



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging
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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Gayle Furman
GAYLE FURMAN
TOWN CLERK

Monday July 13, 2015 - Colchester Senior Center

Members Present: Chair Gary Siddell, Jean Stawicki, Goldie Liverant, Marion Stanavage, Rose Levine, Rob Gustafson, Jennifer Rayburn DeHay

Members Absent: Wayne Mohrlein

Others Present: Patty Watts, Rosemary Coyle, Mary Tomasi, Laura Falt, other citizens

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** Chair G. Siddell called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** G. Siddell seated alternate J. Rayburn DeHay as a voting member in the absence of a committee member.

R. Gustafson motioned to reorder the agenda to move the Senior Center Director's Report to the next item. J. Stawicki seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 3. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that new members for May should have been 16 rather than 12. They are kicking off membership at 9 am this morning. It is free for Colchester residents 55 and up and there's a \$10 annual fee for non-residents. Membership is required for anyone participating in programs, classes, trips or services. There is a welcome bag given to registrants with the registration form, a welcome letter, Policies and Procedures Manual, File of Life Kit and instructions to enroll in town email subscriptions. MySeniorCenter has arrived and key tags will be distributed with membership registration. Feedback is that it's easier than the pen and paper sign in sheets. She met with the Wallingford Senior Center along with G. Siddell and J. Stawicki to discuss steps for accreditation. It was a productive meeting and a steering committee will be formed in August. TVCCA is offering summer salad specials on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the summer. There are Farmer's market vouchers available for income qualified individuals/couples who register at the center. Stop & Shop is donating baked goods and produce through their Harvest Program which are available at the center. Two senior volunteers coordinate pickup and Patty completes online reporting. The 2nd annual CSC Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held on August 7th for 9 holes and August 8th for 18 holes. There will be a dinner reception to follow at St. Joseph's Polish Club catered by Papa Z's. Non-golfers can join for \$15.00. The NCOA theme for National Senior Center Month this year is Celebrate LIFE at Your Senior Center (Learning-Expand your knowledge; Independence-Live on your terms; Friends-Enjoy life; Energy-Discover health and vitality). It's an exciting theme and plans are already underway for September. The DOT grant was awarded in the amount of \$33,320.00 and the Making Memories grant was for \$14,648 which was \$5,000 less than requested. They will have to fundraise to cover the gap. July programs are as follows: 7/6 Patriotic Picnic with Youth and Social Services; 7/10 Patriotic Camperdy Trivia and Ice Cream Social; 7/15 Massage Therapy Presentation with Julie Shilosky; 7/17 AARP Smart Driver Class; 7/23 Summer Salad Cooking Demo with Laura Falt; and 7/30 Thimble Islands Cruise with lunch on your own. The following trips are sold out: 7/16 My Name is Barbra-Lobster Bash, 8/13 Sail Away Aboard the Argia, 9/15 9/11 Memorial Museum and 12/2 Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular. There's still room to register for the following: 8/27 Foxwoods Casino, 9/23 Eastern States Expo (CT Day), 12/10 In the Christmas Mood with the Glenn Miller

Orchestra and 3/19-27/2016 No-Fly Cruise to the Bahamas. Missing May statistics: Transports: 926 and 134 Community Café meals served. June Statistics: Attendance: 1,361 over 22 days. 1,091 Transports. 99 Bistro and special meals served, 139 Community Café meals served and 403 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. 9 new members registered in June for a YTD total of 63 new members. Patty also reported that the First Selectman wants to include a new senior center on their agenda. Once the steering committee is named in August, there will need to be a bigger community presence beginning in September. She will be reaching out to senior housing areas to hold information sessions. The Resource Guides are running low. Asked about printing more as she'd like to include them in the welcome bag.

P. Watts left the meeting.

4. **Minutes:** J. Stawicki motioned to accept the June 8, 2015 minutes with the change in May new memberships from 12 to 16. M. Stanavage seconded. R. Levine and R. Gustafson abstained. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
5. **Financial Report:** There was discussion regarding whether there's a line in the new Commission on Aging budget to keep track of donations and expenditures. Currently they are run through the Senior Center budget. The 2015-2016 CoA budget includes clerk fees, printing and postage. R. Coyle will email Maggie in finance to find out. There is currently \$14.70 left from donations.
6. **Chairman's Report:** G. Siddell reported that the Quarterly Commission Reports are this Thursday at the Board of Selectmen meeting and members are welcome to attend. Also, Susan Choma resigned her position as alternate as she is moving out of state. The Commission thanks her for her service and wishes her luck in her move.

Art Shilosky entered the meeting.

G. Siddell also commented on the great job everyone has done to keep the senior center in the news while the school building project was worked on. There was discussion on whether the next step is to decide on what is needed in a building or an appropriate site for a new building. The building needs will be somewhat determined during the self-assessment process. R. Coyle stressed the need for all boards to work together to move this forward. A. Shilosky stated that the financial planning has already taken a new center into account.

7. **Review Revised Mission Statement Wording:** G. Siddell presented some suggested wordings for members to consider. R. Gustafson motioned to accept the following: "The Commission on Aging shall assist and support the needs of citizens 55 and older in the areas of nutrition, employment, economic and physical well-being, social services, housing and any other areas of concern; develop and implement programs; advocate for this population and collaborate with the Senior Center and the Community." G. Liverant seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. G. Liverant left the meeting.
8. **Status of NCOA Accreditation and Community Outreach Initiative:** G. Siddell reported that the steering committee should be no more than 10 people. R. Coyle suggested having an odd number. J. Raybern DeHay shared a draft flyer to use for advertising/fundraising. There was discussion on some changes to the flyer and how and where it will be used.
9. **Old Business:** No items were reported.
10. **New Business:** No items were reported.
11. **Adjournment:** J. Stawicki motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m. R. Gustafson seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Komoroski