its formation in 1979, C.I.L. has developed more than 500 homes throughout CT and MA. They currently have plans for additional housing in Kensington, Windsor, and Coventry, CT. C.I.L. also participates in the "Grants for Accessibility" Program, which provides funds to eligible homeowners for accessibility modifications.

Minutes: The [minutes from the September meeting](#) were accepted as printed.

Old Business: As part of the discussion/planning for an Emergency Preparedness program, Joe Mehan displayed the "To-Go" Bag that he and his wife prepared as part of their own home evacuation plan. Joe distributed a list of items to be included in the bag. A brief discussion followed on the possible aspects of a program. It was decided that a committee be formed to outline plans for an upcoming Emergency Preparedness Program. Volunteers for the committee were: Joe & Claire Mehan, Donna Mattison, Marybeth Dwayne, Christine Taylor, and Kathi Liberman. [This committee met after the Senior Advisory Committee meeting and scheduled a "work session" for November. Donna Mattison will check the Pitkin Community Center calendar to secure a date for the actual program.]

Reports:

- a. *Council:* Members were reminded that if they have not contacted the Town Clerk regarding their reappointment to the Senior Advisory Committee to do so.
- b. *Wethersfield Housing Authority:* Kathi Liberman reported that applications for housing had been closed due to the long waiting list.
- c. *Clergy:* absent.
- d. *AARP:* Jane Helen Ross reported that membership was increasing gradually. Brad Davis will be the Guest Speaker at the next AARP meeting scheduled for Monday, Nov. 19 at 1:30 pm.
- e. *Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent:* Christine Taylor:
 - o Distributed copies of the Flu Clinic schedule.
 - o Reported that grant applications were available for Connecticut's National Family Caregiver Support Program. Family members caring for relatives aged 60 and older, and grandparents or older relatives caring for children 18 years of age or under, are eligible. Information is available by calling 1-800-994-9422.
 - o Mentioned that people on Social Security would be receiving an increase in 2008 of approximately 2.3 %
 - o Reviewed the planned increase in MediCare's monthly premium and annual deductibles.
- f. *People with Disabilities:* Christine Taylor mentioned that TR & WACPD is hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 5 - 8:00 pm at the Pitkin Community Center. Anyone interested in attending should RSVP to Natalie Morrison at 721-2952 before Nov. 1. The cost is \$5 per person. Volunteers are always

needed.

g. Wethersfield Seniors Club: absent

h. *Social Services/Senior Center*: Donna Mattison:

- Reminded everyone that the 9th District Senior Expo is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24 at the Rocky Hill Senior Center, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Donna will check into the possibility of our hosting this annual expo after the renovations are completed at Pitkin.
- Mentioned a new medication holder that reminded the user when it was time to take medications. It would also send issue an alert if a dose was not taken on time. Information is available at www.InfoMedix.com.
- Distributed a list of food items that the Wethersfield Food Bank is seeking for the upcoming holiday seasons.
- Mentioned that an Apple Crisp Making session is scheduled for Oct. 30 at Maple View Manor. Anyone interested in attending should contact Donna.
- Distributed copies of the November newsletter.
- Reminded everyone that Sylvia Orcutt of Peoples Bank will be our Guest Speaker at the November meeting. Sylvia is the facilitator of TRIAD, a crime prevention and education program between law enforcement and older persons.

The next meeting of the SCAC will be held on November 15, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Mehan