

Senior Citizen Commission Meeting – May 22, 2015

Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission

May 22, 2015

10:00 am

Long Hill Conference Room

The Senior Citizen Commission of the Town of Trumbull held a scheduled meeting on May 22, 2015 in the Long Hill Conference Room of the Trumbull Town Hall.

Members Present: Chairperson, Rachel Yahwak; Vice Chairperson, Ron Foligno; Commissioners Roberta Bellows, Dorothy Merritt, Amy DeZenzo, Dee Chiota and Gail D’Elia

Also present: Senior Center Director, Jean Fereira

Absent: Commissioners Joan Mehlhorn and Maureen Gordon

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Mrs. Yahwak followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Mrs. Yahwak made a motion at 10:00 am to enter into Executive Session for supplemental business. Seconded by Mrs. DeZenzo and approved unanimously. Members present were Rachel Yahwak, Ron Foligno, Roberta Bellows, Dorothy Merritt, Amy DeZenzo, Dee Chiota and Gail D’Elia. Mrs. DeZenzo made a motion to exit the Executive Session at 10:26 am. Seconded by Mrs. Bellows and approved unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Secretary’s Report

Mrs. Chiota had no report. Mrs. Yahwak requested she send a sympathy card to Joy Koch, whose daughter passed away. Mrs. Koch is a member of Smile-A-While.

Chairman’s Report

Mrs. Yahwak noted she spoke with Dave Rutigliano last week. On May 8, there was a meeting with Tim Herbst regarding the kitchen. He indicated they were willing to fix the kitchen and bring it into compliance ASAP but nothing more has been heard on this. In speaking with Mr. Rutigliano, he is fully behind doing the Snack Bar as a level I kitchen, a warming kitchen, and getting a vendor to come in. Mr. Herbst indicated in the past he would contact Vazzy’s about being a vendor. Mrs. Yahwak requested Mrs. DeZenzo speak with Mr. Herbst regarding the kitchen and remind him that he promised that he was going to work on this immediately. After she has this information, Mrs. DeZenzo will contact Vazzy’s. Mr. Rutigliano feels the idea for the kitchen is excellent which includes complete remediation.

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Rolling stainless steel counters will be used so that when the new center is built, they can be moved to the new location. This will open up the kitchen for lunch for the seniors ASAP. Time line is unknown. The discussion with the Board of Education is now moot because we will be getting a snack bar sooner than later.

Alternates for the commission have not been contacted by Mrs. Chiota. She needs to know the demographics on the commission so the appropriate individual is selected.

The Health Fair will be held in the fall, possibly in October. Ms. Ferreira is checking when other activities are scheduled so there isn't a conflict. Planning meetings will start over the summer. It was decided the first meeting will be on July 14 at 10:00 am. Mr. Foligno will chair this event.

Smile-A-While will be performing at the Memorial Day ceremony on the steps of the Town Hall on Monday at 8:10 am.

The Memorial Day Tribute will be held on May 29 at noon. Local facilities will be supplying the food. Commissioners were invited to attend.

AARP class is May 29th.

Lunch and a Movie will be held on June 5 at noon. Fifty to One is the movie which is a western based on a race horse in the Kentucky Derby. TV will be taken care of soon.

Senior Center/ Library/ Community Center meeting was held on May 21. Many ideas were discussed. Several senior centers have been visited. A meeting will be on June 10 with the Library Board. Mrs. Yahwak has proposed just a senior area so that it can be locked when they are done. Rentals may open the area on occasion. Extended hours are being discussed as well as extending membership to 55 and over. The next meeting of the committee will be June 18 at 5:30 pm. Mrs. Yahwak was requested to develop a survey asking the seniors what type of building they want for a new center. She requested Ms. Ferreira work on this survey which needs to be returned to the committee for their approval before it is sent out. Mr. Foligno will work on this also. Survey must be completed by June 11. A meeting was set for that date at 9:00 am. This survey can be done on line. Questions can include security systems, entrances, one level, courtyard and other architectural features.

Monthly birthday party is June 15 at 11:00 am.

The Flag Day program and ice cream social will be held on June 12 at 1:00 pm in the courtyard.

Membership fees are being accepted starting June 1; however some have already been accepted due to vacations. Anyone not renewed by July 1 will not receive the newsletter. Help is needed on July 1, 2

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and 3 to process the applications. Information needs to be put into the computer. Commissioners helping will be instructed on how to do this.

GBTA is doing a trip to Captain's Cove on June 15.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mrs. Chiota to approve the minutes as written. Clarification was made on Page 2 regarding the facilities not being allowed to accept gifts. Also Ms. Ferreira noted she spoke with Mrs. Arnow regarding the staffing hours. These can be adjusted according to need. Mrs. Chiota noted the Tax Credit also includes the disabled. Motion was seconded by Mrs. DeZenzo and approved unanimously to accept the minutes with the tax credit amendment.

Director's Report

Ms. Ferreira read a thank you card to the commission for her flowers after her surgery.

Seniors are happy with activities. Some adjustments were made in the classes and the attendance is growing. Transition into the new budget should be smooth.

A survey was conducted by students with the seniors. This was a very positive report. One item that came up was that seniors thought they had to leave the building immediately after their program. This was not a problem when the snack bar was open. Right now there is no place to socialize after programs. The opening of the snack bar will be a hub for activities.

Old Business

1. Status of kitchen – discussed.
2. Update on new senior center/community center/library – discussed.
3. Tax credit for volunteers – Mrs. Chiota noted some areas were addressed that needed work. It went back to the Board of Finance for review. It passed that review and it is scheduled to go to the L&A Committee and the Town Council for approval. This is a trial run with only 50 people. Ms. Ferreira will wait until this is approved before she approves a volunteer for a particular job. Mrs. Chiota noted there will be an application process. The department heads in town will determine their needs and an individual will be picked from the list of applicants.

New Business

1. The June meeting will be held on June 26 with lunch after at the Outriggers Restaurant.
2. Eric will be conducting an Alzheimer talk. He will be speaking on the newest treatments. This will be held in September. Flyers will be distributed to nursing homes and hospitals.

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Adjournment

Motion was made by Mrs. DeZenzo to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 am. Seconded by Mrs. Bellows and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk