



TOWN OF COLCHESTER

Commission on Aging

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Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

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Colchester Commission on Aging

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 14, 2017 - Colchester Senior Center

Members Present: Jean Stawicki, Ellie Phillips, Marjorie Mlodzinski, Marion Stanavage

Members Absent: Goldie Liverant, Jennifer Raybern DeHay

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

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** J. Stawicki called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
- 2. Minutes:** E. Phillips motioned to accept the July 10, 2017 minutes with the following corrections: The last sentence of item #4 should read: She reported that there is already a regional **health** expo held this month so talked about the possibility of a different spring project, **possibly a housing fair**. And the last sentence of item #5 should state 1,049 **members**. M Mlodzinski seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- 3. Financial Report:** M. Mlodzinski reported there is \$630.45 in the Commission on Aging line item and \$300 in the town's budget for printing and publication. P. Watts reported the daily transportation collection for July was \$151 and out of town trips was \$36.00 for a total of \$187.00. As July is the beginning of the town's fiscal year, \$187.00 is also the fiscal year total.
- 4. COA Projects:** The group decided to hold the Harvesting Stones video presentation on Wednesday evening, October 11th, pending clearance with the senior center calendar. M. Mlodzinski motioned to spend up to \$50 to purchase the video if necessary. M. Stanavage seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. E. Phillips will work on a marketing piece to distribute to Digital Backpack, the newspaper and the newsletter, among other places. There will be no charge to view the film, but a donation to the food bank will be requested. M. Mlodzinski is ready to begin planning the Gala to celebrate the senior center's 40th anniversary in September 2018. The group discussed venues. They will explore a Spring 2018 event later this fall.
- 5. Director of Senior Center Report:** P. Watts reported that she is very appreciative for the kindness and support she's received following her father's illness and funeral. She reported that a Commission on Aging article ran on the front page of the August newsletter, hopefully attracting some new members. The department has received funding for the Making Memories Program from Senior Resources for the coming year in the amount of \$14,665.00. They've also received a cost sharing grant from the CT DOT for replacement of the 18 passenger bus which is slated for retirement. Funding for this totals \$67,000 of which the DOT contributes 80% and the balance comes from Colchester's vehicle replacement fund. The anticipated delivery date is July 2018. The Farmer's Market Voucher Program was suspended due to the lack of a state budget. TVCCA has eliminated the Bistro Meals beginning 9/1/17. Patty will meet with the Director of the SNP next week to try to continue to remain a 5 day per week lunch site. This month, the center is holding a Food Drive to benefit the Colchester Food Bank. Their summer supplies are very low and high demand items include cereal/breakfast foods, snacks, juice, canned pasta and hand, body, laundry and dish soap. She added this may be an area that the Commission could help with. June meals statistics: 193 meals served on site and 506 Meals-on-Wheels delivered. Transports in June were

824. Monthly unduplicated attendance in July was 1,430 (a large number for summer!). At the end of July there were 1,053 active members.

6. **Strategic Planning Team Report:** The meeting was suspended in July however, the planning is complete. P. Watts will submit shortly.
7. **Old Business:** The group discussed new membership and the possibility of changing the meeting time. Applicants must have attended at least one meeting for their application to be considered by the Board of Selectmen. The Resource Guide has been published online. J. Stawicki remarked she would like to keep the online version updated as changes are discovered. The group also discussed strategies to attract new members to the senior center to register and receive the welcome package.
8. **New Business:** M. Stanavage asked about bereavement groups and P. Watts related they had tried in the past without success. There is one held at St. Andrews and others advertised on the Community Bulletin Board.
9. **Citizen's Comments:** The group discussed the progress of a building committee for the senior center. R. Coyle expressed that all is on hold right now pending the passage of a state budget. The school project is currently coming in under budget and on time so when that is completed, the plan is to be ready to move forward with the senior center.
10. **Adjournment:** M. Stanavage motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:41. E. Phillips seconded. All other members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,


Michelle Komoroski