

**SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION
MEETING OF JULY 10, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman, Earl Temchin.

Members present: Earl Temchin, Guss Nevelos, Michael Rossi, Ben Cammuso, Lynn Maschi, Sandra Micalizzi, Connie Proll and Susan Locks

Member absent: Ruth Riccio.

Program Coordinator, Sharyn Murphy was in attendance, Robert Verderame was on vacation.

The minutes of the June 12 meeting were presented to the Commission. A motion was made by Sandy Micalizzi to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Guss Nevelos, all were in favor.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Connie Proll. She reported that of the \$465,269 current budget, \$453,687 (97.5%) has been expended, leaving \$11,582 remaining in the 2006-07 fiscal year to pay for any old year bills which must be delivered to the Finance Department by July 20. Connie commended Mr. Verderame for his work in the use of the Calendar House budget.

Mr. Temchin has agreed to attend the July 11 Board of Finance meeting in Mr. Verderame's place. On the agenda will be a request for a transfer in the amount of \$1,750 to the part-time bus driver account and a request for a transfer in the amount of \$650 to the Building/Grounds/Maintenance account.

As per Mr. Weichsel's request, there was a letter submitted last month estimating what Mr. Verderame feels may be a shortfall in funds in the Utilities & Heating account.

A motion was made by Sandy Micalizzi to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by, Guss Nevelos all were in favor.

In giving the Director's and Program Coordinator's Reports, Sharyn stated that our Dial-A-Ride continues to grow; we had a total of 690 one-way rides, including 131 medical runs in-town, and 73 out-of-town. The membership numbers continue to increase each month with 17 new members this month.

Included in building maintenance; the coffee room had a drain pipe come undone, there was minor flooding before the repair was made. The Pavilion has been cleaned, and the golf league held their first picnic there this past month. The new furnace for the office area was installed and is working well. Additional piping will be done in the fall to complete the job.

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Included in "Social Services/Programing"; 136 applications were completed this month for the Renter's Rebate Program.

The June 5th Country Western Dinner Dance was well attended with catering done by Greer's and entertainment by Jerry Limmer.

Staff members attended an all staff CASCP meeting in Glastonbury on June 12.

A June 20 Broadway trip to the Drowsy Chaperone/Mamma Mia with lunch at the Tavern on the Green had 27 members aboard. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

The "Grandparents and Grandchildren Support Group", met on June 28. State Senator Sam Calgiuri and Representative Zeke Zaleski were in attendance. They listened to our grandparents' concerns and offered their services to assist them. This group is well attended, and the group in attendance are very motivated.

A motion was made by Ben Cammuso to accept the Director's and Program Coordinator's Reports as presented, the motion was seconded by Lynn Maschi, all were in favor.

Under "Correspondence", Mr. Temchin presented a letter from the Southington-Cheshire YMCA regarding a strategic planning process that will help the Y set goals and objectives for the next five years. They have asked Bob to participate in the process. A date has not yet been set, but several Commissioners have requested notification when the date is set, and asked if they might also attend.

Ms. Murphy informed the Commission of an upcoming Poetry Contest sponsored by CCCI, Art of Success Aging. She explained that our instructor, Pat Mottolo, conducted a class in poetry this past semester. She had a full slate of students, who were very excited to participate in the contest. An awards celebration will to held at a future date, which the staff would like to attend. Payment for the celebration will be requested at the time of the function.

A reminder of the July 11 Department Heads meeting was sent from the Town Manager's office. Mr. Verderame responded that he would be on vacation and would be unable to attend.

Under "Old Business", the topic of the parking lot was discussed. Sharyn reported that we are waiting for information from Tony Tranquillo, and voiced that a hold up may be the inclusion of a gate for the Hobart Street entrance. There was great concern among the Commission that this project is taking so long to get off of the ground; "are the grant funds secure in that we have not made any progress in constructing the lot".

After much discussion, a motion was made by Michael Rossi to have Mr. Verderame take whatever steps he deems necessary, to get the plans for the parking lot project in hand allowing us to move forward, and also call the State to make sure that the grant is secure. The motion was seconded by Ben Cammuso, all were in favor.

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The topic of the plaques honoring Art Della Vecchia and John DeAngelo was discussed. The question of the size of the photos needed was answered by Awards of Elegance in that they can be any size. Questions then arose as to what words should be inscribed on the plaques. It was decided that all Commissioners should write what they felt was appropriate and present them at the next meeting.

Under "New Business", Mr. Verderame is currently gets quotes for the floor cleaning which is something beyond what a janitorial service provides.

A newspaper article regarding a recent meeting of the town's Commission on Disability was presented to the Commission. The topic of discussion was transportation for young, disabled individuals. Although the Calendar House provides nearly 700 one-way rides to individuals, including these young individuals to their places of employment and medical appointments, the Commission on Disability feels that the town needs to provide more services in regard to transportation. Mr. Verderame was quoted as saying that Southington is one of the few area towns that does not benefit from CT Transit Authority bus service. Town Council Chairman, John Barry, said he would be willing to examine an expansion of the Calendar House bus program, and would consider pursuing state and federal grants for more service.

Sharyn Murphy reported that we recently learned that Center for Healthy Aging staff who are being trained as C.H.O.I.C.E.S. Councilors, will be working at the New Britain Campus rather than the Bradley Campus. This is a disappointment, as we could use the extra help in this area.

Sandy Micalizzi informed Sharyn that she had been a trained C.H.O.I.C.E.S. Councilor at one time, and has offered to take a current training course to become more aware of today's issues. She has offered her services when needed.

Mr. Temchin then read a letter of resignation from Calendar House Secretary, Elaine Barrasso which will be effective August 17.

After many kind words from the Commissioners; Michael Rossi moved to adjourn the meeting. He asked to publicly extend the Commission's thanks to Elaine, for her many years of service as the Senior Center Secretary. Noting that she has seen the Center grow in her many years of service. He wished her well in her retirement.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Barrasso,
Calendar House Secretary