

MINUTES

WATERTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING

FALLS AVENUE SENIOR CENTER
311 FALLS AVENUE, OAKVILLE, CT
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009 - 12:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Melanie Flaherty, Vice Chairman
Kathy Goulet
Loretta Lambert
Helen Lukowski
Coreine Peluso, Chairman
Kathleen Plunkett
Wanda Witty

ABSENT: Joanne Murray
Cathleen Williams, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Carew, Recreation Director
Darrylle Willenbrock, Senior Center Director

OTHERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: None

1. Convene Regular Meeting - 12:00 P.M.

Ms. Peluso called the Meeting to Order at 12:10 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Peluso, Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Public Participation

Roy Dilger, 3 Capewell Avenue, Oakville, CT 06779

Mr. Dilger discusses the "Seniors for Seniors" Program.

5. Minutes

A. November 20, 2008 - Regular Meeting

MOTION: (Ms. Plunkett, sec. Ms. Goulet) to approve the Regular Meeting of November 20, 2008 as presented.

Discussion: None

In Favor: Ms. Goulet, Ms. Lukowski, Ms. Peluso, Ms. Plunkett, Ms. Witty

Opposed: None

Abstained: Ms. Flaherty, Ms. Lambert

MOTION CARRIED (5-0-2)

B. December 18, 2008 - Regular Meeting Cancellation Notice

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Lambert) to approve the Regular Meeting Cancellation Notice of December 18, 2008 as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Municipal Agent's Report

Ms. Willenbrock gave the following report:

- The Town is continuing to take applications for Energy Assistance. There is an increase in applications this year, obviously due to the economy.
- Also doing ConnPace applications. I have come across seniors now debating if they should keep their supplemental policies because of the cost and the strain on their budgets.
- Costs to food, medical, and fuel are putting pressure on those with fixed incomes. The sad thing is that CL&P got another rate hike January 1st. We are now the highest utility company in the country. We are trying to address as many issues as possible to the seniors who are facing hard times. One senior told me she is job hunting but because so many are out of work, she cannot find even trivial jobs. We are all definitely looking to the new administration, but knowing things don't happen overnight.

7. Senior Center Report

Ms. Willenbrock gave the following report:

- Bob Mel will be here on January 23rd doing a Rod Stewart Presentation of songs. Healthnet will make their popcorn for the event.
- Connecticutcare will be back on January 20th to present Medicare and Vantage point.
- Our seniors here at the Center have put together a group of representative called Seniors helping Seniors. Their mission is to try to decide what this center would most be interested in seeing, and volunteering their time to try to accomplish these goals. They will form committees. For instance if they wish to hold a party or a dance, and that would bring in more people to help with events, instead of most of the work falling on me. They also may take on some community work such as visiting those who live alone or are in convalescent centers. Hopefully it will add to the interest in the Center.

8. Recreation Report

Ms. Carew gave the following report:

- Seniors for Seniors Program
- Brochure
- Bus – Greater Waterbury Transit District
- Grant – Connecticut Community Foundation

9. New Business

A. Elderly Tax Rebate

Ms. Peluso discussed the elderly tax rebate. She wants to drop the income level for this tax break, local up to \$45,000 income (or less).

Ms. Plunkett felt they should set caps now.

Ms. Flaherty felt Ms. Willenbrock would have to do some research.

Ms. Peluso stated there has to be a minimum income.

MOTION: (Ms. Peluso, sec. Ms. Witty) that the home owners tax rebate be \$15,000 single maximum and \$23,000 couple maximum with an additional asset limit of \$5,000 in savings. They must own the home outright. This does not apply to renters. You must be at least 65 years old. The research will go through Social Services to protect confidentiality.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Public Participation

Joe Wichrowski, President, "Seniors for Seniors"

Mr. Wichrowski discussed the new program.

Carol Romanesk, Ripley Street, Oakville, CT 06779

Ms. Romanesk reported she is 60 years old, has a degree in early childhood education and has been out of work for over a year.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Goulet) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Coreine Peluso, Chairman
Watertown Commission on Aging

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk