

Commission on Aging
Regular Monthly Meeting February 10, 2014

Betsy called the meeting to order at 12:04

Present: Carol Howe, Betsy McIlvaine, Marilyn Wilkes, Sue Balla, Ellen Melville, and Richard Groski

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

SENIOR CENTER/SOCIAL SERVICES

Activities are beginning to pick up for the month of February. Scheduled on the 21st is the AARP Safe Driving Class. Tax-Aide counselors will be on hand to assist residents with income tax preparation. Two part-time employees have been hired to replace Beth Hoolehan. It is hoped their hours can be expanded in the future. Starting soon is a pen pal exchange with Huckleberry Hill School students. One of Ellen's goals is to create more inner generational programs. She is in hopes of posting a list of people at the Center who are willing to shovel, plow, do lawn care and the like so senior residents have people they can hire. This is in response to an increase in phone calls from seniors asking for help. Use of the food pantry has been down a bit due to bad weather. Jeanette is busy assisting residents with their health insurance needs since there is much confusion. It is anticipated that private donations will be needed to help seniors with their energy needs this winter.

BROOKS QUARRY

Rich continues to get quotes for adding walk in tubs and new, vinyl flooring in units that are unoccupied. Applications are currently being accepted. Rents for new residents will increase given the fact that money does not come from the town, state or federal government to operate the Quarry. Residents do get an allowance for utilities and an energy rebate. It was suggested that the buildings be renumbered with the possibility of naming sections of units.

FISH

Several rides/appointments have been canceled due to bad weather. Carol will be scheduling rides for the month of March.

COMMISSION ON AGING

There was a short discussion of our next project that of a Resource Guide for Seniors. Sue Balla agreed to contact Newtown's COA to see if we can get an electronic copy of their guide to use as a template. Carol will contact Joan Locke, Town Clerk, with the names of Brookfield's COA officers as follows: Betsy McIlvaine, Chair, Marilyn Wilkes, Vice-Chair and Carol Howe as Secretary.

The next COA meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5. Meeting adjourned at 1:15.