

**COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Brecher
Maureen Lynch
Urania Nicholson
Greg Stelmak
Therese Nadeau
Jerilyn Nagel (left at 6:44 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patricia Hanbury
Roberta Byron Kolej

STAFF

Dianne Stone
Eleanor Eichner
Gail Whitney

TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS

David Nagel
Carol Anest

I. CALL TO ORDER

Karen Brecher called the meeting to order at 6:06PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

David Nagel commented that the Town Council met last night. The Town Hall Renovation Committee meetings continue and have reviewed two ideas for renovation; renovate the building in its present state, or renovate the building with modifications. The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st at 7:00 PM.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June minutes of the Commission on Aging and Disabled were accepted as read.

V. STAFF REPORT

Dianne reported that it has been quite a while since the Commission met, and she thanked the Commissioners for rescheduling the meeting from September 7th to this evening. She reviewed some highlights over the past few months: There is now a Tech Help Program in the computer room as people don't need to learn how to use the computer, but want to learn various aspects of computer use. A Lunch and Learn program was held on dementia; there is a veteran's coffee hour held once a month; on July 22nd the Annual Safety Picnic was held and an active shooter training

presentation was given; August programs included adult immunization, basic first aid, ice cream social. The garden continues to be fabulous, especially for animals – although fencing was installed, it did not deter woodchucks, and other various animals.

The Senior and Disabled Center does not schedule trips; the Senior Club and AARP used to do this, but no longer. The Senior and Disabled Center has volunteers who are working with other places such as the Elmwood Community Center to have trips. A casino trip to Foxwoods for October 14th is scheduled and the bus would hold 45 seats plus two wheelchairs; the wheelchairs were not reserved, therefore 54 people filled one bus and at this time a second bus already has 30 people registered. There are plans for another casino trip to Mohegan Sun in December. Another trip to the Westchester Broadway Theatre to see Saturday Night Fever is being planned with Friendship Tours. Scheduling of trips will increase as time goes on.

A new session of the Aging Mastery Course will begin soon. September is National Senior Center Month and a program called Jazz and Juleps is scheduled.

Dianne has applied for and received a grant through Social Services that is called “No Wrong Door” which is about long term services and support. Dianne will attend a meeting at the State Department of Social Services to see if this grant will fit the needs of the Senior and Disabled Center.

Charles Francolino sent Dianne an email letting her know that after 23 years he will no longer be involved with the Tax Aide Program.

A new Dial-A-Ride bus has been purchased to replace an old bus.

With regard to the financial accounts: Coffee Shop \$8,720, Gift Shop \$37,565, Membership \$52,780, Fitness \$3,638, Donations \$15,670 for a total of approximately \$118,000. Unfortunately some items, specifically jewelry has been stolen from the Gift Shop so there may be a discussion about purchasing cameras for the Gift Shop in the future. A large 65” TV for the multi-purpose room will be purchased and Jefferson House will donate the funds for this purchase. Dianne is requesting monies for three items: a 4x8 sign outside referencing the Newington Senior and Disabled Center at a cost of \$700, the bathrooms being repainted at a cost of \$975, and attendance at the Annual Senior Center Conference in Philadelphia at a cost of \$1,010; the Town Manager has allocated \$300 for this conference, therefore Dianne is requesting \$710. The Board discussed these expenditures, and decided to hold off on the bathroom painting at this time. **MOTION: Urania Nicholson made a motion to allocate \$700 for the sign and \$710 for the conference for a total of \$1,410, Therese Nadeau seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.**

A. Door Counters

Dianne reported that the three doors have counters and are manually tabulated the next day from the previous day’s information. In July 14,583 was tabulated but then divided by two (in and out) and subtracting 500 for staff for a total of 6,791 which includes 20 days for July for approximately 340 per day. August numbers are similar with approximately 358 per day. Dianne feels that 32%

of people are swiping their cards. MySeniorCenter shows total swipes of 2,173. The next step with the door counters is to see how many people enter the people during the day, and how many at night.

VI. MONTHLY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager's report was distributed to the Commissioners.

VII. CLUB UPDATES

This item will be removed from the Agenda.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Self-Assessment

Dianne reported that this will restart so people who weren't around at the beginning of the process can be updated.

B. ByLaws/Rules of Procedure Discussion

Dianne distributed drafts of the ByLaws and Rules of Procedure wherein she made some changes. The Commission reviewed these changes and made a couple of additional suggestions. Dianne will update with these suggestions. Once the Commission approves the ByLaws and Rules of Procedure, they will be sent to the Town Council for their review.

C. Strategic Planning

Dianne had no report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADA Discussion

Dianne did not ask Karen Futoma, Newington's ADA Representative to attend tonight's meeting due to the rescheduling of the meeting. She will ask her to attend the November meeting. In the interim, Dianne distributed the ADA Guide for Small Towns to the Commissioners for their review.

Karen asked that a letter be drafted to Charles Francolino thanking him for his 23 years of service to the Tax Aide Program, and if possible some type of certificate be presented to him.

Dianne stated that the volunteer closet has always been known as Eunice's Closet in honor of Eunice Scharr; a plaque officially naming this closed Eunice's Closet will be installed.

X. AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Remove Club Updates.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Maureen Lynch made a motion to adjourn, Greg Stelmak seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was unanimously passed with a 6-0 vote at 7:28 P.M.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging and Disabled is Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Whitney, Commission Clerk