



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging

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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

Colchester Commission on Aging

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 12, 2016 - Colchester Senior Center

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TOWN OF COLCHESTER
2016 DEC 13 PM 2:37

Members Present: Jean Stawicki, Ellie Phillips, Goldie Liverant, Rob Gustafson, Marjorie Mlodzinski, Linda Grzeika

Members Absent: Marion Stanavage, Jennifer Raybern DeHay

Others Present: Patty Watts

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** J. Stawicki called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. The meeting was delayed one hour due to weather conditions and a senior center delayed opening.
- 2. Possible Seating of Alternate:** J. Stawicki seated L. Grzeika in lieu of a Commission absence.
- 3. Minutes:** L. Grzeika motioned to accept the November 14, 2016 meeting minutes. R. Gustafson seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 4. Financial Report:** M. Mlodzinski reported that the Commission's balance is \$891.70 however she anticipates some expenses for the basket donation to the senior center. P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection for November 2016 was \$128.00 and out of town trips was \$140.00 for a total of \$268.00. The YTD total is \$1,581.28.
- 5. Senior Center Director's Report:** P. Watts reported that she has been short staffed and was unable to email this report to members prior to the meeting. Interviews for the Making Memories Program Coordinator were successful. An offer will be extended and once approved by the First Selectman's office, should be filled in early January. The senior center will be closed on December 23rd for the Holiday Box Program at JJIS. This long-running program involves students at the Intermediate school donating baskets for seniors in need filled with requested items and hand-made cards, which are adored by the recipients. The center will also be closed on December 26th for Christmas Day, open from 8 am until noon on December 30th for New Year's Eve and closed on January 2nd for New Year's Day. Energy Assistance appointments have begun and run through March 15, 2017. Medicare open enrollment is complete. The center hosted two busy Open Enrollment events with a great volunteer assistant. The annual Holiday Craft Fair & Open House raised approximately \$3,200! There were lots of wonderful compliments from people who enjoy the event and look forward to it as their kick off to the holiday season. 25 people attended the Virtual Dementia tour which provided an amazing and perspective shifting experience. The Choral Group is performing at Chestelm, Apple Rehab, Harrington Court as well as at JJIS for the December 23rd Assembly. Current programming: Time Matters: A Woman's Retirement Outlook Seminar on 12/14, Christmas Celebration with John Paolillo on 12/15, Bright Nights at Forest Park and Cracker Barrel on 12/21, Hanukkah Party on 12/28 and New Year's Brunch 'n Bash on 12/30. Upcoming Trips: Jersey Boys at the Bushnell on 3/23/17, La Traviata at the Metropolitan Opera on 4/8/17, Southern Charm: Charleston & Myrtle Beach 4/30-5/6/17, Pennsylvania Dutch with Jonah 9/11-9/13/17, The Best of Alaska (land/cruise) from 6/12-6/25/17 and Great Trains & Grand Canyon trip from 10/8-10/13/17. October meals statistics were: 64 Bistro and special meals served, 120 Community Café meals served and 731 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. November statistics:

Attendance: 1,134 over 19 days. Transports in November will be reported in January. At the end of November, there were 976 active memberships in MySeniorCenter. There will be a promotional gift for the 1,000 member to register.

6. **Status of Strategic Team Planning Meetings:** P. Watts reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January.
7. **Chairman's Report:** No items were reported.
Jennifer Raybern DeHay joined the meeting at 9:44 am.
8. **Recommendation to Fill Commission Vacancy:** After hearing from both alternates, members discussed how to fill the vacancy with two great candidates. They discussed the political make-up of the group and whether seniority plays a part. M. Mlodzinski motioned to recommend Jennifer Raybern DeHay to the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacant position on the Commission. E. Phillips seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION PASSED. The group also discussed filling the Recording Secretary position and decided to table until January.
P. Watts left the meeting at 10:02 am.
9. **Fundraising:** There was discussion regarding use of raised funds for speakers and programming, printing of the Senior Resource Guide and various donations supporting the senior center. They talked about what type of speaker and programming to plan for and when.
10. **CoA Projects:**
 - 9a. **Senior Resource Guide:** E. Phillips emailed portions to members and asked for return by the January meeting. She would like to have a completed copy to present at the February meeting.
11. **Old Business:** M. Mlodzinski reported she sent a card to Rose Levine thanking her for her years of service.
12. **New Business:** L. Grzeika spoke of learning at the Living Well Classes that many seniors feel unequipped to know who to call for repairs or labor and questioned if there was a way to provide referrals or resources for this.
13. **Citizen's Comments:** None.
14. **Adjournment:** L. Grzeika motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 a.m. E. Phillips seconded. All members present voted in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski