Sherman Commission on Aging
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 25, 2016
Mallory Town Hall, 6:00 PM


Absent: J. Garcia and E. Hayes

Public & Invited: First Selectman C. Cope, Social Services Suzette Berger, Carol Faure, and Commission Clerk C. Branson

Call to Order: Chair J. Wey Called the Meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m.

Senior Center Report:
Social Services, Suzette Berger, delivered the monthly report. She informed the Commission that an intern will be working at the Center starting tomorrow. She will be at the Center 8 hours a week for the next three months. Already she has chosen several new activities to offer at the Center. Ms. Berger reminded the Commission that there have been several reports of scammers, and it is especially a risk to the elderly community. Ms. Berger has discussed the potential need for the nonprofit “Friends of the Center” to approve the expenditure to upgrade the computer systems. The newspaper this week will highlight what will be going on at the Center for the next quarter, including a tech workshop which will pair up Middle School students and seniors to help with computer training. In addition, another event will be an Estate Planning workshop and the continuation of Probate Judge M. Lavginie coming to the Center on a monthly basis to be available for individual consultation and assistance. There will be a two part workshop where Dr. Varano will discuss "normal" aging issues and offer screenings. Tax Assistance referrals are available at the Center. Ms. Berger discussed putting together a flyer with the various workshops.

Approval of Minutes of October 19, 2015:

Commissioner J. McRoberts Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting November 16, 2015 as written.
Seconded by: S. McMahon

Vote: For: Unanimous

Old Business

Senior Bus Hours

The Commission was grateful that the BoS approved their request to allow additional hours to the Budget line. This will ensure safety of the passengers and offer an additional short trip for those who prefer to travel long distances.

Senior Center Security Discussion

The security buzzer was installed at the Center this past month.

Birthday Celebration at the Senior Center

This month’s celebration will be February 9th, at 12:30 pm. This is a pot luck event, and as always the Commission is encouraged to attend.
FY 2015-16 Remaining Budget Balance Discussion

The Commission discussed the remaining Budget balance of $1,071.25. First Selectman Cope reminded the Commission the Clerk’s fees were needed to last to the end of June. Also if there would be additional duties needed from the Clerk, such as layout, printing and assembling flyers, that will need to be budgeted out of the existing allocated funds. J. Wey and J McRoberts will schedule a meeting with the S. Berger to work on the FY 2016-17 budget.

FY 2016-17 Budget Proposal Discussion

The Commission discussed the future needs for the coming year. First Selectman suggested based on the current FY discussion, increasing the bottom line to $2,000.00 to allow funding for extra tasks for the Clerk such as designing and printing flyers as needed.

Commissioner J. McRoberts Moved to increase the proposed Commission on Aging FY 2016-17 Budget request to $2,000.00.  
Seconded by: A. Jellen  
Vote: For: Unanimous

Webinar from January 6, 2016

The Commission discussed a webinar that was offered by the State regarding the Aging population in CT. The topics of discussion were: Living Communities, Increasing numbers of Elderly Population, Road Safety, Accessory Dwelling Units, and individual un-related family housing “co-ops”.

Discussion of topics for next month:

Work on ideas for the “Did you know” campaign!

S. Berger’s office is in need of updates and air conditioning at the Senior Center.

Updating of the restrooms at the Senior Center

Possible request to increase Senior Bus hours to allow weekly trips to the Library.

Invite interested parties to attend the February Meeting for informal “interviews”.

Adjournment

Commissioner J. McRoberts Adjourned the Meeting at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Christine Branson, Commission Clerk  
February 22, 2016

*APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS AT THE FEBRUARY 22, 2016 RMM