

From: SimsburyCT Postings March 27, 2012 9:38:11 AM  
Subject: Aging and Disability Commission Minutes 3/20/2012  
To: SimsburyCT\_Aging  
Cc:

Town of Simsbury  
Aging and Disability Commission

Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2012  
Youth Room, Eno Memorial Hall

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Edward Lamontagne at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Edward LaMontagne, Charlotte Steptoe, Grace Comeau, Kathie Fallon, Mike Jennings, Arline Zappile, Marvin Koff, Mona Martinik, Mark Orenstein, Peggy Shanks, Kathleen Marschall (Senior Center Coordinator) John Hampton (Liaison, Board of Selectmen), Joe Loewy (Simsbury Housing Authority).

Excused: Ron Zappile, Carrie Kramer, Mona Herman, Lynn Veith, Mary Ellen Long

The March and April meetings are special meetings to comply with the annual meeting schedule filing at the office of the Town Clerk. At special meetings, only business on the filed agenda may be taken up. Commission schedule now filed and May meeting will be a regular meeting.

Public Audience: Lorraine Doonan attended the meeting to learn more about the Commission and is interested in being considered for membership. Ms. Doonan has a bachelor degree in nursing has worked in the home health care field.

Program and sub-committee reports:

Public Relations:

Mr. Bible asked if articles he submitted had been in the press. Kathy Marschall gave him clippings collected thus far.

Citizen Service Award:

Ms. Fallon reported there has not been a high volume of returns on request for nominees. It was agreed to extend the deadline to April 15th. Send out requests for nominees to Patch, FAVARH, McLean, Governors House, Board of Education and House of Dreams. Seeking nominees from a smaller universe

need to increase number of those ask to propose nominee.

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Souper Tuesday:

Ms. Comeau said 70 people were served at luncheon with 4 no shows. The Lions Club members were servers, First Church sponsored the lunch, and Jr. Women's Club provided the dessert – cupcakes. Ms. Martinik showed the Card used at the reception table to acknowledge the groups assisting with the luncheon.

The question of whether or not people from out of town should be permitted to attend was raised. This issue will be monitored.

Picnic in the Park:

Ms. Steptoe said August 25th is the tentative date for the picnic. Date is tentative because church must accommodate parish events. The format for the picnic will include the band. Effort will be made to set a price that reflects the pay, but no performance due to weather cancellation in 2011. Suggestion was made to use a contract this year. In 2011, St. Catherine of Siena Church refunded \$100 for the insurance, For 2012, church may have some resources such as volunteers to assist with the picnic.

Minor changes and steps ahead could include:

An M.C. to encourage audience participation.

- Will talk to Alex about a sing along.
- Check in with FAVARH to get name of the person who does card tricks. He is the parent of a FAVARH
- Would like to invite Father White and Linda Butler so we can thank them in person.
- Will look to local businesses like Kane's for items like hot dogs.
- Sign ups for attendees will be mid July.
- Contact group homes, people with folks at home.
- Will ask CIB and FAVARH to help get word out.
- Need to remind people to come.
- Estimated 100-125 attendees.

Senior Center Report:

- Ms. Marschall described the enthusiastic performance of the students from Henry James Memorial School as they did excerpt from Grease II. VIP passes may be used for show.
- St. Patrick's Day program was attended by 110 people.

- Senior Center will be adding a cooking program. Interest has been expressed in a hands on cooking class, not just a demonstration. Plan to have about 10 participants.
- The Communicator ads are going well. Current arrangement on a two-year contract.

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Student Liaison Report:

No Student report.

Dr. Koff asked about Scout Tom Gallerani's Vials for Life Eagle Project.

Mr. LaMontagne said he signed a sponsor letter in January. Have not heard anything since then, but he will follow up.

OLD Business

Handicapped Parking

- On February 26th a letter was sent to First Selectman Mary Glassman asking a month be designated for public awareness of handicap parking space requirements. May or June have been considered. Decided on June. Mr. Hampton will follow up.

- Mr. Jennings has done research on issue but he did not find mention of handicap parking in Ct DMV manual

- Distributed copies of a sheet information state of New Jersey has available.

- When information about parking is sent to local businesses, it should include a request that they inform their vendors of the rules.

- Mr. Hampton suggested Simsbury Chamber of Commerce could do an email blast.

Senior Center Needs Assessment

Public Building Committee will hold meeting Monday, March 26th in the main meeting room of town hall at 3:30 pm. Discussion to include:

- Visits
- Eno Memorial Hall

Senior Center Summit: Mr. Hampton reported a new date of May 15th from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Eno Memorial Hall

Places of Worship – Storm Alfred Follow-Up

- A program is scheduled on May 6th at the Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation.
- Places of Worship are getting their own generators. Want to offer a place to stop in and get warm. Also are planning to check in on most vulnerable in their communities.

- Plan to form a committee

Senior Tax Relief

- Board of Finance took action to extend credits.
- Proposal goes to Board of Selectmen March 26th mtg.

- Awareness and understanding of the program getting better, participation has increased. Seniors worry about confidentiality.

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New Business:

Donation Letters:

Recent donations from Lions Club of \$400 and an invitation to Women's Club to receive an award on April 10 should provide sufficient monies to fund Soupers for this year. Therefore, no additional letters will be sent at this time.

Mr. Lamontagne asked Ms. Martinik to attend the Women's Club meeting.

NCRMHB

Transportation to recreation programs held at Chrysalis Center will now be available to residents of Farmington Valley. Grants have allowed NCRMHB to obtain vans to transport participants to programs. Vans will be stationed at Avon Baptist Church and a part time staff person is coming on board.

DOT grants for projects between state and local governments are a potential for additional dollars for vehicles.

Joe Loewy announced he is retiring and will be leaving the Housing Authority of the Town of Simsbury as of August 5, 2012. He said the vacancy is listed on various web sites and read from the copy in the Yankee Flyer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Koff. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next Meeting – April 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Eno Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Shanks

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