

From: SimsburyCT Postings April 26, 2010 8:58:43 AM
Subject: Aging and Disability Commission Minutes 04/20/2010
To: SimsburyCT_Aging
Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION

April 20, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Chairperson, Edward LaMontagne called the meeting to order in the Youth Room at Eno Hall, Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070 at 7:04p.m.

Present: Grace Comeau, Mike Jennings, Marvin Koff, Mona Herman, Carrie Kramer, Mary Ellen Long, Ed LaMontagne, Mark Orenstein, Charlotte Steptoe, Lynn Veith, John Hampton (Board of Selectman liaison), Kathleen Marschall, (Senior Center Coordinator)

Excused: Kathy Fallon, Mona Martinik, Tom Doran, Ann Walters-Thompson, Arlene Zappile

Absent: None

Public Audience: Victor Bible, Dana Woodward

Ex Officio:
Joe Loewy, Simsbury Housing Authority

Mark Orienstein will serve as a voting member at this meeting.

Minutes, Previous Meeting: The meeting minutes from March 16, 2010 were reviewed and accepted with spelling and grammatical corrections.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Souper Tuesday - Grace Comeau

Ms. Comeau reported that the Civitan is requesting a letter of request for funding for two Souper Tuesday events in November and April. September, October and November dates have been set. The program with the kids from Tarrifville School on April 13th was great.

Citizen Service Award - Lynn Veith

Ms. Veith reported that the Senior Service presentation has been coordinated for the BOS meeting for Monday, April 26, 2010 at 7: 00 p.m. At the current time, the presentation is scheduled as the first agenda item. A reception will follow at Town Hall. Set up for the reception can begin at 6:45 pm. Mr. Loewy and Ms Veith are coordinating publicity.

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SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Disability Needs Assessment - Mike Jennings

Mr. Jennings reported that the survey is on the town web site/survey monkey. Press releases were sent to Simsbury News, Simsbury Life and the Hartford Courant. Mr. Jennings also contacted Larry Pollack to encourage his group to complete the form. Mr. LaMontagne will follow-up on the town list serve. A suggestion was made for Mr. LaMontagne to send a letter to the Editor of Simsbury News. The survey will be available on the website until the end of May.

Housing - Joe Loewy

The legislation for criminal background checks has moved through several committees. It is currently on the house calendar. Linda Schofield is co-sponsoring the bill.

The bill to mandate a percentage of new housing be handicapped accessible is also on the house calendar.

Public Relations - Carrie Kramer

Ms. Kramer is coordinating with Ms. Martinik to schedule an appearance on SCTV. Deputy Selectman John Hampton said that his show on SCTV is available to the commission.

Senior Tax Relief - Ed LaMontagne/John Hampton

Elderly Work Tax Credit

The program will be managed through the Board of Education and is currently being developed.

Mr. LaMontagne received an email from Paul Henault, Chairman of the Board of Finance, indicating that the Board of Finance needs to be consulted, and approval received, before any tax program moves forward.

SENIOR CENTER REPORT - Kathleen Marschall, Senior Center Coordinator
The Woman's Club presented the Senior Center with \$200.00 at their luncheon on April 13th. This is National Volunteer Week. There will be a program to thank the Center volunteers. Hopefully, starting July the Communicator will be utilizing a new printer and advertising to help support costs. The Communicator is now being published six times per year.

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OLD BUSINESS

Business Recognition

We will be presenting the award at the annual Chamber of Commerce luncheon on May 20th at the Hopmeadow Country Club. Dr. Koff made a motion to set aside \$30.00 for Mr. Jennings to attend the event as a presenter of the award. Ms. Kramer seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. LaMontagne will check with the Chamber to determine if Mr. Jennings can attend at no charge.

North Central Mental Health Board - Liaison update

Mr. LaMontagne reported on the results of a project by Yale and the Foundation for Mental Health. The project, called "A Day in The Life" was developed by the North Central Regional Mental Health Board and Connecticut residents with mental illness were interviewed. Public presentations are currently being held.

A legislative breakfast was held last month at the Legislative Office Building. State Representative Linda Schofield and State senator David Witkos attended.

Volunteer Expo

The town of Simsbury Volunteer Expo will be held next Wednesday April 28th at 6:00 p.m. at Eno Memorial Hall. There are many organizations being representing. Mr. Loewy from the Housing Authority and Mr. LaMontagne from the Commission will be sharing a table at the Expo.

Other Business

There was no other old business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Simsbury Woman's Club Luncheon

Mr. LaMontagne attended the Simsbury Woman's Club Gifts to the Community Luncheon on April 13th. The Simsbury Women's Club presented the Commission with a check for \$200.00 for Souper Tuesday.

Picnic in the Park

Ms Steptoe requested input from the membership regarding dates for the event. The first priority date is Saturday August 28th with Saturday September 11th as a backup date. Ms. Steptoe will confirm the date with St. Catherine of Siena Church and will coordinate final arrangements at the next meeting.

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Schools and Senior Outreach

Mr. LaMontagne, Mr. Loewy, Ms. Marshall, Ms. Lecours-Beck, Selectman Hampton, Selectman Heavner and several representatives from the Simsbury Board of Education met recently to discuss plans to coordinate programs between students and the Senior Center. The next meeting is scheduled for June 8th at 7:30 a.m.

Souper Tuesday - Discussion regarding charging participants

Mr. LaMontagne initiated a discussion regarding whether or not Souper Tuesday attendees should pay to attend. A lively discussion was held. This discussion will continue at the next Commission meeting.

Announcements

- Mr. LaMontagne wrote a letter to Sharon O'Donnell congratulating her for her award for Outstanding Volunteer Award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.
- Mr. LaMontagne reported on a proposed Senate bill regarding a program of civilian volunteers to assist in the enforcement of handicapped parking regulations.

Correspondence

- Mr. LaMontagne received an email from Sue Mazurski, Secretary to the First Selectman, as a reminder that newly appointed or re-appointed

member of the commission still have not come in to town hall to be sworn in. Mr. Ornstein said he was sworn in. Mr. Doran and Ms. Zappile were not in attendance at the meeting.

Other Business

- Ms. Kramer reported that another accident occurred between a cyclist and a pedestrian on the greenway. Mr. Hampton said plans for safety improvements are being discussed by the Board of Selectman Public Safety Sub Committee.
- Mr. Lowey reported that Selectmen, Lisa Heavner and John Hampton met with the residents at Owen Murphy and Virginia Connolly. Additional directional signage was posted at the entranceway. Through the Abernathy Fund two new computers were donated to Owen Murphy and Virginia Connolly residences.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Veith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Koff seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at 7: 00 p.m. in the Youth Room at Eno Memorial Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn R. Veith

Lynn R. Veith
Clerk
www.simsurycenter.blogspot.com