

COMMISSION ON AGING  
MINUTES  
October 3, 2011

Present: Commission Members Helen de Keijzer, Nina Daniel, Terry Hulley, Nancy Hammerslough, Bruce Lorentzen, and Peggy Anderson, SWCAA liaison Meta Schroeter, Senior Center Interim Director Wendy Petty and Program Coordinator Pam Wilson, Dial-A-Ride driver Gordon Green, and guests First Selectman Gayle Weinstein and Laura Smits.

Called to order: 9:18am

Past minutes approved by consensus, as written.

Meta - SWCAA meeting in Bridgeport 9/14, a lot of business reviewed. All towns found to be different from one another, seniors more likely to face isolation and unable to care for themselves in some rural areas. New SWCAA initiative established - each town must have a representative, knowledgeable of senior needs, attend two mandatory meetings per year to stay well informed of latest CT government news and programs regarding seniors. Medicare changes must be made between October 15<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup> - Meta is making appointments at the Senior Center. Centers worry over lack of participation of younger seniors - however all agreed all centers are different.

Gordon Green - medical driving up this month; September 1,461 miles driven.

Discussion about buses, pricing, Datco bus prices versus sharing a bus with the Greens.

Nina - Kiwanis doing a trip to Storm King - idea for Senior Center.

Social Services: Charlene not present - Wendy let everyone know that Social Services is working hard on fuel applications, as well as starting to plan for the holidays and the Thanksgiving basket donations.

Wendy gave update on Quarterly Directors Forum held in September. The topic was fundraising and working with a 501c3 or Friends of Seniors. Discussed Norwalk Senior Center idea to have their newsletter sent to outside agency to find advertisements.

Wednesday Senior Lunches - There is a lot of work that goes into the lunch program, and the volunteers should be recognized at every lunch.

Bruce had a budget meeting with Wendy, they are working towards understanding the current status of the Senior Center and preparing for annual budget. Discussion about exercise classes, especially Zumba and increasing participation or changing Zumba into a different kind of exercise class that more seniors will attend.

Wendy and Pam gave a report on upcoming programs, including the idea of wellness programs and classes throughout the year.

Possibility of changing newsletter and best ways to inform seniors of changes/additions to programming, etc. (especially in period between newsletters) discussed. Also - redecorating the Senior Center.

Collaboration with Friends and other groups

Nina Daniel - paperwork still going forward with 501c3 - Genealogy classes at the high school perhaps using students as volunteers; possibility of an appeals letter in December.

Helen - mahjong - coming back possibility of offering this game at our Senior Center.

Meeting adjourned: 11:05

Submitted by Wendy Petty