



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging
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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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TOWN CLERK

Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Monday August 10, 2015 - Colchester Senior Center

Members Present: Chair Gary Siddell, Jean Stawicki, Goldie Liverant, Marion Stanavage

Members Absent: Rose Levine, Rob Gustafson, Wayne Mohrlein, Jennifer Raybern DeHay

Others Present: Patty Watts, Rosemary Coyle, Kurt Frantzen, Art Shilosky, Mary Tomasi, Laura Falt, other citizens

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** Chair G. Siddell called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** No action taken.
- 3. Minutes:** J. Stawicki motioned to accept the July 13, 2015 meeting minutes. G. Liverant seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** G. Siddell reported that R. Coyle is working with M. Cosgrove to create a place for the Commission on Aging donations that will be used for educational programming. That balance is currently \$14.70. The Commission is not currently in a position to hold any programs as the money requested from the town was cut from the budget. P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection in July was \$107.00 and out of town trips collection was \$171.00 for a monthly total of \$278.00. At the fiscal begins on 7/1, the YTD total is now \$278.00. Jennifer Raybern DeHay joined the meeting. G. Siddell sat her as a voting member in lieu of a member's absence.
- 5. Chairman's Report:** G. Siddell welcomed Kurt Frantzen to the meeting. He related that W. Mohrlein will resign from the Commission due to health issues. The Commission wishes him well and continued healing. G. Siddell reported that the new mission statement is on the website and thanked J. Stawicki for her work on it. He also stated that he and P. Watts have been meeting to further the process of accreditation. The Senior Resource Guides have been very well received and there are only a few copies left. The group discussed the need to validate the information included, number of copies needed per year and how to pay for republishing.
- 6. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that the implementation of MySeniorCenter and the membership drive are going very well and thanked the Commission, Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance for their support. 245 people have registered for membership and staff has entered 735 active members into the database from the cards previously used. The next step is to register infrequent users. There has been great feedback on ease of use and it is a huge timesaver for staff. The 2nd annual golf tournament was held this past weekend. 47 golfers played and 136 people attended the dinner. The total raised was over \$5,500! The CT DOT grant funding was awarded and the estimated delivery of the new 14 passenger bus will be July 2016. A. Shilosky said the town's responsibility of 20% will be reallocated from the vehicle replacement fund which has already been marked for this purpose. September is National Senior Center Month and this year's theme is Celebrate LIFE at your Senior Center (Learning, Independence, Friends, Energy). There are great interactive programs planned. Upcoming programming: 8/10 Mystery Trip; 8/14 Surprise Prize Bingo; 8/18 Hollywood Musical Memories at the Aqua Turf; 8/19 Seasonal Craft sessions start

(Scarecrow on the Green and Christmas Tree for the Wadsworth Atheneum); 8/25 Summer Beach Party with musical group *Changes in Latitude* and 8/31 All about Immunizations with Rite Aid Pharmacy. Upcoming Trips: 8/27 Foxwoods; 9/2 Goodspeed's *La Cage aux Folles*; 9/23 The Big E, 12/10 *In the Christmas Mood* with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and 3/19-27/16 No-Fly Cruise to the Bahamas. July statistics: Attendance: 1,412 over 22 days. Transports in July were 1,129. 64 Bistro and special meals served, N/A Community Café meals served and N/A Meals-on-Wheels delivered. Effective July 1, there were 735 seniors registered in MySeniorCenter. There was discussion on tracking new members in the program and how to use the information gathered.

7. **Status of NCOA Accreditation Process:** G. Siddell reported accreditation is a critical piece of the senior center future. There are 9 strands of excellence to work through in order to begin the application process which should take a year and a half to two years. The first strand they will tackle is the Strategic Long Term Plan which will create a vision for the next 5-10 years and answer some basic goal questions. It may also help to drive some of the physical requirements for a new building. P. Watts stressed that strategic plan will focus on both a new building and accreditation. R. Coyle related that the Board of Selectmen has put this item on their agenda and K. Frantzen spoke about creating a policy statement that states the formal position of the Boards of Selectmen and Finance. P. Watts said she is working on naming a committee in September to begin work on the Strategic Long Term Plan. Because the timeline allows up to two years once you actually apply, the plan right now is to complete the 9 strands of excellence then begin the application process once a building has been decided and shortly before work begins.
8. **Community Outreach Initiative:** J. Raybern DeHay and L. Falt presented a revised flier based on last month's comments. There are two objectives for the flier: 1 – to create public awareness of the Commission on Aging, Senior Center and the Senior Center Building and 2 – to fundraise. There was discussion surrounding the next steps. J. Raybern DeHay volunteered to place donation boxes in area businesses and speak with Stop & Shop about sitting outside one day.
9. **Old Business:** No items were reported.
10. **New Business:** No items were reported.
11. **Adjournment:** J. Stawicki motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 a.m. G. Liverant seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski