

**East Haddam Commission on Aging
COA Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2019**

Present: Brad Parker, Jovita Cozean, Alice Sabo, Joe Sina, Jo Golec, Barbara Davis, Maureen Gillis, Emmett Lyman, John Pagnani, Sue Bostelman, Mary Ellen Klinck.

Meeting called to order at 10:34 AM by J. Sina.

Minutes: J. Cozean made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2019 meeting. Seconded by J. Pagnani and carried.

Treasurer's Report: A. Sabo gave the Treasurer's Report. The account had \$5,747.33. Shelving for the shed was purchased for \$350. The new account balance is \$5,397.33. This is a Town account that the COA controls.

Correspondence:

Senior Farmer's Market vouchers are available. There is an income limit and must call the Senior Center to sign up.

Old Business:

- Regional COA Meeting on July 18 Recap: J. Golec, J. Cozean, J. Sina, M. Gillis and ME Klinck attended. They reported that Diane Stone, Newington Senior Center Director was the speaker. It seems that people are now looking more for activities and programs from their senior centers, rather than it just being a place to meet for coffee and socialization.
- CT Dept on Aging: there is no longer a CT Dept. on Aging – the Dept. is now scattered among other agencies. If you need assistance, call 211.
- There is a National Accreditation of Senior Centers – we can check online for criteria. J. Pagnani suggested looking at the criteria to see where we stand and see what we can do with the information. M. Gillis said we should be pleased with the great representation from E. Haddam at the Regional Meetings.
- The next Regional Meeting will be on 10/17/19 in Portland. East Haddam will host the 1/16/20 meeting; East Hampton will host the 4/16/20 meeting and Colchester will host the 7/16/20 meeting.
- Town-wide Survey: Many people aged 65-70 are still working, mostly part-time. Are there any activities/programs that can be offered in the evenings?
- ME Klinck, M. Gillis, and B. Parker will get together to discuss the survey and report back by the next meeting. Suggestions that word of mouth seems to be the best form of publicity, and possibly hold a focus group at the Library.
- M. Gillis asked if there are provisions for rides to the cooling center. Not at this time.

New Business:

- Senior Meals: Moodus BBQ is providing meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$5 per meal. Even at \$5, Moodus BBQ is losing money, but will continue for the time being as a community service. The Senior Center charges \$3 per meal, so there is a shortfall, which is currently covered by donations to the Senior Center for the meals program. It is not certain if Grist Mill Market will re-open at this time. People are continuing to donate for Senior Meals. CRT meals will continue 3 times per week. M. Gillis reported that she and husband Bernie deliver Meals on Wheels one day per week and they love doing it. Contact B. Parker if you are interested in doing MOW. Currently, there are 12 MOW clients per day.

- Live Well Classes: The response to the classes was good. B. Parker is working to put together another session for the Fall, starting in October. Chatham Health District and Senior Resources organized the program and averaged 17-18 people per session.
- Board Reappointments: J. Cozean made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to reappoint B. Davis, J. Golec and J. Sina to another 3-year term each, and to reappoint Mary Ellen Klinck and Maureen Gillis, as Alternates, each to another 1-year term. The motion was seconded and carried. The recommendation will be sent to the BOS.
- A program on Medicare: Home Healthcare and Hospice will be scheduled.

Coordinator's Report:

- FY 2019: there were 24,654 Senior Center sign-ins. This has increased from 11,000 to over 24,000 sign-ins in 6 years.
- 7/30: Shopping Trip
- 7/31: New Britain Bees game
- 8/1: Farmer's Market
- 8/7: Casino Trip
- 8/8: Corn Hole & Picnic @ 5:30
- 8/13: Shopping
- 8/15: Bingo
- 8/16: Massages by Cora
- 8/18: Colchester Green – Dixieland Band, 3 PM
- 8/21: Red Hats
- 8/22: Mystery Lunch
- 8/25: Lions Club BBQ
- 8/26: Monthly Movie
- 8/27: Shopping
- 8/28: Ivoryton Playhouse
- 8/30: Foot Doctor
- 9/26: Senior Center will host a Blood Drive
- 9/30: Senior Center Month Celebration – picnic limited to 80 people

Other:

- More sound panels will be installed in both rooms
- The outside of the building will be painted
- The parking lot will be sealed and striped on an upcoming week-end.
- Federal Program: it is possible there will be a reduction in food stamps
- Sabo said that there are 36 units at Oak Grove Senior Housing, but there are only about 4 or 5 of those residents who utilize the Senior Center.

The next regular COA Meeting will be held at the Senior Center on September 26, 2019 at 10:30.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Golec, seconded by J. Cozean and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Davis, Secretary