



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging

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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 - Colchester Senior Center

B. SULLIVAN
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: Jean Stawicki, Goldie Liverant, Rob Gustafson, Ellie Phillips, Jennifer Raybern DeHay, Marjorie Mlodzinski

Members Absent: Chair Gary Siddell, Rose Levine, Marion Stanavage

Others Present: Patty Watts, Stan Soby, Art Shilosky, Mary Tomasi

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** J. Stawicki called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** J. Stawicki seated both alternates in lieu of two member's absences.
- 3. Minutes:** E. Phillips motioned to accept the September 21, 2015 meeting minutes with the spelling change from Port and Starbird to Port 'N' Starboard. G. Liverant seconded. All members present voted in favor. J. Stawicki abstained. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection in September 2015 was \$151.52 and out of town trips collection was \$160.00 for a monthly total of \$311.52. The YTD total is \$845.52.
- 5. Chairman's Report:** No items were reported.
- 6. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that September's celebration of National Senior Center Month was a great success. There was a lot of enthusiasm around the program and 61 people attended the Celebrate LIFE luncheon. The Renter's Rebate season ended on 10/31. Donna did a phenomenal job working with the 135 clients served. The Energy Assistance Program began 9/15 and the 1st deliverable fuel will be a little earlier this year on 11/10. Dr. Matthew Cross, an audiologist from the Hearing Center of Glastonbury, is offering free hearing screenings on Fridays. This service is by appointment only and includes hearing evaluations, hearing aid checks and light cleanings. Senior Resources has been offering an Enhanced Benefits Check-Up at the center twice a month. Due to funding and staff cuts, this service will only be offered through October. This will possibly be re-evaluated at year end. Rite-Aid is running a flu vaccination clinic for adults 18 and up on 10/22 and 10/29. It will be held at the senior center from 1-3 pm. P. Watts attended a Veteran's Benefits and CHOICES Training in preparation for Open Enrollment season and B. Sullivan attended a C4A conference entitled "Supporting Love Across the Life Span". The Holiday Fair is scheduled for Saturday, 11/21 from 9 am – 2 pm. The planning meetings for volunteers will be 10/15 and 10/29 at 9:30 am. Last year the CoA donated a basket for the raffle and one would be greatly appreciated this year as well. A Live Well Workshop, empowering people facing chronic disease and teaching skills to advocate for one's own health in a confidential group setting, will run on Wednesdays from 11/4 – 12/16. The center will be closed on Tuesday, 11/10 for an all staff training on Mental Aid First Aid which is in response to an increase of members with apparent mental health issues. Upcoming programming: AARP Smart Driver Course on 10/14, Orthopedic Presentation with Dr. Stanat from Norwich Orthopedic Group on 10/23, Mystery Trip on 10/26, AARP Meet the Candidates Forum at 2 pm on 10/27, Breast Health Awareness with Chatham Health on 10/28 and a Halloween Pizza Party on 10/30. Upcoming Trips: Country Divas at

the Aqua Turf on 11/17, A Wonderful Life at the Goodspeed on 11/23, *In the Christmas Mood* with the Glenn Miller Orchestra on 12/10, Love Letters at the Bushnell on 2/14, a No-Fly Cruise to the Bahamas from 3/19 – 3/27/16 and Best of Northern California from 9/5 – 9/13/16. September statistics: Attendance: 1,796 over 21 days, which was another new all-time high. Transports in September were 1,140. 149 Bistro and special meals served, 134 Community Café meals served and 456 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. At the end of the month, there were 818 seniors registered in MySeniorCenter which was a gain of 35 members throughout the month.

S. Soby added that he will be working on re-instating the Senior Resources Enhanced Benefits Check-Up Program. He also announced that all of the lighting will be replaced in the senior center thanks to a grant from EverSource.

S. Soby left the meeting.

7. **Senior Resource Guide:** No items were reported.
8. **Status of Strategic Team Planning Meetings:** P. Watts reported that the 1st introductory meeting was held last Monday. Members include representatives from AARP, Commission on Aging, Senior Center staff and members, Board of Selectmen and Public Works. Their goal is 1- to create a long range plan for the Department of Senior Services, and 2- to make recommendations to the Building Committee for a new facility. A. Shilosky talked about the goals of the Building Committee which include deciding where and what for a new senior center facility.
9. **Community Outreach Initiative:** J. DeHay presented a box for donations to be used at Stop & Shop on 11/7. There was discussion on surveying interested parties and the group settled on focusing on handing out fliers and trying to get contact info for possible distribution of information at a later date.
10. **Annual Report Preparation:** No items were reported.
11. **Old Business:** No items were reported.
12. **New Business:** The group discussed donations of baskets for the Holiday Fair Raffle. P. Watts explained they would like to have in hand by 11/6 so they can take pictures to send out for pre-sale tickets.
13. **Adjournment:** M. Mlodzinski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. E. Phillips seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski