

From: SimsburyCT Postings January 26, 2010 9:05:03 AM
Subject: Aging and Disability Commission Minutes 01/19/2010
To: SimsburyCT_Aging
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION

January 19, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Chairperson, Edward LaMontagne called the meeting to order in the Youth Room at Eno Memorial Hall, Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Grace Comeau, Tom Doran, Kathy Fallon, Mona Herman, Mike Jennings, Carrie Kramer, Marvin Koff, Mary Ellen Long, Ed LaMontagne, Charlotte Steptoe, Lynn Veith, Arlene Zappile, John Hampton (Board of Selectman liaison), Kathleen Marschall (Senior Center Coordinator), Joe Loewy (Simsbury Housing Authority, ex-officio member)

Excused: Mark Orenstein, Mona Martinik, Ann Walters-Thompson

Absent: None

Public Audience: None

Guests: Jean Doubrow

Minutes of Previous Meeting: The meeting minutes from November 17, 2009 were reviewed and accepted with spelling and grammatical corrections.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Souper Tuesday - Grace Comeau

The next Souper Tuesday event is scheduled for February 16th. Telephone calls will continue to be made prior to the event to lessen the number of no shows. Entertainment will be provided by a banjo player.

Citizen Service Award - Lynn Veith

Ms. Veith has prepared the nomination forms for the Senior Service Award, which will be mailed. Mr. Hampton will assist with adding the forms to the

town web site. Ms. Marschall will have copies of the nomination forms available at the Senior Center. The award will be presented at the Board of Selectman meeting in May 2010.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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Accessibility

- Simsbury Farms Needs Assessment Study: Mr. LaMontagne stated that the Public Building Committee hired an architect to complete a study of the Simsbury Farms complex. The study was to address program, service and administrative requirements at the main building, Apple Barn and restaurant. This included accessibility issues. Ms. Kramer also brought up the lack of lighting in the parking lot at the Apple Barn after dark.
- Design Review: The Simsbury Main Street Partnership has received a Historic Restoration Grant to assist with renovations to Eno Memorial Hall. Mr. LaMontagne shared details on what will be done. The timeline is approximately two years.

Disability Needs Assessment - Mike Jennings

Mr. Jennings reported that the next step is to determine ways to publish/distribute the survey. The Senior Communicator will be mailed the middle of February and will include the survey. The survey will also be distributed through the town web site (survey monkey), library, SCTV, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Senior/Community Center Assessment

Mr. LaMontagne presented a review of the results of the Senior Center Survey to the Board of Selectman at their meeting on January 11th. It was well received. Ms. Martinik continues to work with town officials on updating the kitchen facilities at Eno.

Senior Tax Relief - Ed LaMontagne

Mr. LaMontagne shared information regarding the town tax relief program. According to the town Finance Director, the actual tax loss for FY 10 was \$354,000. It is projected that the estimated tax loss, as a result of this program, for FY11 will be \$395,600. Once again this year the Commission

will make an effort to inform appropriate citizens of the existing town tax relief program.

SENIOR CENTER REPORT - Kathleen Marschall, Senior Center Coordinator
The Wednesday lunch program is 1 year old. The room is filled to capacity with a waiting list. The program has formed partnerships with McLean who provide the food) and with the St. Mary's School 7th and 8th grade students. The program is a huge success and has attracted new attendees to the Senior Center.

Ms. Marschall stated that a new steam table has been purchased for the Wednesday luncheon program.

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Ms. Marschall also announced that there will be a new chair yoga program starting at the Senior Center.

OLD BUSINESS

Elderly Work Tax Credit

Mr. Hampton updated members regarding the Elderly Work Tax Credit Program. Mr. Hampton and Mr. LaMontagne will meet next week with Diane Ullman, Superintendent of Simsbury Public Schools, to discuss the program.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. LaMontagne discussed the possibility of the Commission presenting an award to a local business at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting in May. Mr. LaMontagne requested that Ms. Kramer, Chairman of the Public Relations Sub-Committee, contact Ms. Folk to determine what the process is for nominations.
- Mr. Jennings reported that he was recently parked in a handicapped space and someone parked too close and he could not get out of his car. It was suggested that Mr. LaMontagne contact Officer John Mimnaugh of the Simsbury Police Department to inform him of the incident and what could potentially be done in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of 2010 meeting dates

The 2010 meeting calendar was presented. The calendar was approved with a

correction of the June 2010 date, which should be the 15th.

Town Budget for FY11

Mr. LaMontagne has requested \$1,500.00 for FY11 for Commission events, specifically Souper Tuesday and Picnic in the Park.

Nominating Committee Report

Ms. Fallon reported on the nominating committee recommendations. Mr. LaMontagne was nominated for Chairman, Ms. Steptoe as Vice Chairman and Ms. Veith as Clerk. There were no nominations from the floor. Dr. Koff made a motion to approve the nominations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zappile. All voted in favor with three abstentions.

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Announcements

- Mr. LaMontagne will be attending the next Board of Selectman Public Safety Sub Committee meeting on January 21st. Ms. Kramer requested Mr. LaMontagne get an update regarding the widening of the Simsbury Greenway and lining the walkway for pedestrians and bikes.
- Mr. LaMontagne sent a letter to Brandon Robertson thanking him for his service to the commission. Mr. LaMontagne also announced that Bonnie Therrien has been appointed interim director of Administrative Services.

Correspondence

None

Other Business

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Koff made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Long seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: February 16, 2010 in the Youth Room at Eno Memorial Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Veith

Lynn R. Veith

Clerk