

Senior Citizen Commission Meeting – January 23, 2015

Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission

January 23, 2015

10:00 am

Long Hill Conference Room

The Senior Citizen Commission of the Town of Trumbull held a scheduled meeting on January 23, 2015 in the Long Hill Conference Room at the Trumbull Town Hall.

Members Present: Chairperson, Rachel Yahwak; Vice Chairperson, Ron Foligno; Secretary, Dee Chiota; Roberta Bellows, Dorothy Merritt, Amy DeZenzo, Joan Mehlhorn and alternates Maureen Gordon and Gail D’Elia.

Also present: Senior Center Director, Jean Ferreira

This is a brief summary of the meeting.

A quorum being present, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Mrs. Yahwak made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 10:01 am to discuss the press release about the new Senior Center. Seconded by Mr. Foligno and approved unanimously. Members present at the Executive Session included Rachel Yahwak, Ron Foligno, Dee Chiota, Roberta Bellows, Dorothy Merritt, Amy DeZenzo, Joan Mehlhorn, Maureen Gordon and Gail D’Elia. Mrs. Yahwak made a motion to close the Executive Session at 10:36 am. Seconded by Mrs. DeZenzo and approved unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mrs. Chiota, seconded by Mrs. Bellows, to approve the minutes of December 19, 2014 as written. Approved unanimously.

Secretary’s Report

Mrs. Chiota had no report. She did welcome back Mrs. Mehlhorn who has been recovering from a medical procedure and unable to attend the commission meetings.

Chairman’s Report

Mrs. Yahwak reported the following:

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1. Welcome back to Sharon who is now working about 20 hours per week at the Center. She noted a temp has been coming in to help out when she is not there.
2. Expressed condolences to Roberta Bellows on the loss of her brother.
3. A budget meeting was held with First Selectman Herbst on January 13. A budget hearing with the Board of Finance is scheduled for February 17 at 2:45pm. Mrs. Yahwak asked that all commissioners attend this meeting which will be in the Long Hill Conference Room. Ms. Ferreira received a request after the last meeting to provide information on expenses at the Center. This included membership fees, newsletter ads, donations to the Center and expected expenses which include the programs provided. Mrs. Yahwak noted the town is looking to cut the budget. This could include the newsletter and snack bar expenses as well as two programs. Attendance at each program was requested by the town. Mrs. Yahwak noted all programs are very well attended and it would be difficult to cut any. Mrs. DeZenzo recommended that each commissioner speak on a specific program and provide numbers as requested. Ms. Ferreira will work with Mrs. DeZenzo and provide program information. It was agreed to meet prior to the Board of Finance hearing to discuss these presentations.
4. The Red Hat issue has been resolved. Mrs. Yahwak reached out to them but no response was received. At this time, the matter is considered closed.
5. Brown Bag Lunch dates with the First Selectman will be decided.
6. AARP tax aides will be at the Center from 9am-12 noon each Wednesday until April.
7. Valentine Bingo is February 27.
8. Birthday party is February 13.
9. Movie and a pizza is February 20.

Director's Report

Ms. Ferreira reported the following:

1. Pickle Ball is gaining interest. She does have another person interested in helping and overseeing the activity.
2. More members are interested in the movie hour. She is outgrowing the TV room. She discussed placing a TV in the Functions Room which would be very helpful. They could mount it on the wall so that other activities could be accommodated. She may request funding in the future to purchase this TV. Also, a donation from Stop and Shop was received which was over \$2700. Cable is already available in the room. All commissioners agreed this would be a great idea.
3. Mrs. DeZenzo questioned how much money is received from the town. Ms. Ferreira noted in the past it has been \$49,000 but this year \$52,000 is requested. Ms. Ferreira will provide the commissioners with the Senior Center budget for review and discussion prior to the budget hearing with the Board of Finance.
4. Mr. Foligno asked if the senior newsletter could be distributed by email. This would be a difficult as all emails would need to be entered. It was noted that the newsletter is available on line on the town website.
5. Expenses for last month were reviewed.
6. Membership options were discussed.

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Old Business

Ms. Merritt noted the brochure insert is completed.

A meeting was held last Tuesday to discuss a thank you for the nursing home facilities. It was decided to give the 14 individuals a framed certificate and a \$25.00 gift certificate to the Cheesecake Factory for their participation in the programs at the Senior Center.

New Business

Senior trips were discussed. Mrs. DeZenko has gathered information for various trips. The Commission will choose which will be offered as everyone has different interests. They are all excellent trips. Information will be distributed for discussion. It was noted these trips are offered to the seniors but everyone makes their own arrangements with the company.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mrs. DeZenko to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 am. Seconded by Ms. Merritt and approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the next meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission.