

MINUTES

WATERTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING

FALLS AVENUE SENIOR CENTER
311 FALLS AVENUE, OAKVILLE, CT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009 - 12:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Melanie Flaherty
Helen Lukowski
Coreine Peluso, Chairman
Kathleen Plunkett, Secretary
Wanda Witty

ABSENT: Kathy Goulet
Loretta Lambert, Vice Chairman
Joanne Murray
Cathleen Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Carew, Recreation Director
Darylle Willenbrock

OTHERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: None

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

Ms. Peluso called the Meeting to Order at 12:20 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Peluso, Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Public Participation

None

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5. Minutes

A. September 14, 2009 - Regular Meeting

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Witty) to approve the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2009 as presented.

Discussion: None

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: Ms. Plunkett

MOTION CARRIED (5-0-1)

B. October 15, 2009 – Regular Meeting (Cancelled)

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Plunkett) to approve the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2009 as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Municipal Agent's Report

Ms. Willenbrock gave the following report:

- We are doing many energy assistance applications. At this time we are booked up until mid-December with appointments. I did call energy assistance because they are referring everybody here and I physically can't do both towns. At this time I'm just doing seniors and disabled. Everyone else we're trying to refer to Waterbury, much to their dismay.
- Attended the Connecticut Area Aging training session for the new ConnPace & Medicare Part D. Under the new ConnPace eligibility requirement for enrollees the rates will become higher so that ConnPace enrollees will be eligible for the Medicare Savings Program known as QMB SLMB ALMB. Under these programs your Medicare Part B is paid for so you no longer have to pay for that. There is some discrepancy as to whether these people will be automatically enrolled or they have to apply. The applications will be available on line for eligible candidates, but many seniors are not computer savvy and there is no additional staffing to help. Governor Rell made additional cuts to DSS Thursday and what already is a bad situation will be made worse. There are many unanswered questions regarding these programs. Effective January 1, 2010 there will be no recouping money. Part 2 of this is if you have QMB SLMB or ALMB your money is given back to the State upon your death; your estate pays back. That's a huge thing.

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- We are referring any calls regarding Swine Flu vaccine to the Watertown VNA.

A short discussion ensued regarding the energy assistance issues facing the Municipal Agent.

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Lukowski) to accept the Municipal Agent's Report as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Senior Center Report

Ms. Willenbrock gave the following report:

- Connecticare will be here on November 24, 2009 to discuss the different Medicare Plans available to seniors.
- We have 2 Christmas parties scheduled for December 12 and one for December 17, 2009. One is sponsored by Gateway Bible and the other through the Elderly Nutrition Traveling Chef Program.
- Dom Calabrese will be at the Center on Thursday, December 10, 2009 to discuss the new estate taxes and new laws on gifting money.
- Western Connecticut Area Aging got funding to bring back the free physicals, and then if you have a problem they refer you to another doctor.

MOTION: (Ms. Plunkett, sec. Ms. Flaherty) to accept the Senior Center Report as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. New Business

A. 2010 Meeting Dates

Ms. Peluso reported they are having a hard time getting a quorum in the afternoon, so they are going to revert back to evening meetings in 2010, being the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m., with the Commission's approval.

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Witty) to approve the 2010 meeting scheduled as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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B. Circuit Breaker Program

Ms. Peluso reported 2 months ago this Commission voted to ask the Town Manager/Finance Director if the Assessor could do something to better inform the seniors regarding the Circuit Breaker Program. Nothing has been done so she called Mr. Frigon who said that it's already included in the senior calendar. Ms. Peluso felt people who just turning 65 and freshly retired do not realize these programs are available, and Mr. Frigon agreed, so they met with Carolyn Nadeau, the Assessor and drafted a letter that will be mailed with the December bills for all taxpayers.

C. Replacement

Ms. Carew reported Sandra Greenwood has been filling in for Pat Boll, in her absence for personal reasons.

D. Steele Brook Walkway Groundbreaking Ceremony

Ms. Carew reported the Steele Brook Walkway Groundbreaking will be held this Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

10. Old Business

None

11. Public Participation

None

12. Adjournment

MOTION: (Ms. Flaherty, sec. Ms. Plunkett) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at about 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Coreine Peluso, Chairman
Watertown Commission on Aging

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk