



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging
95 Norwich Ave., Colchester, Connecticut 06415
(860) 537-3911

Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 14, 2016 - Colchester Senior Center

Michelle Fugian
MICHELLE FUGIAN
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: Ellie Phillips, Goldie Liverant, Rose Levine, Marion Stanavage, Jennifer Raybern DeHay, Marjorie Mlodzinski

Members Absent: Jean Stawicki, Rob Gustafson

Others Present: Patty Watts, Rosemary Coyle, Mary Tomasi, Andrea Migliaccio

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** E. Phillips called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** E. Phillips seated both alternates in lieu of two member's absences.
- 3. Minutes:** M. Mlodzinski motioned to accept the January 11, 2016 meeting minutes. G. Liverant seconded. All members present voted in favor. M. Stanavage and R. Levine abstained. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection for January 2016 was \$108 and out of town trips was \$175 for a total of \$283. The YTD total after January was \$1,992.81. The daily transportation collection for February 2016 was \$107 and out of town trips was \$99 for a total of \$206. The YTD total after February is \$2,198.81.
J. Stawicki entered the meeting at 8:37 a.m.
- 5. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that the senior center was awarded a Program of Excellence Award through the National Institute of Senior Centers for the National Senior Center Month program held last September entitled 'Winning at the Game of Life'. There will be a luncheon to celebrate this honor on Tuesday March 29th. There are only 12 of these awards presented annually and this was the only one awarded in Connecticut. Patty has been asked to attend a webinar program to share easily replicated programs. She praised Becky for her work on this program. The Enhanced Benefits Chuck Up has resumed on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. The annual audit of the Making Memories Program was last week and went well. Patty is currently writing grants for out of town medical transportation services. She also has an appointment to order the new 14 passenger bus this month. There is a new program called Stitch & Fix. A volunteer will perform minor repairs of clothing free of charge. AARP Tax Aide services are held by appointment on Fridays through April 1st. This started on February 12th and there are only a few appointments remaining. The Energy Assistance program is ending for the year and the Renters Rebate appointments will start on April 1st. The center will be closed on Friday, March 25th in observance of Good Friday. Current programming: Intro to Digital Photography, St Paddy's Bingo with Youth & Social Services, Pinterest Crafts, Ask the Techie, Explore Plant-Based Eating, Luck 'o the Irish Luncheon on 3/15, Reverse Mortgage Workshop on 3/16 and Purim Party on 3/24. Upcoming Trips: Foxwoods Casino on 3/30, Anything Goes at the Goodspeed on 4/27, Elm City Iron Chef on 5/1, Walk the High Line on 5/4, CT Lighthouse Cruise on 8/17 and Tropical Costa Rica 11/5 - 11/13. January statistics: Attendance: 1,198 over 19 days. Transports in January were 869. 60 Bistro and special meals served, 112 Community Café meals served and 596 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. At the end of January, there were 884 seniors registered in MySeniorCenter. February

statistics: Attendance: 1,105 over 18 days. Transports in February were 803. 125 Bistro and special meals served, 131 Community Café meals served and 577 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. At the end of February, there were 909 seniors registered in MySeniorCenter. The center was closed 2 days in February because there was no heat in the building. The numbers for registered seniors are changing slightly as the intern goes through the database.

J. Stawicki swore R. Levine in at 8:48.

6. **Status of Strategic Team Planning Meetings:** P. Watts reported that group has completed 10 site visits that cover a range of senior centers. They are currently compiling the findings and will present to the Senior Center Sub-Committee in April. Next, they will begin work on a Strategic Plan for the Department of Senior Services. This will identify where the department is headed over the next 2-5 years.

P. Watts left the meeting at 8:55 as the center was short staffed.

7. **Status of CoA Funding in Current Budget:** A. Migliaccio reported that there have been no cuts to the proposal at this point.
8. **Status of Purchase of Current Senior Center:** R. Coyle reported that the discussion has been in executive session and is progressing.
9. **Fundraising:** The group decided to think about ideas for fundraising, how to implement them and what to use them for.

10. CoA Projects:

14a. Senior Resource Guide: R. Levine has reorganized the guide and just needs a version she can edit. There was discussion regarding how to best procure one. E. Phillips motioned to submit a grant request written by R. Levine to the Colchester Lions Club for printing the Senior Resource Guide. M. Stanavage seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

14b. New Project: The group discussed ideas for programming. A. Migliaccio offered to share a resource she has for financial and/or legal speakers. R. Levine offered an idea for a program entitled "Can I Stay In My Own Home?". E. Phillips and M. Mlodzinski will meet with A. Migliaccio then discuss with R. Levine.

11. **Old Business:** M. Mlodzinski and E. Phillips will complete the Commission on Aging Annual Report and submit to the Board of Selectmen.
12. **New Business:** No items were reported.
13. **Citizen's Comments:** None.
14. **Adjournment:** E. Phillips motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. G. Liverant seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski