



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Commission Chairmen Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 20, 2017, 7PM
Colchester Town Hall - Meeting Room 1

MEMBERS PRESENT: Selectman R Coyle, Selectman Denise Mizla, and Selectman John Jones

MEMBERS ABSENT: First Selectman Art Shilosky and Selectman Stan Soby

1. Call to Order

Selectman R Coyle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Commission Updates – Commission Chairs

Chris Bourque reported on the **Agriculture Commission** – regulation for live animals in a suburban zone being drafted to put forth to Planning & Zoning. Farm building exemption being discussed. Working with schools on farm to school program. Competing for grant and working with Colchester Grange on a bookcase and book donations. Presenting books to CES to put in their school library in memory of John M. Working on Colchester tour for National Garden Tour group visiting.

Brad Bernier reported on the **Board of Finance** – putting together 17-18 budget. BOF asked for \$400,000 in cuts. On 3/2 Superintendent notified he would be retiring on 6/30. They will use a consultant to assist in the new superintendent search. There is a good video on BOE website that tells about programs in the middle school.

Merja Lehtinen reported on the **Cable Advisory** – kept down rates for cable. Comcast reports that all is going well. No new build outs planned. Encouraged people to use the Public Access studio. Comcast joined the statewide council.

Jean Walsh reported on the **Economic Development Commission** – refocusing efforts on what to accomplish. Reached out to the CBA to request a partnership and presented at their last meeting. Continue to look at website options. CBA donated booth space to EDC so they can showcase properties available. SECOGG will join them and present loans for small businesses and grant opportunities. Developing 'welcome to Colchester' signs. Halls Hill Grant project hopefully will have a bike path included. Looking at doing a survey to get feedback from residents on what their needs/wants are.

Joe Mathieu reported on the **Planning & Zoning Commission** – one vacancy on the commission. Quiet quarter, not many applications. Significant development being worked on. Small regulation changes need to be made.

Stephen Coyle reported on the **Sewer & Water Commission** – received certification from the state to begin the new well. Facilities treatment plant – automated grate equipment \$160,000. Prospect Hill pump station doing repairs on check valve. WUCC water supply plan, Colchester wants to be exclusive service provider in town. Meters remote project complete.

WRITTEN REPORTS RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING (attached):

Jean Stawicki regarding **Commission on Aging**
Rob Suhecki regarding **Youth Services Advisory Board**

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2017 APR 24 PM 1:33
Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

3. Adjourn

J Jones moved to adjourn the Commission Chair Meeting at 7:25 p.m., seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Attachments (2)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tricia Dean', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tricia Dean
Clerk

Commission on Aging Quarterly Report
Date: April 20, 2017
Submitted by Jean M. Stawicki, Chairman

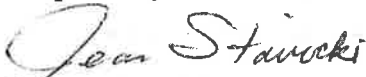
With the resignation of alternate, Linda Grzeika, in February of this year, the Commission now has both of its two alternate positions vacant. We request that when notices of vacancies are placed in the paper that the vacancy for the two alternate positions on the Commission on Aging be included.

Two of our last three meetings have been cancelled due to weather and/or lack of heat at the Senior Center so that work on the Senior Resource Guide has been slowed. We have finished editing the Second Edition of the Senior Resource Guide and we are now investigating hiring a printer. There will also be an on-line printable version of the Guide available on the Commission's town website.

The Commission on Aging is exploring additional ways in which it can positively affect the ways in which our senior population ages in Colchester. The Commission has begun a process of brainstorming to determine the next project or projects which the Commission will take on to further its statutory charge. If any other departments, boards or commissions in town have found a gap which it is thought that the Commission could help fill or should be aware of, the Commission would be glad to hear of it.

Some Commission members have been participating in the Commission on Aging Regional Round Table Meetings (which are held approx. every 6 months), with the last one being held in Hebron on March 29. This meeting disclosed that budget cuts to the Meals and Wheels Programs have just recently come to all of the other regional members located in Middlesex County who receive funding for their program through Connecticut Renewal Team (CRT). I gathered that the cuts seemed to be in the approximate amounts of about \$30,000 to each town. I have talked with Patty Watts, the director of Colchester's Senior Services, and with TVCCA, the provider of Colchester's Meals on Wheels Program, and no cuts to our program have been scheduled and our program is expected to remain as it is through June 30, 2017. However, TVCCA will not guarantee that things will not change thereafter as we head into a new budget year for the State and Federal programs. The Commission on Aging would be very concerned if funding were to be reduced or lost from this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Jean M. Stawicki

Chairman, Commission on Aging

Report from Youth Services

Summer Calendar is out! With our new online registration for our summer trips.

This has alleviated a lot of stress for parents that had a hard time coming in to sign up their children.

All of our youth based community service groups are up and running.

This month we had our In Plain Sight Community Conversation which involve the actual setting up of a mock teen bedroom. Questionable itims were put out for parents to see as they went through the room. Some items are clothing, some areas to store drugs others were just innocent looking photos with questionable subject matter.

This event was well received and attended.. There was a student componant as well.

Screening of the movie Resilience last night... about 75 in attendance.

Respectfully,

Rob Suchecki, Chairman