

Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission
MINUTES
June 4, 2010

Call To Order: Chairperson, Linda Ciocci called the special Senior Citizen Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present: L. Ciocci, C. Cleary, F. Hanna., J. Mehlhorn, G. Raytor and H. Weinstein.

Also Present: J. Fereira, Senior Center Director and Gail Ondy Town Nurse.

Public Session: None

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Weinstein moved, seconded by Mr. Raytor to amend the April 23, 2010 meeting minutes on page 3, second paragraph from the bottom to include the phrase, “Not to exceed”; the Public Session section of the meeting minutes under Sylvia Jones, to strike the phrase “nobody is socializing and spoke against outsiders active at the center”, and to replace with the language, “since the kitchen has been closed there is less opportunity to socialize. The Senior Center needs commissioners who are active at the center; and lastly, on page 3 to change the liquor permit amount to \$60.00”.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Report:

The commission discussed whether liquor should be permissible or not at senior events/functions or if it is permissible on town grounds or in any of the town buildings at all. The Chair directed the Senior Citizen Center Director to research whether liquor is permissible or not on town grounds or in any town buildings with the town attorney and to report back to the commission at the June 25th meeting.

The Chair reported that the Senior Center participated in a Wii tournament with other towns, Shelton, Blackrock, Newtown, Bethel to name a few of the towns. Trumbull came in 4th place. The Chair suggested that if Trumbull would participate in the Wii competitions more often, they may want to purchase team shirts. Ms. Fereira suggested waiting on this item, until a team has been organized and scheduled in competitions.

Treasurer’s Report:

Ms. Fereira distributed the town accounting print outs to the commissioners, explaining that they are difficult to follow; therefore she had made some handwritten notes to clarify some of the accounting.

As of May 25, 2010 there is a balance of \$15,918.87 in the Senior Citizen Special Agency account. Ms. Fereira presented copies of all deposits and check requisitions as back-up information and distributed to the commissioners for their review.

Director's Report:

Ms. Fereira noted that the benches previously approved by the commission for purchase have been ordered and are awaiting delivery.

Ms. Fereira suggested that the commission order a wall plaque to commemorate Ms. Dick and Ms. Murphy instead of the brass plaques affixed to the benches. The commission discussed the pros and cons of a wall plaque, after considerable discussion it was agreed upon that the wall plaque could be too complicated to keep up with and also how criteria would be established as to who would be on the plaque, citing that they would not want to slight any volunteer or beneficiary. Ms. Mehlhorn stated it was her understanding that there was already a plaque in the building dedicated to those that served on the search and study committee who started the Senior Citizen Center. The commission agreed the two (2) plaques on the benches; one in Wanda Dick's honor and the other for Virginia Murphy were preferable to a wall plaque.

The Chair stated that the Senior Center Director took over the kitchen and has reopened the café. A list has been compiled of what is needed for the kitchen (hard copy of list attached to the minutes on file at the Town Clerks' office).

Ms. Mehlhorn moved, seconded by Ms. Cleary to approve an appropriation from the Senior Citizen Special Agency Account in the amount of \$800 for the purchase of food and supplies (including round and square plastic tablecloths not on the attached list for the Senior Center's kitchen, (hard copy of list attached to the minutes on file at the Town Clerks' office).

The commission reviewed the list and agreed the items were necessary for the kitchen noting it had been a long time since items had been purchased in bulk. Mr. Raytor volunteered to purchase the items and bring them back to the Senior Center.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Cleary moved, seconded by Ms. Mehlhorn to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$1,300 from the Senior Citizen Special Agency Account for the purpose of purchasing a new refrigerator and upright freezer for the Senior Citizen Center's kitchen.

Ms. Fereira stated that the existing refrigerator is no longer holding its temperature at a consistent temperature. The existing refrigerator is approximately 5 years old. The new refrigerator is 22 cubic feet in size with French doors and the freezer on the bottom. The existing freezer is a chest, an upright refrigerator is safer for all those work with it and it will not strain their backs. The upright freezer will also be easier to operate as it is self-defrosting.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Report: Ms. Fereira read a letter from Doris Tkacs to the commission complimenting the transportation service at the Center.

Director’s Report Cont’d.:

Ms. Fereira stated that they will continue to publish the newsletter in-house. The grant for a new bus has been approved.

Activities:

The Tea Party had 28 plus people attend. Ms. Fereira explained that the tea party incurred additional expenses due to the fact that the kitchen had been closed and that the food had to be brought in from an outside caterer. There had been a special meeting called but there was not a quorum, therefore the extra expense, \$56.05 was incurred by Ms. F. Hanna.

Bingo – had 73 people attend.

Celebration of the Arts – Had 93 people attend Ludlowe Health Center donated the crackers and Porricelli’s donated two (2) sheet cakes. The only expense to the Center was the purchase of fruit, \$56.77.

The Ice Cream Sock-Hop’s time had been changed at the last minute by the Town nurse. Ms. Fereira explained that the town nurse does not report to her, she reports to the Director of Nurses. Ms. Fereira stated that from now on of the Town nurse holds a function at the Center it will be necessary for her to report to the Director of the Center for that event.

Ms. Fereira reported that the speakers for the paging system have been delivered and will be installed next week, the cost is \$344.70. There is no electrical work necessary.

The Director discussed the need for the long tables at the center to be repaired; the legs may collapse on some.

Ms. Fereira reported that had been a request for a language class at the cost \$1,500, Tai Chi to open another class, the existing class is 40 people, a Zumba class and an additional art class, the existing two (2) classes are at 30 people per class.

The total for the additional classes is - \$9,870	
	<u>Less 3% from the Town</u>
Sub-total	\$6,370
Tellalian Grant	<u>\$2,000</u>
	\$4,070 total donation needed for programs

The Chair noted that the Art Class is looking to go on a field trip. Ms. Fereira stated that could be covered under the grant, she could book one trip for the Red Hats and one for Art Class.

Ms. Fereira reported that the Tribute to Coney Island will be on June 17, 2010. It is unsure whether the benches will be installed in time for that event. There is no rain date for this event, it will be held inside the center if inclement weather is expected.

There will not be a Craft Fair this year, a Tag Sale will held instead.
Mr. Raytor volunteered to chair the Tag Sale.

A pasta dinner dance is scheduled for June 18, 2010.
The shopping trips to the mall are working out very well.
The Food Drive at Stop & Shop is scheduled for Sat. June 19, 2010.

Ms. Fereira played a DVD from Smile Awhile to the commissioners. The commissioners spoke favorably of the group.
Mr. Raytor suggested that programs be funded at \$6,070 until it is known that the \$2,000 grant would be forthcoming. The commissioners and the director stated that the grant comes every year and would be fairly certain they would have been notified by now if they were not going to receive the monies.

Ms. Weinstein moved, seconded by Mr. Raytor to approve an appropriation from the Senior Citizen Special Agency account in the amount of \$300 as a donation to the Smile Awhile volunteer singing and dancing group, which represents the Senior Citizen Center of Trumbull in the community.

The donation will be to offset the costs associated with purchasing shirts for the group to wear in the community. The commissioners agreed.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hanna moved, seconded by Ms. Mehlhorn to approve an appropriation from the Senior Citizen Special Agency Account in the amount of \$250 for the purchase of food and supplies for the Senior Center Tag Sale.

The commissioners agreed.

VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Ms. Mehlhorn, seconded by Ms. Cleary to approve the appropriation of \$4,070 to subsidize programs at Senior Citizen Center.

The commissioners agreed.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Mehlhorn moved, seconded by Ms. Cleary to approve an appropriation from the Senior Citizen Special Agency Account in the amount of \$56.05 due to circumstances that caused extra expenses for the Tea Party.

Ms Weinstein noted that this event was a more expensive event than they usually do; thinking to the future it may be too expensive. Ms. Hanna explained that it was more expensive to do, due to the fact it had to be catered, since the kitchen had been closed, as opposed to her having made the food herself at the center. This event would cost much less in the future; she would be able to make the food at the center.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Social Services:

Ms. Fereira reported that no one has been hired to replace the person who retired. It will be a part time position now, basically clerical with some experience in social services.

Nurse's Report:

Ms. Ondy reported that the Sock Hop was very well received. Approximately 72 people attended, most of the expense was covered from her Stop & Shop grant; her budget covered the remaining \$100 in expenses.

There had been two (2) Diabetes programs run by the town nurse.

Ms. Ondy is currently working on a Trumbull-Monroe Tick Prevention program.

Ms. Ondy reported that the median age at Stern Village is 85. There are a lot more disabled people in the population now. Due to the fact there is very limited parking at the village, it is impossible to hold health fairs there. Ms. Ondy described the difficulties at Stern Village, there are many seniors living along side the disabled. The disabled population falls under the state of Connecticut's prevue.

Ms. Mehlhorn requested if food would be allowed in the downstairs meeting room. Ms. Fereira explained that had been an ant problem at one time since people would leave crumbs. Once there is a reliable cleaning service in-place it may be possible.

New Business:

The Chair suggested a sign for the art exhibits at the Town Hall from the Senior Citizen Center along with an easel. The commissioners agreed the art class could make the sign.

Mr. Raytor moved, seconded by Ms. Cleary to approve and appropriation from the Senior Citizen Special Agency account in the amount of \$200 for the purchase of two (2) bistro table and chair sets (at \$100 each) for the Senior Center courtyard area.

The commission agreed.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission is on June 25, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the Senior Center.

There being no further business to discuss, upon motion made by Ms. Mehlhorn, seconded by Ms. Cleary the Senior Citizen Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Mastroni, Clerk