

**COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 3, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT

William DeMaio  
Karen Brecher  
Greg Stelmak  
Stein Ramstad  
Jerilyn Nagel  
Margaret Antinerella  
Maureen Lynch

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tillie DeMaio  
Patricia Hanbury

STAFF

Dianne Stone  
Eleanor Eichner  
Gail Whitney

ALSO PRESENT

David Nagel

I. CALL TO ORDER

William DeMaio called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Nagel reported that the Town Hall Renovation Committee has held two meetings and reviewed the results of the focus groups. This information will be shared with the Town Council at their next meeting. The results will be condensed into a report for the public to read. A representative from each Town Department will have an opportunity to express their concerns and ideas with regard to Town Hall renovations. The Senior & Disabled Center will also have an opportunity to be involved in the renovation process.

David then spoke about the Housing Survey that CCSU recently distributed to Newington Town residents. The Housing Committee has not heard any results to date about this survey.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Margaret Antinerella made a motion to accept the minutes of November 5, 2014, Maureen Lynch seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to accept the minutes was passed unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

## V. STAFF REPORT

Dianne reported that the annual expo held on November 7<sup>th</sup> was very successful with 54 vendors including eight gold sponsors, and this expo had a \$4,975 profit. Other activities in November included a pie social and trivia contest sponsored by Arden House, a program on grief and holidays, manicure, the 8 week Aging Mastery program which will add two extra presentations from the Newington Memorial Funeral Home, and a road trip to a long term care facility. The diabetes self-management program will begin on December 8<sup>th</sup> and there are 22 people registered for this. CCSU students from a psychology class were at the Center and these students always comment that their image of older adults is totally changed after their visit to the Center. Chairs will be purchased for the card room. The wireless access throughout the Center will be working in conjunction with the Library and their technology.

### A. Door Counters

Dianne reported that the door counters are recording, however there are still some problems. Over a 17 day period in November, and these figures are not exact, but are a good indication – evening visits recorded were 1100, and daytime visits recorded were 8200. For the month of October, the counts are 1900 evening and 9300 daytime. Dianne still feels these numbers are underreported and show about 1/3 of the actual use. MySeniorCenter.com has a pilot program where cards have a chip and a scanner can pick up this information; Dianne is hoping to be part of this pilot program. There are two scanners in the building, but all three entranceways have a door counter. Although not accurate counts, but good indications with these numbers, it is still good to be able to keep track of people and know where they are going and what programs they are attending.

## VI. MONTHLY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager's report with regard to the Senior and Disabled Center and the Department of Human Services was distributed.

## VII. CLUB UPDATES

There was no report.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Self-Assessment

Dianne reported that the process has begun and will take a lot of time over the next eight weeks. The Purpose Committee met last week, and the Fiscal Committee met today. The Administration Committee and Evaluation Committee will meet next week.

### B. Transportation

Bill has been sharing emails with Dianne regarding CT Fastrak and circulating buses. At this time the bus will not stop at the Senior and Disabled Center because there isn't a safe place for pick up and drop off. CT Fastrak will be holding open houses over the next few weeks; December 15 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM will be at Newington High School. Dianne and Bill will be meeting with

Craig Minor regarding a bus stop at the Center. Dianne also spoke about a new transportation resource called WayToGoConnecticut – their website is waytogoc.org.

C. Housing Study

David Nagel commented on this earlier.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Greg asked if seniors are being made aware of the increase in electricity beginning in January. He also stated that he received an email from the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants with regard to serving seniors at tax time through VITA. AARP already has a program in place at the Senior and Disabled Center, and Dianne will see if VITA is aware of this.

X. AGENDA FOR JANUARY MEETING

Everything stays the same.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David commented that the Town Council will hold a presentation on CCM prescription cards which may provide a discount. Chief of Police Richard Mulhall will be retiring at the end of the year. According to the Town Charter, the Town Manager chooses the new police chief. On Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> the first annual Meet Your Town Officials will be held at 5:30 PM at the Portuguese Club on North Mountain Road.

Dianne stated that the budget process will begin in December, and the annual orders are for a 0% budget increase.

The coffee shop is serving coffee only, no lunches at this time. The coffee shop looks great and is making money.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION: Karen Brecher made a motion to adjourn, Jerilyn Nagel seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was unanimously passed with a 7-0 vote at 6:55 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Gail Whitney, Commission Clerk