From: Rick Bazzano October 22, 2008 1:59:48 PM Subject: Aging and Disability Commission Minutes 09/16/2008

To: SimsburyCT_Aging

Cc:

TOWN OF SIMSBURY
AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION
September 16, 2008

Meeting Minutes

Chairperson, Edward LaMontagne called the meeting to order in the Old Court Room at Eno Memorial Hall, Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070 at 7:12 p.m.

Present: Grace Comeau, Marvin Koff, Mike Jennings, Carrie Kramer, Ed LaMontagne, Mary Ellen Long, Mona Martinik, Charlotte Steptoe, Lynn Veith, Thomas Doran (alternate), Arline Zappile (alternate), Kathleen Marschall, Senior Center Coordinator, Rich Hogan, BOS liaison

Excused: Kathy Fallon, Mark Orenstein (alternate), Ann Walters Thompson (alternate)

Introduction of New Commission Members: Mr. LaMontagne introduced Dr. Marvin Koff as a full member of the Commission and Mr. Thomas Doran as an alternate member. Mr. Doran was asked to serve as a full member at this meeting.

Public Audience: Joseph Lowey (ex-officio), Simsbury Housing Authority

Guests: None

Minutes, Previous Meeting: The meeting minutes from June 17, 2008 were reviewed and accepted with the following revisions:

Mr. Jennings and his committee reported on the status of the survey. Ms. Kramer's name was misspelled on page 2.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Picnic in the Park-Charlotte Steptoe
Ms. Steptoe does not have a final financial accounting of the costs yet.
Teen Center supplied excellent volunteers. There were 115 attendees,
including volunteers. Mary Glassman, First Selectman, also attended.

Charlotte will be sending thank you notes.

Souper Tuesday-Grace Comeau

Ms. Comeau reported that 90 plus people attended the Souper Tuesday lunch today. The Fashion Show will be held after the Souper Tuesday lunch in October.

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SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibility - Ann Walters Thompson

No report, committee chair not in attendance. For the Presidential election, voting will not be held at the Tariffville School. The auxiliary gym at the Henry James Middle School will be used. Mr. LaMontagne will inform Ms. Walters Thomas of this change and if there are accessibility issues regarding the space.

Mr. Jennings reported that on a recent visit to Harvest Café parking area, there were spaces that were marked as handicapped in the space, but there was no sign. Mr. LaMontagne will forward on this information.

Disability Needs Assessment - Mike Jennings

Mr. Jennings reported on the status of the survey. The survey is almost completed. Distribution of the survey needs to be determined. Ms. Martinik reported on an event at the ice rink and that there was no accessible bathroom facility. Mr. LaMontagne will consult with Mr. Toner, Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation.

Housing - Ed LaMontagne

Mr. LaMontagne reported that the Town received a grant to developed affordable housing in Simsbury. A committee will look at the plans for the planned housing zones. Mr. LaMontagne has asked that the Commission be involved in the process. Mr. LaMontagne received a call from a resident of Simsbury who would like to build housing (3 story building in Simsbury) for housing with an elevator. Mr. Lowey reported that the Housing Authority received approval for the reduction in the age limit thanks to the approval of the Commission. They received numerous applications; the housing is full and there is now a waiting list.

Public Relations - Carrie Kramer

Ms. Cramer reported that Mr. LaMontagne, Ms. Kramer and Ms. Thompson filmed a session on SCTV program during the summer. Ms. Cramer asked Ms. Martinik

contact SCTV to discuss future programs. A motion was made by Ms. Veith to authorize to purchase of a copy of the program for \$35.00. Mr. Koff seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed Ms. Kramer is e-mailing Jack Senate to discuss ways to get news to the school environment.

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Senior/Community Center Assessment - Mona Martinik

Mr. LaMontagne reported on the status of the Main Street Partnership regarding work to Eno Hall. The sprinkler system has not been installed. The architect report does include the recommendations of the commission regarding accessibility issues of Eno Hall.

Ms. Martinik suggested the commission members do a walk through the kitchen. Ms. Martinik plans to meet with Ms. Glassman to discuss the future of the Senior Center. Mr. LaMontagne and Mr. Hogan reported on the process of the process for capital projects. Mr. Hogan suggested ways to conduct surveys of seniors, demonstrate needs, and site opportunities.

Senior Tax Relief - Ed LaMontagne

The Sub Committee will be re-named Tax relief to encompass the disabled community and veterans.

Mr. LaMontagne and Mr. Hogan reported on a meeting with Paul Henault over the summer. The current relief is greater that what is currently offered in surrounding towns. He suggested that people spread the word about the current benefits.

SENIOR CENTER REPORT - Kathleen Marschall, Senior Center Coordinator

The Communicator is now available on-line. 150 seniors attended the Policeman's Picnic at Eno Farms. There is a Health and Wellness Fair scheduled for Oct 4th at the Senior Center. Flu shots will also be available at the Senior Center in October. Ms. Marshall announced that September is Senior Center Month.

OLD BUSINESS

Commission Revenue/Expenses

Mr. LaMontagne reported on and shared the Souper Tuesday luncheon and Picnic in the Park reconciliations.

Other Business

Housing Committee Sub-committee plan draft was distributed and reviewed. Mr. Koff made a motion to approve the Housing Sub Committee Plan of Action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Martinik. There was no further discussion and the motion was passed without opposition.

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NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and possibly approve Commission 2008-2009 Meeting Calendar Dr. Koff made a motion to approve the meeting calendar. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cramer. There was no further discussion and the motion was passed without opposition.

Discuss and possibly approve Souper Tuesday 2008-09 Calendar Change April date to April 14th. With the previous change, Ms. Long made a motion to approve the Souper Tuesday Program dates. The motion was seconded by Dr. Koff. There was no further discussion and the motion was passed without opposition.

Discuss and possibly approve Souper Tuesday Sponsorship
The Simsbury Lions Club has indicated that they would like to sponsor two
Souper Tuesday events. They will also be working to secure additional
sponsors from local civic organizations.

Fall Community Forum

Mr. LaMontagne will coordinate a Community Forum at The Simsbury Library prior to the October 21st regular commission meeting. A second Forum will be scheduled on November 18th after the Souper Tuesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Subcommittee Meetings

All subcommittee meetings must have an agenda and public audience. Minutes must be taken and reported at the Aging and Disability Commission meeting. Program committees do not require an agenda or public audience. The agenda must be sent to the Town Clerk seven days before the meeting.

Town Web Site

Ms. Kramer submitted suggestions for revisions to the Town web site, as was requested by Ms. Glassman.

Veteran's Tax Relief

Mr. LaMontagne shared information on the Veteran's Tax Relief Program.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. LaMontagne shared a letter of resignation of Gloria Knierim from the Commission.

OTHER BUSINESS

Disability Convention and Expo 2008 will be held on September 27 at the Ct. Expo Center.

Ms. Veith shared that she attended the DEMHS Public Sector meeting today. She shared information from the some of the information from that meeting.

Ms. Kramer shared information about accessibility for older adult customers.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next meeting: October 21, 2008

Ms. Long made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cramer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m. after a tour of the Eno kitchen

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Veith

Lynn R. Veith Clerk