

## SHERMAN COMMISSION ON AGING

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday, 20 May 2019, 6:00 PM

Mallory Town Hall

**Members Present:** Chairman, J.Wey, S.J. McMahon, L. Arnold, J. McRoberts,  
E. Hayes

**Members Absent:** P. Werme, R. Hudson, J. Garcia

**Also:** L. Whitney, clerk, D. Lowe, B. Trott

**Call to Order:** Chairman, J.Wey called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of 15 April 2019 was made by: E. Hayes

**Seconded by:** S.J. McMahon

**Vote for:** unanimous

**Senior Center/Social Services Report:**

B. Trott reported there was nothing new other than the COA agenda items and would contribute to the discussions on the agenda items.

**Old Business:**

The COA will be providing \$200.00 for pizza and water for the June 6<sup>th</sup> D-Day Lunch and Learn at the ESF. The program will begin at 11:30 AM. D. Lowe will make sure the chairs are set up at the ESF for the event.

The COA shared feedback on the documentary, *Aging in America*:

D. Lowe reported that he got good feedback.

L. Arnold thought it was great and that it was good that the audience was comprised of a wide age range.

S.J.McMahon was concerned when the speaker questioned why seniors would stay in Sherman with no public transportation and no sidewalks.

J. McRoberts felt that much of the discussion with the speaker wasn't relevant to Sherman. She added that we are in the country and she feels we offer a lot to help seniors in Sherman. She added that the ideal target audience for this film should be people between 40 and 60 years old.

B. Trott added that Sherman is not a walking community but that at one time the town had enlisted the advice of a town planner on how to increase the sidewalks in town. She commented that the main goal of the film and speaker was to get the community thinking about our aging population.

J. Wey didn't feel the speaker had an accurate grasp on how much of Sherman is made up of seniors and that two hours was too long to sit for a movie. The library now owns the film and J. Wey is hoping it will be shown again at the Senior Center.

There was a discussion about extending an invitation to watch the film to the BOE. There are changes in the planning stage at the school and the possibility of combining the needs of the seniors and the school was discussed.

Feedback was also shared on the AARP's film about the struggles of the aging LGBT community.

S. J. McMahon shared that as the film is 10 years old the message seemed outdated.

J. McRoberts commented that it was an eye-opener that elderly LGBT people may face discrimination and abuse in nursing homes.

J. Wey shared that she liked the film and that her opinion is that everyone worries about nursing homes and abuse when they are older and more vulnerable.

B. Trott will reach out to our LGBT community.

J. Wey asked that the Commission begin reaching out to artists for the upcoming Art Show.

J. Wey asked that the COA members think of anyone interested in joining the Commission. It has been suggested that the vacancy be filled by someone interested in publishing articles in the local papers about the COA, as has been done in the past.

### **New Business:**

World Elder Abuse Day is June 15<sup>th</sup>. B. Trott will put together an article about it for the local papers.

On 30 May 2019 at 1:30 PM there will be the first meeting of the Feasibility Committee at Town Hall. D. Lowe, E. Hayes, J. Wey, B. Trott, S. Berger will all be in attendance. D. Lowe has another person with building expertise who may be interested in joining. H. Cooperman will also attend to discuss the possibility of using the JCC as a Senior Center.

The COA has \$900.00 left in their budget for this fiscal year, ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. A discussion was held on ideas for the funds. Some will go to purchasing paper plates, cups and napkins for the Art Show. D. Lowe suggested a new sign for the crosswalk in front of the Senior Center. Everyone was in favor of this idea although E. Hayes cautioned the COA about the perception that it may appear that the COA functions to support the Senior Center.

**A motion** was made to spend any remaining funds in the budget on a new sign by: J. McRoberts.

**Seconded by:** E. Hayes

Vote For: All

Comments by Commissioners:

Adjournment:

J. Wey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM

E. Hayes seconded the motion

Meeting was unanimously adjourned

The next meeting will be 17 June 2019 at 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Linda Whitney

21 May 2019