

TOWN OF HADDAM COMMITTEE ON AGING Minutes

Monday April 15, 2019 10:00 am Town Annex Bldg. Jail Hill Haddam

Attachments: Agenda, Social Services Monthly Report

Members Present: R. Thurston Clark, Jackie Crysler, Sue DiCarli, Beth Hartke, Mary Lou Heger, Fran Kosalski, Mary Lou Pierce, Susan Ruddy, Robert Waller, Adele Vynalek, Jessica Condil Haddam Social Services. Public: Joann Woickelman, Mark Lundgren

Call to Order: By **Mary Lou Heger** followed by Pledge of Allegiance at 10 am

Minutes of the March 2019 COA meeting were reviewed, and a motion made by Susan, and seconded by Beth was made to accept. A vote by the members agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Municipal Agent Jessica advised that last month the Food Bank serviced 25 Children and 23 Adults. The Fuel Bank was used 3x including one for electric heat. The Senior Van transported 15 people to Medicals. The weekly trips to Walmart continued with average of 10 passengers using this. In addition, the Seniors bus has made special trips (outings) with small group to self-selected venues this month. There will be a one-week hiatus while the driver goes on vacation shortly. She was asked whether the 9 Towns Transport Vouchers have been secured yet, but was advised that some complications are involved here, and none of these talked about vouchers have been acquired for the town.

Shannon's report was summarized, showing a very busy March at the center and for seniors from the Center using the Senior's van. The numbers are up, and some highlights included the trip to Christmas tree shop and Olive Garden. A St Patrick's day lunch and festivity were celebrated, with 26 people taking part. It was recommended that we consult the towns Facebook page for additional events, such as the one next month where Justice of Probate will be speaking to Seniors at Club 60. Town Fire Dept was called to the Center on 3/19 owing to smoke reported in the Emergency Light Box. They evacuated Center attendees to the Library without problems, until the Center was deemed safe again.

Club 60 Mary Lou Pierce gave an overview on some upcoming programs such as the Youth and family Services presentation on May 6th as well as Jennine Lewis' on Probate on 6/20. Typically, they have about 32 attendees for these presentations

SENIOR PICNIC As of today they have 45 people signed up and prepaid. Flyers have been circulated including High Meadows and Haddam Neck. The Menu is all set. Price for catering is slightly higher than last year at \$12.35pp and within our budget for an expected attendance of 80. The Committee supported a suggestion that the First Selectman be approached if additional moneys needed for increased booking, or payment for Musician goes over the allocation. We discussed how the cost of the picnic hasn't significantly increased in over 12 years. The next nearest caterer cost was \$14 pp, so we have managed to get a very good price for this very popular event, once again. Mark L attended the meeting and offered to provide a 20x30 Canopy tent if needed on the picnic day. We also have St. Peters Church community room as a back up if necessary. Date set for **June 17, 2019 at 11am at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds**. There will be a bus leaving and returning from the Higganum Green. If need be Van Service from individual homes are available, but the senior must call Jessica to plan before.

Next year we may need to request up to \$1500 in the budget to cover what must certainly be the rising cost to put this picnic on.

Senior Handbook Sub Committee to work on revisions was established, including Mary Lou Heger, Marge and Thurston. They will also work on making additional revisions to the "Trifold" introduction to COA. We all indicated that these should be ready for the Senior Expo in the Fall, to hand out at that time.

Updating COA Bylaws: We discussed reviewing some changes with respect to election Officers, their timing and making them in concordance with appointments to the COA by Town Board. Next month please be prepared to discuss this further, so recommendations can be made.

NEW BUSINESS

Survey of Seniors Conducted by Shannon was recently completed, and she was able to receive responses from about 80 individuals. See attached summary sheet. We discussed some broad inquiries in the survey etc. We will discuss further when the survey is fully compiled and summarized.

Visit to Groton Senior Center by Marge, Mary Lou Pierce and Bob earlier this month. Purpose was to see a live presentation offered under the Senior Learning Network. Here the center books time with presenters on a few topics, that is broadcast to that center directly, or shared with others at the same time. Cost is nominal or free, and the application can be used for members of the subscriber centers to webcast directly among themselves if they would like. The program we saw was free, and about the Life of Eleanor Roosevelt, presented by a historian at the FDR Library in Hyde Park. It ran about 45 minutes, was very interactive with the viewers, and attended by about 20 people. The Groton Center's coordinator advised that the program sets up very easily if you have access to high speed internet, and the cost for the application is small, and can be used with a computer and wide screen TV.

Publicity for COA events and its work: We reviewed the various outlets that talk about our work, as well as bringing in people to share their work with seniors to speak to the Committee. In addition to the regular participants from HKYFS, CRAHD and High Meadows. We have had the town's Emergency Management Director come speak. In June 2019 we will be hosting **Gregg Mckenna from the Higganum/Nutmeg Pharmacy to talk** about how his business works with seniors. In additions to his participation in the Senior Expo in the Fall, he'll share with us how the practice of Pharmacy broadly serves our community. This will occur **on 6/10/19** at the Annex.

Motion to adjourn. Made by Mary Lou Pierce and seconded by Jackie at 11:25 am, agreed by all.

MEETING MONDAY May 20, 2019 10am at Haddam Neck Fairgrounds office. Car pooling from the Annex at 930 for those who want it.

Respectfully submitted by, Robert D Waller, Secretary

Approved on a motion by Susan and seconded by Beth, and agreed to by all in attendance 05/20/2019. Submitted by email to Town Clerk and First Selectman for filing and posting to town web site. RDW