



# TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging  
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*Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow*

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*William*  
TOWN CLERK

## Colchester Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 9, 2016 - Colchester Senior Center

**Members Present:** Ellie Phillips, Goldie Liverant, Marion Stanavage, Jennifer Raybern DeHay, Marjorie Mlodzinski, Rob Gustafson

**Members Absent:** Jean Stawicki, Rose Levine

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

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** E. Phillips called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** E. Phillips seated J. DeHay in lieu of a Commission absence.
- 3. Minutes:** G. Liverant motioned to accept the April 11, 2016 meeting minutes with the correction in item 12 from G. Levine to G. Liverant. R. Gustafson seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection for April 2016 was \$138.85 and out of town trips was \$50 for a total of \$188.85. The YTD total is \$2,497.12.
- 5. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that with 50 people in attendance, the Q&A with the First Selectman regarding the purchase of the property at 95 Norwich Ave went well. More forums will be scheduled throughout town to promote the acquisition. TVCCA will not be serving meals on 5/13 but the center will offer a catered lunch of stuffed breads from Angelo's Bakery. The Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was a success with approximately 60 guests. Entertainment was very good. There will be a Military Whist Card Party Fundraiser for the center on May 26<sup>th</sup>, a Paint Night fundraiser on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and the annual Golf Tournament on August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The Energy Assistance season has been extended through May 31<sup>st</sup> and the Renters Rebate season runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>. The senior center will be closed on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.  
R. Levine entered the meeting.  
Current programming: Mother's Day Brunch on 5/9, Tinnitus Hearing Presentation on 5/18, Be Smart About Antibiotics on 5/19, Brain Games Lunch 'n Learn on 5/23 and Memorial Day Picnic on 5/31. Upcoming Trips: Hartford Yard Goats Baseball on 7/20, CT Lighthouse Cruise on 8/17, Royal Lipizzaner Horse Show on 8/19, Lady Kate Cruise and Bye Bye Birdie at The Goodspeed on 8/31, Providence Waterfire on 9/24, Plaza Suite at Newport Playhouse on 10/3, Tropical Costa Rica 11/5 – 11/13, Middlebury Christmas in VT from 12/7-12/9 and Springtime Tulip River Cruise in Europe from 4/6-4/14/17. April statistics: Attendance: 1,215 over 21 days. Transports in April were 909. In March, there were 118 Bistro and special meals served, 118 Community Café meals served and 558 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. Patty doesn't always receive the numbers from TVCCA in time for the meeting so will be reporting meals one month in arrears. At the end of April, there were 940 seniors registered in MySeniorCenter.
- 6. Status of Strategic Team Planning Meetings:** P. Watts reported that they are working on a narrative with the data collected. The next meeting is Monday the 16<sup>th</sup>. The next phase they will begin to work on is the strategic plan.

- 7. Status of CoA Funding in Current Budget:** The referendum will be held on Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>. There were no cuts from what was submitted. M. Mlodzinski reported that the balance in the CoA fund is \$475.94.
- 8. Status of Purchase of Current Senior Center:** R. Coyle reported that they will meet on Wednesday to discuss how and when to determine a town meeting and referendum after the budget passes. She stated that both the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance are in support of this purchase and will be meeting with groups around town to answer questions. Their message is that the purchase will secure a spot for the seniors until a new center can be built. The purchase will not affect tax rates as it would come out of the fund balance. And once a new senior center is built, the town can use the land and/or building for other purposes.
- 9. Freedom of Information Act Training:** There is a free training open to all Board and Commission members on May 26<sup>th</sup> at Norwich City Hall from 6-9 pm. Please RSVP to Tricia Dean in the First Selectman's office by May 11<sup>th</sup> if interested.
- 10. Fundraising:** J. DeHay submitted an application to Stop & Shop with 2 dates and will follow up for a response. P. Watts passed around the multi-tool Car Cane the group talked about selling. It can latch onto a car door frame to be used as a handle, it's also got a flashlight, a seat belt cutter and can break a car window.
- 11. CoA Projects:**
  - 11a. Senior Resource Guide:** R. Levine reported that the Commission received a letter asking them to attend the Lion's Community Night of Giving as a grant recipient. This will be used for printing the guide. She added that in the future, it would be nice to print it like a booklet with a front and back cover and possibly sell advertising.  
J. Stawicki entered the meeting.
  - 11b. New Project:** There was discussion regarding the second round table meeting for Commission on Agings in the region.
- 12. Presentation of Nominations for Officers:** G. Liverant presented the following slate: J. Stawicki for Chairperson, E. Phillips for Vice Chair, R. Levine for Corresponding Secretary and M. Mlodzinski for Treasurer. No other nominations were presented.
- 13. Old Business:** E. Phillips shared a list of speakers that are no charge. A. Migliaccio also added a list she had compiled. Members are asked to review and email Ellie with 5 choices they feel would be appropriate for the Commission to host an event around. She will compile and present in June. P. Watts left the meeting.
- 14. New Business:** J. Stawicki disbursed a copy of the Quarterly Report she submitted (see attached). She also reiterated the importance of the Freedom of Information training as well as sharing the letter inviting a representative from the Commission to the Colchester Lion's Club 2016 Community Night of Giving.
- 15. Citizen's Comments:** None.
- 16. Adjournment:** E. Phillips motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 a.m. M. Mlodzinski seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michelle Komoroski

Commission on Aging Quarterly Report  
Date: April 21, 2016  
Submitted by Jean M. Stawicki, Chairman

Since the resignation this last December of our past Chairman, Gary Siddell, who was very energetic, enthusiastic, and able to give very generously of his time, we have been working as a commission to fill his very large shoes.

We currently have a vacancy for an alternate on our Commission and request that when notices of vacancies are placed in the paper that the vacancy on the Commission on Aging be included.

We have wrapped up editing of the Second Edition of the Senior Resource Guide and we are proceeding to the printing process. Towards that goal, the Commission applied to the Lions Club and was awarded a grant for printing the Guide. The amount of the grant will be disclosed by the Lions Club at its presentation on May 11, 2016.

The Commission is working to determine the speaking topics it would like to present to Colchester residents between now and the end of the current calendar year.

Commission members are filling a few seats on the Senior Center Strategic Planning Committee towards the goal of improving the Senior Center and determining space needs for a possible future Senior Center.

The Commission is also continuing to work on developing projects aimed at forming collaborations between seniors and students in the Colchester School system.

The Commission will be participating in the second Commission on Aging Regional Round Table Meeting to be held on May 11, 2016 in Portland.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean M. Stawicki