



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging
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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow
Colchester Commission on Aging
Regular Meeting Minutes

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Nancy A. Bray

NANCY A. BRAY
SECRETARY

Monday, September 13, 2010 - Colchester Senior Center

Members Present: Chairperson Jean Stawicki, Bernie Erickson, Clara Erickson, Sue Maikshilo, Rose Levine, Betty Ann Oppelt, Barbara Warden

Members Absent: Vice-Chair Theresa Hendricksen, Bill Wagner

Others Present: Patti White

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jean Stawicki at 1:03 p.m.
- 2. Minutes:** Rose Levine motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of 8/9/10 with the correction that Chair Jean Stawicki was not present for the meeting. Sue Maikshilo seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 3. Financial Report:** Bernie Erickson reported that dial-a-ride collected \$317.25 in August from bus transportation. Of that, \$154.00 was for out of town trips. Barbara Warden motioned to approve the Financial Report. Clara Erickson seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** No items were reported.
- 5. Senior Center Director's Report:** Patti White reported that there will be training/orientation on October 13th for the Friendly Visitor program at the senior center from 5 – 7 pm. A light supper will be served. It will be advertised in the Busy Bee and the Colchester Bulletin.
The program on keeping loved ones at home will be on October 20th. It will focus on home safety and modification, issues of aging that may impact independence, resources available for senior care and instruction in what pays for what.
The TRIAD event will be on October 19th from 9:30 – 12.
AARP is holding their candidate forum at 2 pm on October 26th at the senior center. Other forums have had a great response from candidates running in the state and district.
The annual volunteer luncheon will take place on September 22nd. It will celebrate volunteers, National Senior Center month and the 30 year anniversary of when the senior center began operating in its current building. It will run from 11 am – 2 pm.
The computer classes began last week. 6 people attended. There are currently 3 computers, but Patti is expecting another one soon. The instructor has put together a curriculum and is really excited.

National Make a Difference Day is on October 23rd. Patti is starting to plan this event.

The Senior Center Study Group met in August with the Superintendent of Schools and 2 members of the Board of Education. They talked about a possible plan of using the old Bacon Academy (the left hand building of the current William J. Johnson Middle School) as a community center/senior center site. They also spoke about housing the Board of Ed as well as youth and social services there. These discussions are all part of the due diligence the group is doing to meet the charge put to them by the Board of Selectmen. The next meeting is September 22nd where they will meet with members of the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees who own the building the center is currently housed in. They will also meet with a consultant who will work with the group using the SWAT method to help them narrow down all the information they have gathered to make the final recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

Barbara Warden motioned to approve the Senior Center Director's Report. Bernie Erickson seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Old Business:

A. Visitation Program: No other items were reported.

B. Long Term Care Need Issue: Rose Levine reported that she has 2 confirmed speakers and is waiting for one more response for the October 20th event which will be held from 7 – 9 pm. It will be a panel format and Rose offered to moderate. She is working on a pamphlet as well as publicity. There was discussion on making this a series as there are too many topics to cover in one night.

Jean asked Commission members to think of other ways they can help seniors in town such as talking to area discharge planners to see what Colchester can offer to help seniors be discharged to their homes rather than nursing homes.

C. Bylaw Review: There are differences between the bylaws and the Town Charter that need to be balanced. Rose Levine and Jean Stawicki offered to be on a committee that will review the bylaws and bring their recommendations back to the Commission. Jean will email Theresa Hendricksen and Rosemary Coyle to see if they are interested in joining the committee. The committee will then pick a time convenient to all to meet.

7. New Business: No items were reported.

8. Adjournment: Sue Maikshilo motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:18 pm. Clara Erickson seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski