

**COMMISSION ON THE AGING
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

August 28, 2007

A regular meeting of the Commission on the Aging was held on Tuesday August 28, 2007 at the New Fairfield Senior Sunshine Center. Maureen Salerno called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Secretary, Laurie Busse, took the minutes.

Present: Maureen Salerno, Chairperson, Jeannette Sweeney, Diane Giardina, Roberta Ilardo, Janet Loya and Kathy Hull

Excused: Cindy LaCour, Vice Chairperson, John Brennan, Bob Alberetti, and, Katy Johannssen

Appointment of Alternates:

Janet Loya and Jeannette Sweeney were elevated to full voting status.

MINUTES:

Janet Loya made a motion to accept the Minutes to the July 24, 2007 meeting, 2nd by Jeannette Sweeney, all in favor.

CORRESPONDENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Senior Center Update:

The Permanent Building Committee {PBC} previously agreed that all prospective contractors should be given a full set of plans. The PBC met with the architects Lazarus and Sergeant. One of the topics on the Agenda was to discuss lowering the cost of the full set of plans to send out to the contractors. The cost of the plans skyrocketed to \$86,000 {eighty six thousand dollars}. Lazarus and Sergeant were also unwilling to work with a modular. The PBC stated that perhaps Lazarus and Sergeant were not the architects for the project. The PBC will be looking for a new architect, perhaps someone in the New Fairfield area who will do the project for a considerable amount less than Lazarus and Sergeant. The next PBC meeting will be on Wed. August 29, 2007. Kathy Hull

stated the Town does not have a contract with Lazarus and Sergeant and will be able to find another architect without any legal issues.

The Commission discussed the Department of Economic Community Development {DECD} grant. An email had been sent to Veronica Hunter in Hartford and was responded to by Bruce Sheridan also in Hartford. The email implied that if the new Senior Center was to be used for anything other than a Senior Center, then the grant would be prorated depending on the percentage of the building dedicated specifically to seniors. The State's definition of a senior is some one who is 62 years of age or older. Kathy Hull stated that Hartford knows of the "Great Room" in the Senior Center Plans.

The Commission will investigate what resources can be pulled to help the Senior Center Project.

2. Summit Meeting:

The date for the Commission on the Aging Summit meeting is Saturday October 27, 2007 from 9am to 12 noon. The Commission discussed inviting area COA's from Danbury, New Milford, Sherman, Brookfield, and Newtown. The Agenda for the Summit will consist of housing, transportation, and ideas for 2008. Coffee, donuts and rolls will be served. Maureen Salerno will be away for this Summit and Vice Chairman, Cindy LaCour, will chair the meeting.

3. Unfinished/Pending Items :

a. Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year Award:

The Senior Center Breakfast is a terrific venue to present the Senior Citizen of the Year Award, unfortunately the Senior Center Breakfast is held every other year. The Commission discussed changing the motion made from last month to say every other year.

Kathy Hull made a motion that the Commission on the Aging hopes to recognize the Senior of the Year at the biannual Senior Center Breakfast, 2nd by Roberta Ilardo, all in favor, vote 6-0.

b. Handy Man Booklet

Danbury is on their 2nd handy man booklet and we seem to have a difficult time getting ours off the ground. The Commission tabled this item until Cindy LaCour and Katy Johannssen are available to work on the project.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Senior Center Report

Kathy Hull handed out the Senior Center Report and discussed as outlined. September is National Senior Citizen's Month. Kathy Hull is putting a special article in the newsletter stating the Senior Center is not an adult day care center

but a place for active adults who live in the community and Kathy Hull will mention well known active seniors who utilize the senior center.

The Senior Center will host a New Member Social in October. There is a Hospice Breakfast on October 2, 2007 at 7:30am.

ADJOURN:

Jeannette Sweeney made a motion to adjourn at 8:40pm, 2nd by Roberta Ilardo, all in favor.