

## MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. by Vice Chairman Sandra Micalizzi in the absence of Chairman Earl Temchin.

Mr. Cammuso led the **Pledge of Allegiance** to the American Flag.

Members present: Ben Cammuso, Marjorie Chase, Susan Locks, Lynn Maschi, Sandra Micalizzi, Connie Proll, and Michael Rossi. Members absent: Len Marcheselle, Earl Temchin

**The minutes of the November 9, 2011 meeting** were presented to the Commission. Sandra Micalizzi asked if there were any corrections, additions or comments. Michael Rossi made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Marjorie Chase; all were in favor.

Commissioner/Treasurer Susan Locks presented the **Treasurer's Report** stating that of the FY 2011/2012 budget of \$481,750., \$196,694.18 (48.2%) has been expended; \$35,414.41 encumbered; with \$249,641.41 remaining. A motion was made by Ben Cammuso to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by Michael Rossi; all were in favor. The Executive Director noted that we are in a good place. He also remarked that the appropriation of matching grant funds submitted to the finance department should be completed shortly.

With reference to the update on the newsletter project, the representative from Priority Graphics was unable to attend but will be present at the January 10th Commission Meeting. If unable to attend, he will submit a written report. Senior Center Secretary Cynthia Gilbert read an e-mail from him that she received just prior to this meeting. Basically it has been more difficult to obtain advertisers due to the economic climate, the time of year and a loss of staffing in his office. We will be considering options to scale down the format. Connie Proll suggested the use of business cards rather than display ads. Sandra Micalizzi noted that this transition needs to get done. All were in agreement.

Executive Director Robert Verderame presented the **November 2011 Director's Report**, noting that Dial-a-Ride provided 1047 one way rides on 20 days, including 455 in town medical rides and 47 out of town medical rides. Twenty-seven new members joined in November. The Nutrition Program served 478 meals on 15 days. One hundred thirty applications were completed for the Energy Assistance Program. The open enrollment period for Medicare Part D which will end on December 7<sup>th</sup> kept us very busy, researching Rx formularies and working through the process with individuals. In his capacity as Municipal Agent, Bob received several calls from the SPD and Health Department to address issues involving a number of homebound senior citizens. Income tax counselors have their collective "noses to the grindstone" or rather stuck in the AARP manual in preparation for certification testing. Training sessions are scheduled in early January. Under Bus Maintenance, routine service was done on all three buses. Rear brake pads and calipers were replaced on the 2006 bus; the transmission was serviced on the 2006 bus. Under Building Maintenance, kitchen sink drains (clogged during the shelter) were cleaned; kitchen stove, hoods, filters, ceiling and floor mats were cleaned; stair lift chair was serviced with battery replacement; and the basement furnace pressure switch was replaced which hopefully will resolve the problem. Susan Locks made a motion to accept the Director's Report; seconded by Marjorie Chase; all were in favor. Sandra thanked Bob for providing his report.

## **Senior Citizen Commission Meeting**

**December 13, 2011**

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**Under Correspondence:** Minutes from the November 9th Department Heads Meeting were available. The Orchard Valley Garden Club requested use of the Calendar House facility for their annual plant sale on Saturday, May 12, 2012. They have held this event at the Calendar House for a number of years, and contributed countless hours of landscaping labor and plant materials to the center. A motion was made by Connie Proll to approve this request with the usual stipulations, seconded by Susan Locks, all were in favor.

**Under Old Business:** Referencing the "Heart Safe Community", the Senior Center Secretary contacted Health Director Chuck Motes for information and an application, and presented a brief summary. Sandra Micalizzi noted that she had a copy of a completed application from an nearby community. In light of Chuck's impending retirement and in consideration of the scope of the process, it was felt that the issue would be better addressed by the Southington Fire Department. The Executive Director gave an overview of the Storm Alfred event and the process of applying for FEMA reimbursement. As requested Town Engineer Tony Tranquillo reviewed and approved the generator contract. Martha Benevelli, the new clerk typist, started work on November 14. The annual Christmas Party was very successful, attended by 283 individuals.

**Under Transportation Committee:** The 2000 Bus was purchased by the Wolcott Junk Yard for \$700. This amount was submitted to the Finance Department. The Christmas Tree Shop trip was very successful. Bus Driver Vincent Morelli was able to obtain a 55 passenger handicap bus for a significantly discounted rental fee. This enabled many more individuals to enjoy the outing, and they were very enthusiastic. Commissioner Lynn Maschi explained that in an effort to more completely understand the transportation process, she has spent time with Bob Verderame and Cynthia Gilbert reviewing the reports and paperwork involved, and is available to discuss this information with any of the Commissioners interested. Sandra Micalizzi thanked Lynn for her work and efforts. Bob Verderame reported that the Central CT Regional Planning Agency Meeting that he and Cynthia Gilbert attended was very productive. A regional grant is in the works to obtain software that will be very beneficial to our transportation program. A GPS system is involved that automatically schedules buses and routes. He has already requested a Town Council Resolution that will be submitted. Asked what the anticipated time frame might be, he responded grant approval should be obtained mid April, with a possible start up in September 2012.

**Under New Business:** A budget workshop was conducted at 5:30 p.m. The Commissioners in attendance discussed and proposed a budget for FY2012/13, which was presented to the full commission. A motion was made by Lynn Maschi to approve the budget as presented; seconded by Ben Cammuso; all were in favor. A list of upcoming programs and activities was given to the Commissioners, as well as a list of Town Holidays and Commission Meeting dates for 2012.

**Public Communication:** Walter Kizilski commended the commission and staff on a fantastic job noting that he was impressed at all that was done to provide for residents needing shelter during Storm Alfred. He heard many positive and appreciative comments. One issue that could be addressed is the limited bathroom facilities.

Wishes were exchanged for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Ben Cammuso, seconded by Susan Locks; all were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

The next Senior Citizens Commission meeting will be held **Tuesday, January 10** at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cynthia Gilbert  
Senior Center Secretary