

**COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Maureen Lynch
Karen Brecher
Greg Stelmak
Jerilyn Nagel
Therese Nadeau (arrived at 6:25 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patricia Hanbury

STAFF

Dianne Stone
Eleanor Eichner
Gail Whitney

ALSO PRESENT

David Nagel
Carol Anest
Roberta Byron Kolej

I. CALL TO ORDER

Maureen Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Nagel commented that the Town Council is forming a committee that would look at overseeing all the facilities in town in terms of improvements, etc. without having the need to form building subcommittees. State representatives will be attending the next Town Council meeting to outline budget issues. The search for a new town manager will be held off during the budget season. Acting Town Manager Tanya Lane can serve in this position for three months and the Town Council has the authority to extend this time. Carol Anest commented that a committee has been appointed that will lay the groundwork and timeline for a town manager search. David stated that the town manager position is the only town government position that the Town Council interviews and hires. Carol complimented Dianne Stone on the fabulous job she did at the Town Council's goal setting session.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December minutes of the Commission on Aging and Disabled were accepted as read.

V. STAFF REPORT

Dianne Stone reported the Newington High School Madrigal singers entertained at the Center in December. A local girl scout wrote a cookbook and held a cooking class at the Center. The

Connecticut Injury Prevention Center held a fall screening tool called SteadiKit. Every quarter Dianne holds an Ask The Director program. TED talks have been held with George Takai and Malcolm Gladwell, and on February 9th another one will be held on How To Live 100+ years old. There was a wood carving class held for three weeks that was very well attended and cost \$50 which included the tools. The Italian File Cine Club is holding a five week program showing Italian movies with English subtitles. The Mayor is holding office hours at the Center every Thursday morning. The Center has been reallocating rooms for programs; this is to make the most efficient use of a room as possible. The budget was submitted to the Town Manager; the Center's budget will be reviewed on March 10th. The budget is \$554,000 with \$423,000 as operating budget, \$128,000 Dial-A-Ride, and \$2,800 for the Commission on Aging and Disabled. This budget does not include personnel.

The big news: the Center now has WiFi – this is now publicly available for the use of Center patrons.

Dianne explained to the Commission that the garden has been very successful and has raised organic vegetables that are given to the Newington Food Bank. There is also an herb garden and a perennial garden. Parks and Grounds put up fencing to keep out wildlife, however a more secure fencing needs to be put in place. Facilities and Parks and Grounds will do this and maintain it. A local Eagle Scout has made it his project to get a shed for the garden area to store tools. Dianne has contacted the Town's Zoning Department with regard to a permit for the shed. **MOTION: Karen Brecher made a motion to allocate up to \$1,500 to purchase a shed, Greg Stelmak seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.**

Dianne then explained the revenue fund which has approximately a \$102,539 balance; coffee shop \$5,895, gift shop \$35,651, membership \$46,530, donations \$14,000. Over the years monies from these accounts, as approved by the Commission, have been used to furnish the TV lounge, get WiFi for the Center, chairs in the auditorium, coffee shop renovation, the Porte Cochere, and now is being asked to fund a bathroom upgrade project. **MOTION: Theresa Nadeau made a motion to allocate up to \$3,500 for upgrading, painting, and having all stalls have accessibility bars, Jerilyn Nagel seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.**

A. Door Counters

It is now available to go online to look at the count for the three entrances to the Center, however software is needed to give specific counts at specific times. At this time only the total count is now available.

VI. MONTHLY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager's report was distributed to the Commissioners.

VII. CLUB UPDATES

There were no Club Updates.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Self-Assessment

There was no report. Staff will be reviewing the goals and strategies at a February 18th meeting. Dianne will give a full report at the April meeting.

B. Transportation

There was no report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. ByLaws Discussion

Due to the fact that with the election in November the composition of the Commission on Aging and Disabled will be changing, this ByLaws discussion will be tabled at this time. Karen asked if Dianne could obtain copies of ByLaws from other Senior Centers.

Jerilyn asked why the meetings begin at 6:00 PM and not earlier. Dianne explained that it was changed to 6:00 PM a couple of years ago and that has worked out for the Commissioners. Those Commissioners who work would find it hard to attend any earlier.

Dianne will not be at the March meeting. The Commissioners decided to not hold a March meeting, and will meet again in April.

X. AGENDA FOR APRIL MEETING

Add under New Business Wall Of Honor, and Strategic Plan.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Greg Stelmak made a motion to adjourn, Therese Nadeau seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was unanimously passed with a 5-0 vote at 7:02 P.M.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging and Disabled is Wednesday, April, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Whitney, Commission Clerk