

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Present: Kathi Liberman, Gerri Roberts, Tony Martino, Kathy Bagley, Christine Taylor, Lisa Galipo, Joe Mehan, Claire Mehan, Adele Antoniou, Barbara Higbee, Carol Tedone

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm. Kathi Liberman asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. A motion was made by Chris Taylor and seconded by Barbara Higbee and the minutes were accepted.

Old Business:

Kathi Liberman noted that the SCAC membership list on-line is very old. Gerri Roberts said she will inquire about whose responsibility it is to provide notification of membership changes made by the council. Kathy Bagley also said she will ensure membership changes are made to the website.

Lisa Galipo reported the SCAC account has a balance of \$1599. She asked if the Committee would agree to allow the two full-page Rare Reminder ads regarding Senior Center activities now that our budget has been restored. Claire Mehan moved that two full-page Rare Reminder ads be allowed during the year. Barbara Higbee seconded the motion which passed.

New Business:

Lisa Galipo updated the committee regarding the work of the planning committee for the spring SCAC event. Lisa reported that she contacted the ladies from the Central Regional Tourism District for contacts for the "CT Trails" but has not received this information yet. She has also been in contact with Senator Fonfara's office who has agreed to assist us with the event by sending out mailers indicating Senator Fonfara's support of the event. Lisa invited Senator Fonfara's aide Jessica to the next planning committee meeting. She noted the date for the event is Monday, May 19 from 1-4pm in the Banquet Room. Kathi Liberman reported that she contacted Scot Haney to request his presence at the event and is waiting to hear back from his scheduler. The next planning meeting is scheduled for December 19 at 3pm.

Committee Reports:

Council Liaison:

Gerri Roberts introduced Tony Martino as the new council liaison to the SCAC. Gerri will now be the representative to the Youth Advisory Committee. All members introduced themselves to Councilor Martino who gave the Committee a short bio on himself including that he has lived in Wethersfield for 38 years and worked for the Town for 17 years.

Wethersfield Housing Authority: Kathi Liberman reported

- Renovations at Housing Authority properties continue.
- Kathi continues to work with Social & Youth Services regarding energy assistance.

- The housing authority received a grant from CHFA and will be holding a Thanksgiving event the week of 11/24.
- She is planning a Christmas Holiday event including viewing the Goodwin Park light show.

Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent: Chris Taylor reported

- She is continuing outreach for the Energy program. Currently approximately 250 residents have applied for assistance.
- The Social & Youth Services office is currently booking appointments for the end of February to process energy assistance applications.
- Social & Youth Services will hold their Thanksgiving food distribution this Saturday.
- The Senate Aging Committee has established a new senior fraud hotline and easy to use website. Seniors who have questions or experience fraud should call 1-855-303-9470.
- There will be a press event at the LOB on 12/11 sponsored by CABHN to publicize the problems residents are having dealing with DSS.
- Chris discussed a report regarding the new SIM state payment system for health care services. Advocates are concerned the new system may result in less or poor care for all residents including Medicaid recipients. All are encouraged to call their legislators to express concern about the SIM system.
- Elmwood Kitchen is offering free Thanksgiving meals for those in need.
- A webinar regarding the affordable care act and its effect on seniors is upcoming.

People with Disabilities: Chris Taylor reported

- Natalie Morrison held a very successful Thanksgiving event that was well attended. No business meeting was held this month.

Senior Center: Lisa Galipo reported

- She has been busy planning programming for the period January-June, 2014 in order to have this information ready for the upcoming Parks & Rec brochure printing. All existing programs will remain in place including Chair Yoga, T'ai Chi and Lunch & Learns. New programs will be added including a new exercise program and an art program called Zentangle.
- The CLC also held a recent curriculum meeting and is in the process of deciding about replacing their desktop computer lab with updated equipment including laptops and tablets.

There will be no SCAC meeting in December. The next meeting will be 1/16/14. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:00pm by Joe Mehan and seconded by Claire Mehan.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Galipo