

ELDERLY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING: March 22, 2010 at 5:00pm
East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2010:

- I. Chairman Badstubner called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

- II. Attendance:
 - Present Members: Claire Badstubner (Chairman), Elizabeth Burns (Municipal Agent), Madeleine Thompson, Catherine Drouin (Co-Chairman), Deb Donovan
 - Absent Member: Trevor Bray
 - Guests: Selectman Gil Hayes

- III. Previous Minutes:

Regular Meeting 10/26/09: (no meetings in November <no quorum>, December, January or February). **MOTION** made by Ms. Burns to accept the minutes, as presented. **SECONDED** by Ms. Donovan. **ALL VOTING IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

- IV. Added Agenda Items:

None

- V. New Business:
 - A. **Budget 2010/2011:** Ms. Badstubner reported that \$690.00 was requested for the budget year however, when presented to the BOS, it was cut to \$500.00 (\$450 secretarial services and \$50.00 postage/supplies).
 - B. **Tax Deferment Program Initiative:** Ms. Badstubner and Selectman Hayes informed the commission that the program was presented to the BOS and they (BOS) accepted the committee's proposal. The Tax Deferment would involve tax liens on property. Ms. Badstubner added that there was low attendance at the public forum. Ms. Donovan asked if there are many elderly late on their taxes or are we just trying to keep up with other towns. Ms. Burns and Ms. Badstubner explained the program further noting that there are only a small percentage of people that would qualify. The program is for individuals who just miss qualifying under state guidelines. The program would eventually be self-funding, as money gets paid back.
 - C. **May Meeting Location:** Due to possible referendum, the May meeting will not be held at the Town Hall Meeting Room. Recording Secretary will contact Warehouse Point Library to book their Community Room for 5:00pm for the next regular meeting date. Members will be notified of confirmed location via email/phone and Town Clerk will be notified.
 - D. **Future Meeting Dates:** Commission agreed to keep April meeting. Discussion followed regarding how often to meet and which months. Ms. Thompson asked to review the mission and "capabilities" of the Elderly Commission. Ms. Burns stated that the commission can do a lot of things – based on time, desire and the money involved to do tasks. Ms. Badstubner added that even if the commission does have a project, volunteers can be recruited.

General discussion among the group continued. Ms. Drouin asked if there is an advisory board to the Senior Center. Ms. Burns responded that there is not however there is a "Senior Club". The Senior Club (President Bob Slate) is a membership organization that schedules events for seniors and has guest speakers. Selectman Hayes added that the Selectmen were invited to speak at the Senior Club regarding current town issues. The Senior Club meets two times/month at the Senior Center.

Ms. Thompson suggested that Ms. Clynch (Director, Senior Center) join the Elderly Commission meetings to give ideas, express needs, etc.

Ms. Donovan asked if there is updated information on the number of seniors in town and their ages. Ms. Burns commented that after the census there will be a better idea of the age and income brackets.

Ms. Thompson asked if the Elderly Commission will be having a booth at Community Day this year. Brief discussion followed. Members agreed there would not be much information to present at the booth and if there is informational paperwork, that would cost money to produce – unless a company volunteers it. Selectman Hayes suggested information on the tax deferment program for the booth, but again the cost involved may not be feasible.

Discussed updates on ITN. May 2, 1010 is ITN's Walk for Rides at Sports World in East Windsor (12-4) to raise money for rides. Selectman Hayes commented that the program has been wonderful for his mother-in-law and that overall, it seems to be very well received in the community. There are over 200 rides/month (in all 10 participating towns). A grant was received from the Hartford Foundation of Giving. Selectman Hayes stated that he is currently on the board working on getting disabled people the ability to have rides. Currently the program services those 60+ or visually impaired. Ms. Burns reminded the group of the ITN card (\$25 fundraiser) to provide savings at numerous restaurants and stores.

VI. Public Input – comments only (5 minute maximum)
None

VII. Adjournment
MOTION made by Ms. Donovan to adjourn meeting at 5:49pm. **SECONDED BY** Ms. Drouin.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Pellegrini
Recording Secretary – Elderly Commission