

Chairwoman Rachel Yahwak introduced Ms. Jessica Mahon, a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program(SNAP) Outreach Advocate from End Hunger CT, a non-profit organization, to the Commission. Ms. Mahon spoke to the Commission about their booth at the recent Health Fair, and thanked the Commission for being invited. She also briefly described the SNAP program, and expressed that they are looking to increase overall participation in the program. She also explained the electronic benefit transfer(EBT) cards that are now being used.

Ms. Mahon explained that the focus of the program is primarily about nutrition, and it is based on household size, income, and deductions including those that are medical and utility related. She passed out a card with highlights about the program to the Commission. She also explained that they do pre-screenings, and they help to guide seniors through the application process. Applications can now be submitted online. The SNAP program allows for purchases of food items, and can help inform people of healthy food choices. Ms. Mahon also explained that they provide referrals and they work closely with several other programs in Connecticut. Chairwoman Yahwak mentioned scheduling a time for Ms. Mahon to meet with seniors that are interested in this program.

Motion made by Gary Raytar and seconded by Joan Mehlhorn to hold a meeting for seniors and Stern Village residents of the Town for the purpose of an informational session regarding the SNAP program. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairwoman Yahwak thanked Ms. Mahon for coming to the meeting.

Executive Session

Motion made by Dee Chiota and seconded by Roberta Bellows to go into executive session at 10:35 a.m. for the purpose of further discussion. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Executive session ended at 10:50 a.m.

Ms. Donna Girot, of Trumbull Community Television, spoke to the Commission briefly regarding improving the public relations of the Senior Center. She mentioned a possible feature that is to be made about the Center, and explained the details of gathering footage throughout the next 6 months. She also explained that they are in the process of starting Videos on Demand. She encouraged everyone to come up with new ideas and volunteer for reading at events like the poetry reading held in March, which was a great success. The television station's email address is TrumbullTV@TrumbullPS.org.

Chairwoman Yahwak mentioned the Halloween Party that is to be held on Thursday, October 31 at the Senior Center. Mums and pumpkins were donated to the Center. There will also be a pumpkin carving class on October 28. Bingo will be held this afternoon.

Chairwoman Yahwak thanked Ms. Bellows, Ms. Harris, and Ms. Merritt for their help with preparing and proofreading the monthly newsletters.

Director's Report

Ms. Fereira discussed the financial report for the month. She handed out the report to the Commission. The cost of pizza and soda for Movie Night was discussed. A total of 18 people attended this month. The costs and attendance requests for the monthly Movie Night will be publicized.

Ms. Fereira also discussed having a Holiday Party at the Senior Center. She explained that last year, 80-90 people were in attendance. She discussed having a food bank for seniors. She also discussed the costs of having a Santa Claus, candy, and take-home gifts.

Motion made by Gary Raytar and seconded by Dee Chiota to allocate \$1,000.00 for the Holiday Party at the Senior Center. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Old Business

The Senior Center brochure was discussed, and necessary corrections will be made.

The Kitchen Committee will be meeting in November.

The survey was sent out for the second month, and approximately 45 surveys were received back. Chairwoman Yahwak explained that they need to be compiled and she asked for volunteers to assist with this.

The Library Memorial Plaque was also discussed. Ms. Merritt will be including an ad in the newsletter for nominations for the plaque. She explained that this will be opened up to the public so that nominations could be provided that describe people who have done an outstanding job in helping the Senior Center in their lifetime. Ms. Merritt proceeded to read the qualifications for this person.

Motion made by Joan Mehlhorn and seconded by Roberta Bellows to have Irene Simalchik's name placed on the Library Memorial Plaque. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

New Business

Chairwoman Yahwak discussed starting a book club. Participants will be needed, and information about this would be put into the monthly newsletter. She also explained that book club members would be able to participate in choosing books, questions, and topics for discussion. An informational meeting will be held.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Yahwak adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m. with unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted.

Dawn Kosarko
Clerk