

Commission on Aging
August 12, 2019 – Regular Meeting
Colchester Senior Center
95 Norwich Avenue

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Marjorie Mlodzinski, Vice Chair Nan Wasniewski, Goldie Liverant, Linda Pasternak, one vacancy.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jean Sawicki, Treasurer Roberta Avery.

OTHERS PRESENT: Senior Center Director Patty Watts, Board of Selectmen Liaison Rosemary Coyle, Board of Education Liaison Mary Tomasi, Senior Center Program Coordinator Justine Kowinsky.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mlodzinski called this regular meeting to order at 8:30 am.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were requested.

3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROGRAM COORDINATOR SENIOR CENTER – JUSTINE KOWINSKY

Senior Services Director Watts introduced Justine Kowinsky as the new Program Coordinator and gave a brief summary of her background. All welcomed Justine.

4. REVIEW OF JULY 8, 2019 MINUTES

Motion by: G. Liverant

to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019, minutes with the correction to Dianne Stone's spelling of her first name and to note that Director Patty Watts was present at the July meeting.

Second by: L. Pasternak.

Vote: Unanimous to approve with corrections.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1. CoA

As R. Avery was not in attendance, Chair Mlodzinski reported that the Town Printing and Publications line item is at \$300 and the CoA budget at this time has a balance of \$466.26.

5.2 Senior Center

Director Watts presented the following report:

Transportation Itemization for July 2019

Daily Transportation	7/26/2019	\$80.00
Trips	7/26/2019	\$135.00
Combined Total		\$215.00
Year to Date Total		\$215.00

6. DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT

P. Watts noted that J. Kowinsky is the new Program Coordinator. She began on July 22nd and has been in training to learn the many aspects of her role, has spent time getting to know the senior center members and the programs and their leaders as well as some future program

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program planning with Director Watts. The priority is to stabilize the programming and get it back to full speed, prior to making any programming changes, to get through the holiday season, that is always busy, and implement some new programs based on the results of the recent Activity Interest Survey.

Excellent feedback was received from the other CoA's or Senior Center Directors for Dianne Stone's presentation at the regional CoA Roundtable that we hosted last month.

The deadline for the window replacement project has been moved toward September/October per Public Works.

The Title III Grant that funds the *Making Memories Program* through Senior Resources Area Agency on Aging has been fully funded, once again this year. They were highly complementary about the program, its impact and how well it is run, thanks to Missy Bauman's efforts.

Jane Moreno, the Nutrition Site Server for 21 years retired August 2, 2019. A well-attended retirement party was held for her that was a wonderful send-off for a great lady. Valerie Webster is the new Nutrition Site Server. She was trained by Jane during Jane's final two weeks and is doing a good job now that she is on her own. She will be a great fit with the team.

P. Watts will be attending Travel Fest sponsored by Friendship Tours on Monday, August 26th in order to make selections for travel destinations for 2020. An electronic travel survey will be sent out to help make the final selections and see where the most interest is.

The Senior Center will be participating in the SECT Regional Event again this year on October 17, at 7-10 pm. Tickets will be sold beginning in September. The Corvettes Do Wop Revue will be the musical entertainment with hors d'oeuvres, drinks and dancing, hosted at Langley's Restaurant in Waterford this year.

September is National Senior Center Month. The theme is *Senior Centers: The Keys to Aging Well*. Some exciting programs are being planned around the theme.

Director Watts will be on vacation beginning August 29 through September 8.

Attendance and Meals Served:

- Meals served in June: on site: 165 MOW: 288
- Monthly Transports in June: 800
- Monthly Attendance in June: 2176
- Total Membership: 1297

M. Mlodzinski noted that the Commission sent a card to J. Moreno for her retirement. Also noted, Representative J. Courtney will host a Senior Issues Forum at the Senior Center, Monday August 19, 2019, at 10:00 am, and Senator Norm Needleman and Representative Linda Orange will be at the Senior Center on September 3, at 1:30 pm.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Brochure – Final and Distribution

Several edits have been made to the brochure. Chair Mlodzinski will look into the costs for printing and the brochure should be finalized by the next meeting.

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7.2 Update on CoA Roundtable

Chair Mlodzinski stated that all the Commission members attended the July meeting and that the Roundtable was well done. Colchester will host the Roundtable in July 2020.

7.3 Joining CT Coalition on Aging

Chair Mlodzinski is looking into this item and would like to discuss it next month.

7.4 Update on Senior Center Status (Building Committee)

R. Coyle noted that interviews have been completed for the building committee and an announcement of members is expected on August 15, 2019. There will be seven members with two alternates.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Discussion of CoA Future Programs

Chair Mlodzinski said she would like to see a Fall program and a Spring program.

L. Pasternak suggested a program on Alzheimer's and provided an outline of programs given by the Alzheimer's Association. There are several programs available at no cost and approximately an hour long. The first would be "Ten Early Warning Signs of Alzheimers". It was decided that the program would be open to the community and scheduled for October 30, 2019, at 6:30, at the Senior Center.

8.2. Senior Center Holiday Fair/Open House

The Senior Center Holiday Fair will be held on November 23, 2019, from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. This Commission is welcome to have a booth with brochures and information regarding the Commission on Aging. There is a planning committee meeting scheduled for August 22, 2019 for volunteers.

9. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

The Commission has one regular member vacancy and two alternate vacancies.

10. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None received.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: G. Liverant
to adjourn this meeting.

Second by: N. Wasniewski

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Mlodzinski adjourned this meeting at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk