

Lymes' Senior Center Board of Directors Meeting

September 19, 2016

PRESENT: Sue Campbell, Jeri Baker, Diane Blackwell, Nancy Campbell, Johnny Cody, Ann Griffith, Doris Johnson, Stephanie Lyon-Gould, Dot McAndrew, Diana Seckla, Gary Weed, Ruth Young

ABSENT; Mary Miles

GUESTS: Bonnie Reemsnyder, Ms. Dutton

GUEST SPEAKER: Bonnie Reemsnyder, First Selectman's Office, Old Lyme
The Secretary of State requires all towns to have an emergency back up plan for a polling place. The Senior Center is the only place that works for the town of Old Lyme. The Center would need to close for that day. Reasoning – the Senior Center has a transfer switch for generator which can be quickly hooked up. Ralph Eno, first selectman of Lyme already has an emergency back up plan for the elections.

A school cannot be used as due to new security standards. The town does not anticipate it will happen, but needs to have a back up in place. Any expenses would be born by the town.

In case of emergency, and the congregants need to be relocated to the Congregational Church or the Senior Center of Old Saybrook. Sue Campbell stated that the Estuary of Old Saybrook has a bus and will come pick up the congregants if we have to close. Bonnie will notify the Estuary and have them on stand by.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ms. Dutton questioned Stephanie Lyon, Director, as to why the Lobster Bake was not part of the Annual Events at the Senior Center. After discussion, it was suggested that the Senior Center would put it in the newsletter if Ms. Dutton's group wishes to organize the event and contract the people to do the Lobster Bake.

Diane Blackwell suggested, that as we grow, it would be in our best interest to look at every month's special celebrations and line up community members to help out on events. Jeri Baker dittoed and asked to have it moved to new business to be actively acted upon.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: (Mary McAndrew) Minutes for meeting of June 2016 were accepted with a correction by Dot McAndrew regarding meeting date being the 19th rather than the 15th. Ruth Young motioned acceptance, Jeri Baker seconded.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Nancy Campbell) Report was submitted and the item which was questioned by Ann Griffith – Laura Kokoska – Yoga in amount of \$1398.00. Stephanie explained that Laura had not invoiced the Center for the year

of 2015 or 2016 for yoga classes, sit and be fit classes, meditation classes and “Ingenious Ways to Train Your Brain”. She has now agreed to bill quarterly. Ending balance as of Sept, 2016, \$120,496.30. Diane Blackwell suggested that as a town entity the Center should operate on their fiscal year. Treasure’s Report was accepted by Jeri Baker, seconded by Ann Griffith.

COMMUNICATIONS: Sue Campbell read a letter from the husband of a former board member expressing her appreciation for the the Center.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Special Events – Doris Johnson, Stephanie Gould

a. Concerts: (Stephanie Lyon-Gould) We have 4 regular bands and should we put in for both the Coast Guard and Army to come back? We would like to have our line up by January. (Diane Blackwell) Loved all the bands and the military was fabulous Let’s try for 5 bands and would like to have the Lions Club do food for every concert. They benefit an annual scholarship. (Jeri Baker) This summer was so great Also supported the addition of the Lions to each concert. Suggested a country western option.

b. 2017 Concert Planning: (Gary Weed) Motion: Start scheduling bands right now and come back with answer next meeting. Jeri Baker Seconded. Sue Campbell added that, if any band cannot come back we will fill those spots.

B. Director’s Report: Stephanie Gould

a. Website: (Stephanie Lyon-Gould) The 9 town website was started in January. The Lyme Center is seen 4 out of the top 12 pages of a 78-page site. There have been over 4000 hits on website since January.

b. New Police Academy: Gary Ingles, Resident Trooper, is doing a 5 week Police Academy for seniors. The last meeting will be a trip to the State Trooper’s facility.

c. Nonagenarians totals: 10 have signed up so far.

d. Veterans Luncheon: Have contacted Bill Appleby, Lyme Vets, and VFW. We are very thankful to Atria for doing everything. Hoping for 60-80 attendees. A musician from the Cartells is providing piano background music.

e. Jim Noyes: A motion to have a stone made was put forth by Jeri Baker and seconded by Diana Seckla.

Barb Noyes: Has a grey auto chair lift to donate. After discussion, a motion was presented by Nancy Campbell, seconded by Gary Weed to turn down the offer. There was no opposition.

f. CD For Heritage Room: Stephanie is having CD made in his honor as he has been here since day one.

C. Use of Building: Mary Miles, Diane Blackwell
Stephanie Gould reported that July/August number was 3460.

D. Property: Gary Weed, Jeri Baker
Phil from the Lions is in charge of all the facilities in Old Lyme for the town. He will be taking over all maintenance issues for the Center.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Vice President: Doris Rand, Vice President resigned. Sue Campbell asked Ruth Young if she would step in as Vice President. A motion was presented by Gary Weed to accept Ruth Young to the Vice President position. Seconded unanimously.

B. Memorial Garden Update: Diane Blackwell reported that Drew Kenny cannot give concrete estimates “around this amount” “around this timeframe”. Sue Campbell suggested that he should be removed as contractor. The discussions for the little triangle in May were in the \$6000 range and final bill \$13,000. Diane Blackwell stated that two engraved granite benches will be arriving on Sept 20th for installation. One “In Honor of the First Board of Directors, 1997” and the second “Dedicated to the Volunteers for Their Many Contributions”.

Discussion ensued regarding the existing blue stone and installation of forms with pavers to be engraved as needed. For now, the benches are being installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation from Vie Gerber: Diane Blackwell is corresponding with the family regarding a gift to the Center in her honor. They have decided on cabinetry for the “Coffee Clutch”. The family would pay the entire cost (\$1356.92 for cabinetry) and put up a plaque in her honor. Jeri Baker put forth a motion to allow Diane Blackwell to contact Judy Gerber to accept the cabinets. Motion carried with one opposed. Discussion regarding delivery and installation was inclusive. A locksmith will install locks on the bottom cabinets. Sue Campbell suggested that the current coffee pots be used.

Signs for Concerts: Sue Campbell requested the signs for the concerts be up for all 5 weeks in July/August. The motion was put forth by Ann Griffith and seconded by Nancy Campbell to repaint the sign.

Toys for Tots: Ruth Young’s husband was a career marine and she has been donating to Toys for Tots in his memory. Johnny Cody volunteered to contact the marine recruiting office in Groton to have a supply box installed and do promotion in terms of advertising and perhaps a talk the for the Center. Sue Campbell suggested the box be installed by the time of the fire house open house.

Tables for Nonagenarian and Veterans Luncheons: Stephanie Lyon stated that in the past the Center has borrowed tables from Rogers Lake. Diane Blackwell added that 6-7’ tables could be purchased at Lowe’s for approx. \$90 each.

Annual Calendar: Diane Blackwell, Johnny Cody, Jeri Baker have volunteered to take over that responsibility.

Help for Stephanie: Stephanie needs help, but do we hire or use volunteers? Sue Campbell stated that Stephanie has to take mandated comp time for the events she must attend in the evening. And the Center needs someone to be there, especially in the mornings. General consensus, Stephanie has built all these programs and grown the Center has grown tremendously. (Diane Blackwell, Jeri Baker) “Now lets support her. “ The town doesn’t know this growth has taken place. When summer people walk in here “what a fabulous senior center”!

Discussion: Find out what specific tasks Stephanie needs assistance with and can the board members pick up the slack until volunteers and perhaps a paid assistant can be hired. Sue Campbell suggested contacting Joanie Von Bonvi, retired school

secretary as a possible volunteer. Diane Blackwell stated that a paid position is something that will take some time in terms of duties, job description.

Meeting adjourned 3:10. Nancy Campbell. (1st) , Diana Seckla (2nd).

Next meeting Monday, October 17, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Emery
Recording Secretary