

Commission on Aging

Minutes

September 13, 2010

Commission members present: Helen R. de Keijzer, Terry Hulley, Susan Moore, Peggy Anderson, Bruce Lorentzen, and Sandy O'Brien. Also present: Senior Center Director Jen Ruddy, Weston social worker, Charlene Chiang-Hillman, and SWCAA liaison Meta Schroeter.

Chair Helen R. de Keijzer called the meeting to order at 9:23 A.M.

Helen asked for a motion on the minutes of the June meeting. Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Terry seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

SWCAA Report: Meta said that open enrollment for Medicare and Medicare-D will be from November 15 - December 31. She will be adding extra hours for appointments to review senior's current insurance program versus possible new ones. DMV has closed their Stamford office, which poses problems for renewing drivers licenses but more importantly for seniors who no longer drive to renew their official photo IDs. Senior centers should be aware of this problem and, perhaps, schedule a time through Dial-a-Ride to take seniors to a DMV. Donations seem to be down significantly to many senior centers.

Senior Center Report: Jen noted that the Newsletter was mailed out. It has not been received. Jen will follow up with the post office. Discussed telephone tree to alert seniors of events in a case like this.

Social Service Update: Charlene said there has been an increase in the number of families requesting help from the town. Wendy Petty has been appointed to provide assistance to Charlene through February 2011. The Food Pantry will become a 501c3 organization.

Dial-a-Ride: Gordon presented "stats" for June, July, and August.

Budget Process: Helen commented that, when it begins, the Commission will be closely following the budget process for FY 7/11-6/12.

Cemetery Committee Update: Helen noted that a survey concerning a local cemetery went out. Discussion. Survey results are not yet available.

Weston Senior Services and Resource Directory: Helen announced it has been printed and mailed to all Weston households with residents 60 years of age and older. Extra copies have been distributed to the Senior Activities Center, Town Hall, and the library. The total cost of the project was less than anticipated and came in under \$4500.

Long-Range Plan: Helen reported she'd met with First Selectperson Gayle Weinstein immediately following the Commission's June 7th long-range planning meeting and that she recently sent Gayle a follow-up e-mail about our recommendations.

This year, for the first time, annual reports for boards and commissions as well as departments are due on September 30 instead of at the end of the year.

Old Business:

1. Domestic Violence Task Force: in the future, hopes to work on senior abuse presentation.

New Business/Announcements:

1. Weston has a new Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee: looking for volunteer member from the commission to work with them; planning, safety issues/educational issues. Bruce volunteered.

2. Freedom of Info Act: workshop upcoming end of September; contact Helen if interested

3. Volunteer Fair: public turnout was modest; opportunities to volunteer were presented.

Next meeting Monday October 4th.

A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Terry at 10:50 A.M.; seconded by Peggy; and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan A. Moore

CC: Sharon Shattuck