

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

Monday, January 13, 2014 - Colchester Senior Center

Members Present: Chairperson Rose Levine, Jean Stawicki, Goldie Liverant, Gary Siddell, Rob Gustafson, Joe Menhart, Susan Choma

Members Absent: None

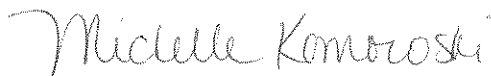
Others Present: Patty Watts, Rosemary Coyle, Art Shilosky, Mary Tomasi

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair R. Levine at 8:35 a.m.
- 2. Minutes:** J. Stawicki motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of 11/12/13 with the following change to the section "Reconsideration of August Minutes"; 'There is a sum of money in a dedicated memorial account comprised of donations specified for a new senior center'. J. Menhart seconded. All members present voted in favor. J. Menhart abstained. MOTION CARRIED.
- 3. Financial Report:** P. Watts reported that November and December transportation collected \$220 for daily trips and \$90 for out of town trips for a YTD total of \$1,339.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** No items were reported.
- 5. Vote on Vice Chair Position:** J. Stawicki moved to bring a vote to the floor to name G. Siddell as Vice Chair of the Commission on Aging. G. Liverant seconded. All members voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. R. Levine called for a vote. All members voted in favor.
- 6. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that the center will be closed on January 20th for Martin Luther King's Birthday. The center follows the schedule set by the First Selectmen for weather closures. It is announced on both radio and TV. The hallway project is complete. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication with the First Selectman. The Eagle Scout project will occur in February. There will be another pasta dinner fundraiser in early February for this. Patty is planning for the subdivision of the other room. Public Works will perform the work and she is working on budgeting for the funds. The Holiday Fair raised over \$2,200. The holiday luncheon with musical entertainment and the New Year's Eve Bash both sold out. There is upcoming training for volunteer receptionists. Once a month, there is a blood pressure screening. On Wednesday the Beat the Winter Blues luncheon will be held. There is a driving program on Friday and an intergenerational Bingo next Tuesday. A local Chinese restaurant will cater a Chinese New Year luncheon on Jan. 31st. AARP tax aid season begins on February 28th. There will be weekly appointments through April 18th at the senior center. There have been repairs needed to both the minivan and the 18 passenger van. There was discussion regarding where these funds hit the budget. Attendance has been steadily increasing.

Attendance at the center was 883 in 18 days in November and 779 in 21 days in December. There were 54 bistro meals served and 390 meals-on-wheels delivered. 6 new members signed up in November and 2 in December. TRIAD held their initial meeting in November and will begin publishing a safety article for the monthly newsletter focusing on safety and wellness education. Patty has been researching 'My Senior Center' which is a data tracking program used in senior centers. Every member will receive a scan card which will help determine space needs, mileage, program usage etc. There is cost associated with the purchase of it though and will need to be budgeted for. There has been some progress with the outstanding work orders. Some items are unable to be completed and weather has played a part in the delay of others. Patty said that Public Works responded immediately when there was a problem with the furnace. A. Shilosky added that J. Paggioli is compiling a list of capital expenditures for all town buildings so the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen can prioritize.

7. **New Senior Center Building Update:** The middle school project is moving forward. The subcommittee discussing purchasing the senior center building and land from the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees is looking at it as an investment. They are looking at a 5 year plan. There was discussion regarding how this purchase will be presented to the town. The group felt that continued talk about the senior center at town meetings is important. They want to determine space requirements taking into account the growing population of seniors and senior housing in town.
8. **Old Business:** R. Levine split up the Resource Guide and members are vetting phone numbers and addresses.
9. **New Business:** G. Liverant discussed the Gatekeeper Program where mail carriers, oil delivery people etc. are trained to spot if there are any problems at senior homes. R. Gustafson reported that mail carriers already do a great job of this. P. Watts added that all senior center personnel are now mandated to be reporters to Elderly Protective Services. She also said that there are 2 emergency contacts listed on all membership cards. There was discussion about preparing next year's budget and reporting to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance. There was question about overages on certain line items that were covered by the gap of not having to pay a director for several months.
10. **Citizen's Comments:** No items were reported.
11. **Adjournment:** J. Stawicki motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m. G. Liverant seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Komoroski