

TOWN OF FRANKLIN
COMMISSION ON AGING

The Town of Franklin is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FRANKLIN SENIOR CENTER
5 TYLER DRIVE

FRANKLIN, CONNECTICUT 06254

The mission of the Franklin Commission on Aging is to provide information and services to the aging population, their families, and their care providers.

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE FRANKLIN COMMISSION ON AGING
HELD AT THE FRANKLIN SENIOR CENTER
12:30 PM ON TUESDAY, THE 9TH OF MAY, 2017

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Thomas Shakun called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. PRESENT: Commission Members Margaret Ayer, Susan Dagenais, Alison Dvorak, Judy Marrotte, and Judi Novosad. ABSENT: Commission Member Laura Wheeler.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Don Eccleston.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Novosad made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular April 11th, 2017 meeting as presented. Mrs. Dvorak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF REPORTS:

A) MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY:

- **REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2017:** A snowstorm resulted in the cancellation of the March meeting. Mrs. Wheeler had prepared a report, but has not yet transmitted it to the clerk.
- **REPORT FOR MARCH 2017:** Mrs. Wheeler had been absent due to an injury at the April meeting, but had transmitted her report to the clerk for the May meeting. She reported that she had fielded 9 telephone calls to the center and assisted residents with applications for social services and energy assistance programs.
- **REPORT FOR APRIL 2017:** Mrs. Wheeler was also absent from the May meeting, but had transmitted her report to the clerk. She reported that she had fielded 19 telephone calls to the center and assisted residents with applications for social services and energy assistance programs.

B) SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

- **REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2017:** A snowstorm resulted in the cancellation of the March meeting. Mrs. Wheeler had prepared a report, but has not yet transmitted it to the clerk.
- **REPORT FOR MARCH 2017:** Mrs. Wheeler had been absent due to an injury at the April meeting, but had transmitted her report to the clerk for the May meeting. She reported that the regular monthly events of the Birthday Pizza Party, Bingo, Games, and Coffee and Conversation were held at the center, with the exception of one date when the center was closed during a snowstorm. She also reported that the center had hosted a presentation from a nutritionist from the Thames Valley Council for Community Action about ingredients in restaurant dishes. Mrs. Wheeler also reported that four trips were taken: to The Shack Restaurant in Groton, to the Bozrah Pizza Restaurant, to the culinary program at Ellis Technical School in Danielson, and to Illiano's Restaurant in Norwich. In all, she reported that 32 people attended programs at the center, and 35 people attended the trips.
- **REPORT FOR APRIL 2017:** Mrs. Wheeler was also absent from the May meeting, but had transmitted her report to the clerk. She reported that the regular monthly activities of the Birthday Pizza Party, Bingo, Games, and Coffee and Conversation were held at the center. She also reported that the center had hosted a presentation from the University of Connecticut's School of Pharmacy about medication awareness. Mrs. Wheeler also reported that four trips were taken: to The Gatherings Restaurant in Killingly, to the Bozrah Pizza Restaurant, to the On the Waterfront Café in New London, and to culinary program at Norwich Free Academy. In all, she reported that 43 people attended programs at the center, and 46 people attended the trips.

C) MEAL SITE MANAGER:

- **REPORT FOR APRIL 2017:** Mrs. Dagenais reported that 40 meals were served. She also reported that the Thames Valley Council for Community Action had made note of security procedure for lockboxes. Discussion followed on the process at the the senior center. Mrs. Dvorak and Mr. Shakun noted that Mrs. Dagenais had received multiple commendations from TVCCA on her processing of the donations and her handling of the lockbox, and that she should not revise her protocols, nor should she request or accept money directly from center attendees.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A) **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON OUTREACH PLANS:** The Commission reviewed a draft of a trifold brochure and discussed the illustrations with Mr. Eccleston. The Commission needs input from Mrs. Wheeler before the finalization can move forward. Discussion was held on Mrs. Wheeler's role at the center. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting at which Mrs. Wheeler is present. Mr. Eccleston expressed an interest in serving on the Commission. The clerk will request that the Board of Selectmen appoint him to a vacant seat.
- B) **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PROGRAMMING SURVEY:** Discussion was held on gathering a wider range of input than from just the people who already attend programs at the center. Mrs. Dvorak noted that the Commission needed to take advantage of email lists and be included on joint informational sites that list programming for all local senior centers. Discussion was held on promoting activities in community event listings in local newspapers. Discussion was held on the effectiveness of direct mailings. Mrs. Dvorak and Mrs. Novosad reiterated that programs must be planned out several months in advance. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting at which Mrs. Wheeler is present.
- C) **UPDATE ON SENIOR CENTER AWNING:** Mr. Shakun reported that he had been informed by the First Selectman that the Commission could not solicit donations for the replacement of the awning. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) REVIEW OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Mr. Eccleston reported that his art work would be exhibited at the Gallery at the Wauregan in Norwich throughout the month of May. The Commission congratulated him.
- Mrs. Dvorak reported that she was planning a luncheon at the Franklin Elementary School for seniors to attend; she tentatively chose May 24th based on Mrs. Wheeler's schedule in the May newsletter, pending confirmation from Mrs. Wheeler that the date is free, with June 7th as back-up date.
- Mrs. Novosad reported that the Ashbel Woodward Museum would host a Revolutionary War re-enactment on May 13th and May 14th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Mrs. Dvorak reported that the annual Mother's Day plant sale would be held on May 13th by the Friends of the Library and the Garden Club in front of Thrifty Car Sales on Route 32.
- Mrs. Dvorak reported that the annual Fire Department Banquet would be held on May 20th.
- Mrs. Dvorak reported that the fourth-grade play would be held on June 3rd at the Franklin Elementary School.
- Mrs. Dvorak reported that the Senior Resources Agency on Aging would host an expo at Norwich Technical School on July 14th; she suggested that the

senior center might want to swap one of their bus transportation days in order to host a trip to it.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: This will be held on June 13th at 12:30 p.m. at the senior center.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Novosad made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Dvorak seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
TRACI L. HASTINGS, CLERK
COMMISSION ON AGING**