



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging
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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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Nancy A. Bray

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TOWN CLERK

Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 - Dublin Village

Members Present: Chairperson Rose Levine, Jean Stawicki, Goldie Liverant, Gary Siddell, Rob Gustafson

Members Absent: Joe Menhart

Others Present: Patty Watts, Susan Choma

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair R. Levine at 8:39 a.m.
- 2. Minutes:** G. Siddell motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of 10/15/13. G. Liverant seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 3. Reconsideration of August Minutes: Change to Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts asked to change wording of the 8/12/13 minutes to reflect that there was a sum of money established when Cathy Russi was director that was earmarked to fund a new senior center. It is part of the unspecified donation account and is made up of memorial donations that were specifically dedicated for a new senior center. Donations to this fund are still being received and are added to the amount specified for a new center. G. Siddell motioned to accept this change to the August 12, 2013 minutes. R. Gustafson seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** P. Watts reported that October transportation collected \$102 for daily trips and \$136 for out of town trips for a YTD total of \$832.25. The group discussed transfers made by the Board of Finance to cover some line item shortages in mileage and repairs to the fleet as well as the condition and cost of the Subaru that is shared between the library and the senior center.
- 5. Chairman's Report:** R. Levine reported that she sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting them to appoint J. Menhart as a full member. She will also send a letter requesting to add reappointing G. Liverant to their December agenda. Once these changes are made, G. Siddell will see to updating the website. There was discussion regarding finalizing the resource guide so it can be published and put on the website. Rose will get a date to work on this and let interested members know.
- 6. Vote on Vice Chair Position:** G. Liverant nominated G. Siddell who graciously accepted the nomination. The vote will be held in December.
- 7. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that she is working on getting community partners to come to the senior center to supplement current programming. She is working on creating a network but is clear that the center is a no-solicitation facility so they can't offer anything for sale. They hosted a wonderful Veteran's Day program last

Tuesday. AARP is holding a Q&A on Friday, 11/15 for new volunteers to help prepare tax returns for seniors. They hope to provide appointments once a week from mid-February through April 15th. There will be a Fraud and Scam Prevention program at 1 pm on Tuesday November 19th. The Thanksgiving luncheon will be held on November 21st at noon with musical entertainment at 1 pm. The Holiday Fair will be on December 7th from 9 am until 1 pm. Along with the bake sale, holiday décor and jewelry, there will be a basket raffle. Santa will also make an appearance. The 14 passenger bus has been in for repair for much of October and November. They think it's an electrical problem. The staff has done an exceptional job working around this. TRIAD will be meeting on November 19th at the senior center at 8:30 am. This is made up of the Senior Center Director, Colchester Housing Authority, Colchester businesses, law enforcement and the fire department. Their mission is to provide a community safety net for seniors. The first meeting will be to discuss history and possibly establish future goals. Senior Center attendance in October was 1,002 for 22 days. They gave 1,394 rides of which 965 were regular and 429 were medical. For meals served, there were 60 for 2 special parties, 38 for the Monday Bistro meals and 121 for the Tuesday through Friday Community Café meals. 491 Meals-on-Wheels were delivered. Three new clients signed up in October. There was discussion on establishing further policies and procedures for the senior center. Patty will compile some information then request volunteers to work on this.

8. **Current Senior Center Building Update:** The exterior façade project is almost completed, still waiting on some final details. The hallway project is now complete and the photos of Colchester will be hung shortly. The spaghetti supper fundraiser raised over \$1,400 to build the storage units that will separate the large room across from the cafeteria. The Eagle Scout candidate will begin this weekend. The dedication ceremony will be held during the Holiday Fair on December 7th.
9. **Middle School/Senior Center/Community Center Building Committee Update:** G. Siddell reported that the subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen met with the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees and discussed leasing the senior center building with the intent to buy it. The Commission discussed compiling specific building requirements to recommend to the Board of Selectmen for when they are making these considerations. There was much discussion centering on the plans developed by the Friends of the Senior Center and the Senior Center Study Group. The results of the survey available on voting day will be read at the December Board of Selectmen meeting.
10. **Discussion on Time for 2014 Commission on Aging Meetings:** The meetings will remain at 8:30 am.
11. **Old Business:** No items were reported.
12. **New Business:** No items were reported.
13. **Citizen's Comments:** No items were reported.
14. **Adjournment:** G. Siddell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 a.m. J. Stawicki seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski