Town of Seymour
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
1 First Street, Seymour, Connecticut 06483

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room

Members Present: Bob Findley, Saundra Gesek, Ed Hendricks, Pat Lombardi, Jen Magri

Members Absent: Colleen Fries, Rhonda Geffert, Bill Sawicki, Robert VanEgghen

Members Arriving Late: None

Others Present: Atty Bryan LeClerc, Berchem Moses PC

Item #1: Call Meeting to order.
Meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Lombardi, at 7:05 PM.

Item #2: Pledge to the Flag.
Everyone salutes the flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3: Approval of Minutes from Meeting of February 28, 2018.
The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 2/28/18 as distributed.
Motion: Ed Hendricks Second: Jen Magri
Vote: 5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain

Item #4: Correspondence
Chairman Lombardi redistributed two letters from Culture and Arts and the Municipal Agent for the Elderly providing their feedback on the Charter.

Item #5: Discussion of Possible Changes to the Town Charter
Town Counsel provided feedback on his research from previous discussion. The commission continued discussion on Chapter 13-17.

Item #6: Public Comment
None
Item #7: Adjournment
Motion to Adjourn made at 8:21 PM.
Motion: Ed Hendricks Second: Bob Findley
Vote: 6-Yes 0-No

The Next Meeting of the Commission will be held on March 21, 2018 in the Norma Drummer Room of Seymour Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Hatfield
Recording Secretary
Begin forwarded message:

On Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 8:04 AM, judith simpson <judys45@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

To The Chairperson of the Charter Revision Commission:

I would like to enlighten your commission and the duties and works of our SEVEN PERSON board and why it is important that we remain that way.

As Chairman of the Culture Arts, a summary of the events we provide.

These are our services:

- Summer Concert Series (contact and contracts)
- Winter Concert (we have to contract with the BOE and the school)
- A series of concerts at the Callahan House (7)
- Halloween parade for children age 2 - 12 (this involves contacting area merchants and Seymour Middle, flyers to distribute to the school after getting permission from the superintendent)
- Decorating the downtown in conjunction with all the merchants for the fall with scarecrows (we make the frames and distribute and collect them)
- Decorating the downtown, and train station at Christmas (putting up and taking down)
- First Saturday in December (working with several organization)
- Santa on the train, to carolers strolling the street, working with high school student.
- Provide education program for the schools.

As you can see we do many, many programs and working with less would mean we wouldn't be able to provide all these services. Bands need to be contacted and contracts made.

Advertisements, contacts and flyers need to be attended to

Research on the educational programs (contacting providers with programs, contacting the schools for performances arrangements 4 school)
The Strand Theater is no longer contracted for, that needs to be removed.

We do have a budget in order to provide entertainment to residents of our town.

Thank you, And please consider keeping us a seven person commission.

Judith Simpson
Culture and Arts Chairman
On Thursday, October 26, 2017 2:03 PM, Bonnie Wilkes <bwilkes@seymourct.org> wrote:

Thank you for asking for my thoughts on merging the Commission on Aging and the Livable Communities Commission.

I feel that both Commissions should remain separate and distinct.

The work of both entities is not mutually exclusive. The work of the Livable Communities Commission in promoting an inclusive community where quality of life is a priority will certainly have an impact on meeting the needs of our aging population. The work of the Commission on Aging in identifying and analyzing the services for the aging population in our community will assist Livable Communities as they work through the components of a Livable Community.

I am concerned a merger would dilute the focus on our aging population. The work of the Livable Communities Commission is expansive and long range. It must focus on all ages in the population. In Seymour (last census figures available) 14% of our population is over age 65. As the baby boomers age, this % will increase. One quarter of all households in Seymour have an individual residing there over the age of 65. In addition, the percentage of the very elderly (85+) is projected to almost double in the next 10 years. Many times a senior (60+) is caring for this very elderly person. Family life is impacted in many ways. We must continue to act as a resource and provide support for all ages of seniors.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Bonnie C Wilkes
Municipal Agent for the Elderly
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