

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2007

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

Members present: Earl Temchin, Peter Santago, Guss Nevelos, Michael Rossi, Ben Cammuso, Ruth Riccio, Susan Locks and Sandra Micalizzi.

Member absent: Connie Proll.

Bob Verderame was ill and Sharyn Murphy attended the meeting in his place.

The minutes of the January 9 meeting were presented to the Commission, a motion was made by Sandra Micalizzi to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Michael Rossi, all were in favor.

In Connie Proll's absence, Sharyn Murphy gave the Treasurer's Report. She reported that the part-time instructors and staff overtime accounts are running low. Mr. Verderame will keep a watchful eye on them and report to the Commission when a transfer is necessary.

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

In giving the Director's Report, Ms. Murphy reported that our Dial-A-Ride continues to escalate. This month we have added two dialysis patients to our schedule, as well as several clients scheduled for therapy three to five times per week.

The Medicare Part D counseling has slowed down. What we are now finding is that clients who have had their Part D deductible taken directly from their Social Security and are also on the ConnPACE program, are having their premium paid twice, once through their Social Security and once through ConnPACE. Now we must help them straighten out the problem, and if possible, get a refund for the double payment.

A meeting will take place at the Plainville Senior Center with Eric Rodko on February 9. Sharyn and Bob are scheduled to attend and are hopeful that they will be given information to help resolve these problems.

Income tax program volunteers, as well as Cynthia Gilbert, have completed a two day training session, passed their tests, and are ready to begin the tax season with appointments scheduled beginning on February 13.

Included in bus maintenance, the 2006 bus has a problem with the lift, and will be fixed under warranty. The 2000 bus had a grease job and oil change.

Included in building maintenance, carpet was installed and repairs to the walls were completed in the second floor offices. The kitchen pantry area and the game room have been painted.

Under programming, a trip sale was held for an April 11 trip to the Gatlin Brothers at Mohegan Sun. A trip went out to Foxwoods Casino with 53 passengers and a cruise to the Caribbean with 16 passengers.

13 members participated in a memory screening offered by the Center for Healthy Aging. The monthly membership meeting consisted of installation of officers followed by a small reception. Students were excited with the start of our spring, 10 week session of classes, which resumed on January 22. There was also registration for our computer classes held that day. A new digital photography club met for the first time this month.

A motion was made by Michael Rossi to accept the Director's and Program Coordinator's Report. The motion was seconded by Ben Cammuso, all were in favor.

Under "Correspondence", a request was made by the Southington Arts Council to display local artist's work on our walls. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Michael Rossi to decline the offer, the motion was seconded by Ben Cammuso, all were in favor. A letter of regret will be sent.

A letter of thanks was received from the Southington Social Services Department thanking the Calendar House for hosting their Children's Shopping Party in December.

The Orchard Valley Garden Club requested permission to have their annual plant sale at our Center on May 12. A motion was made by Michael Rossi to table the matter until our next meeting, the motion was seconded by Sandra Micalizzi, all were in favor.

A request was received from Fire Engine Company # 1 to use our building for their March 25 pancake breakfast. A motion was made by Ben Cammuso to grant permission, with the understanding that the usual stipulations apply. The motion was seconded by Michael Rossi, all were in favor.

A thank you letter was received from Pilgrim Furniture City for our participation in the 2006 Trees and Traditions event. Cynthia Gilbert designed an Italian gift basket for the event using items donated by friends, staff and Napoli Imports.

Also under correspondence, a thank you letter was received from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. A donation was sent from the staff and Commission in the name of Daniel Mascalò, a former Commissioner, who recently passed away.

Under “Old Business”, the subject of a memorial plaque honoring Art Della Vecchia was brought to the floor. Committee member, Guss Nevelos, reported that he and Peter Santago had found a plaque that they felt was appropriate, and they will now wait for pricing.

Also discussed was the subject of planting a tree on Calendar House property honoring John D’Angelo. The Commission will plan a spring planting.

Mr. Verderame has not received the grant funds from the State of Connecticut for work to our parking lot. The Commission asks that he contact Zeke Zalaski, our State Representative, regarding this matter.

The 2007-2008 budget was delivered to the Town Manager on January 11. If the budget is brought before a public hearing, several Commissioners have asked if they might attend.

Under “New Business”, Ms. Murphy informed the Commission of the recent serious illness of former member, Frank Ciliberti. Before moving to Pennsylvania this fall, Frank was very involved in Calendar House, on many levels. He sat on the Board of Directors, acted as their Finance Director, established the SeniorNet computer lab, filled it with donated computers, then fully staffed it with volunteer instructors. He designed the bocci court and horseshoe pits. He is a just a very hands-on kind of guy, who can develop a concept and run with it. The Commission asked if it would be appropriate to send him a small token gift to let him know that we are thinking of him. A plant will be sent this week.

Under “Public Communication”, Cliff Snow told the Commission of his personal friendship with Frank Ciliberti, and thanked the Commission, on Frank’s behalf, for their kind thoughts.

Membership President, Dick Dyer, gave the results of the opinion survey mailed to Calendar House members on December 18. Of the 63 which were returned, he felt that all replies were very positive. Most were pleased with our classes, and are hopeful that they will continue. Some suggested new class ideas, which was passed along to Sharyn. A key request was for more socialization, possibly in the form of a “Game Day”, where members could meet and play board games. A standing membership committee has now been formed and are anxious to hear of new ideas, perhaps from new and younger members. Ben Cammuso interjected that it does not appear that new individuals are attending our Membership Meetings.

Citizen Commission Meeting
February 6, 2007
Page 4

Mr. Temchin noted that there may very well be changes in the body of the Commission next month. He is hopeful that those members, who have selflessly given of their time, will be recognized for their hard work and will be reappointed.

A motion was made by Peter Santago to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 13 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Barrasso,
Calendar House Secretary