

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

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

May 22, 2007

A regular meeting of the Commission on the Aging was held on Tuesday May 22, 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, Cindy LaCour, Vice Chairperson, Katy Johannssen, Bob Alberetti, Diane Giardina, Janet Loya, and, Kathy Hull. Roberta Ilardo joined the meeting at 7:45

Excused: John Brennan and Jeannette Sweeney

MINUTES:

Cindy LaCour made a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 24, 2007 meeting as amended, 2nd by Bob Alberetti, all in favor.

CORRESPONDENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Community Resources Fair, Saturday June 2, 2007:

Cindy LaCour will take over in Maureen Salerno's absence. Kathy Hull went over the list of businesses that responded to the invitation noting Danbury Savings Bank will bring in a raffle. The response was not as great as the Commission would have liked and Janet Loya will follow up with those that did not respond. Maureen Salerno noted that Barbara Reynolds mentioned she would attend.

The Senior Center has 9 round tables, 8 long tables, and 8-10 card tables that can be used. It was decided to group similar businesses together and businesses can provide their own table cloths if desired. The tables will be set up around the peripheral of the room and if necessary have a center aisle of tables. This will allow the traffic to flow smoothly around the room. The Library will be asked if they will provide bags for consumers to put their information in.

The Commissioners should get there around 9am to set up and businesses can arrive between 9:15-9:30am to set up. Water will be sold over by the window.

Maureen Salerno was not able to purchase the signs discussed in past meetings, the Citizen News will be contacted for a save the date advertisement. The advertisement will also appear on the Library's website and Church Bulletins.

2. Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year Award:

The Commission on the Aging and the Board of Selectman named Jeannette Sweeney Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year. First Selectman, John Hodge issued Jeannette Sweeney a Proclamation at the "Friends of the Senior Center Breakfast. Kathy Hull took some very nice pictures of Jeannette Sweeney receiving her Proclamation from John Hodge. There were pictures of Jeannette Sweeney on the front page of the Citizen News; however they were not the ones of Jeannette Sweeney and John Hodge. The secretary will try to get Kathy Hull's pictures in next week's paper. The Commission on the Aging discussed having an Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year Award every year and creating a venue for people to submit nominations. The only setback is the Friends of the Senior Center have their breakfast every other year and where could they present the award? This is something for the Commission to think about.

3. New Senior Center:

The new Senior Center passed the referendum by just a few votes. The Commission on the Aging should be as involved as they possibly can. Discussion followed and Commissioners noted citizens who voted against the new Senior Center that it is not that they are against a new senior center they are just against the process in which the new senior center is taking. The senior center is still at least 3 months away from breaking ground. The Town will be putting out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Bob Rawlings, PBC Chair, will short list the applicants. The RFQ will go out to builders and Kathy Hull will continue to look at modulars. State statutes stipulate if the Senior Center is going to be built with grant money, then the Town must pay prevailing wage, which is quite costly and that is why the Town will look into modulars. Kathy Hull stated she saw a modular day care and a senior center that were very nice. The grant money is not in jeopardy.

4. Attendance at Senior Center Advisory Committee Meetings:

The Senior Center Advisory Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 3:30pm. This month they did not have a quorum so they were not able to meet. Maureen Salerno attends these meetings when she can get the time off from work. Maureen Salerno will not be able to attend the upcoming meeting and is there anyone who can sit in for her. Discussion followed that we are a working Commission and if someone were going to take the time off of work to attend a meeting, they would like to know ahead of time if there was not going to be a quorum. Kathy Hull and Jeannette Sweeney sit on both Committees and they would be a last resort to represent the Commission on the Aging at the Advisory Committee meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Senior Center Report:

Kathy Hull distributed the Senior Center Reports for March and April. Attendance was down from last year although the number of meals served is up. The senior center is considering staying open later.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Diane Giardina made a motion to adjourn at 8:30pm, 2nd by Cindy LaCour, all in favor. Maureen Salerno will be away on vacation from May 25 to June 8, 2007.