

Commission on Aging  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Monday, October 17, 2011

The Commission on Aging held a regular meeting on Monday, October 17, 2011 at the Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT. Chairman Thomas Dwyer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Thomas Dwyer, Karin Aurelia, LeReine Frampton, Mary Ellen Lydem, Joan Plouffe, Clarence (Larry) Schneider, Curt Symes, Sheila Torres and Anna Wiedemann.

Member Absent: James Bernardi.

Support & Advisory Present: Marilyn Place, Director of Senior Services; Ann Piccini, Municipal Agent for the Elderly and John Aurelia of the Senior Action Committee.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None noted.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Mr. Dwyer announced that P&Z has asked the COA for a list of any studies we may have undertaken since 2004 because they wish to refer to them in their Plan of Conservation and Development. As none of the Commissioners were aware of any such studies other than our interest in obtaining a new Senior Center Mr. Dwyer will notify P&Z of this.

Mr. Dwyer gave Mrs. Place a copy of an article that appeared in the Bee recently about a series of instructions that will be given later this month to seniors at the Booth Library on the subject of operating personal computers. She agreed to post the article at the Senior Center.

Mr. Dwyer referred to the draft of his report to the Town Clerk's office on COA activity for the period 7/1/10 to 6/30/11, which he had emailed to the commissioners for their review. He stated that he has amended it to include suggestions made by Mrs. Torres in her reply which was sent to the Commissioners. The new version was approved with a few minor changes.

**MINUTES.** Upon motion of Mrs. Lydem, the minutes of the special meeting of September 26, 2011 were unanimously accepted as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** Mrs. Aurelia distributed copies of the September 30, 2011 Commission on Aging Gift Fund which presently stands at \$24,101.82. (Attachment A to original minutes). Upon motion of Mr. Symes, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted as presented.

**DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT.** (Attachment B to original minutes). Mrs. Place stated that this year's Senior Center Christmas Party will be held on December 13th at Capellaro's in Bethel and requested that the following amounts with be withdrawn from the Gift Fund regarding it:

\$ 500 Deposit to Capellaro's  
450 To hire a band  
350 To sponsor ten seniors @ \$35 each

175 To pay for five staff members

\$ 1,475

Mrs. Frampton motioned that such withdrawals be made, seconded by Mrs. Wiedemann and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Place also mentioned that the recent Harvest Bazaar at Senior Center was a great success and netted \$3,017 which will be deposited in the Gift Fund.

**MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY REPORT.** (Attachment C to original minutes).

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**New Senior Center.** Mr. Dwyer reported that \$500,000 has been placed in the year 2016 section of the Capital Improvement Plan for the design phase a new Senior Center.

**Fairfield Hills Master Plan Review Committee Report.** Mr. Dwyer distributed information about how to obtain this report on the internet and the page numbers where the survey results concerning housing and a new senior center can be found. He requested that the commissioners familiarize themselves with those two aspects of the report for discussion at the next meeting.

**Senior Directory.** Mrs. Wiedemann plans to have the directory completed soon and will report on this at the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

**Election of COA officers for 2012.** Mrs. Wiedemann reported that the Nominating Committee has agreed to propose Mr. Dwyer as Chair, Mrs. Torres and Mr. Symes as Co-Vice-Chairs, and Karin Aurelia as Treasurer. As there were no other nominations a vote was taken and the slate presented was approved unanimously.

**Elderly Services Strategic Plan.** Mrs. Wiedemann referred to the copy of Southbury's Elderly Services Strategic Plan that she distributed at the September meeting and deferred discussion until the next meeting. She requested that in the meantime Mrs. Place explore the possibility of obtaining the type of grants Southbury has obtained to pay for programs held at their Senior Center. Mrs. Wiedemann suggested that Commissioners email her with any comments they may have on this Plan.

**Sheila Torres's Discussion Points.** Owing to a lack of time this subject, written details of which were distributed at the September meeting, was deferred to the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Upon motion of Mrs. Wiedemann, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Ann M. Mazur, Clerk