

Commission on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Lebanon, Connecticut
December 14, 2015

Present: Ellen Bauwens, Jane Cady, James Donnelly, Darlene Hathaway, Bonnie LeBlanc, Geri McCaw, Marion Russo, Elizabeth Shilosky

Absent: Russell Blakeslee

Also attending: Darcy Battye as Senior Center Director and Municipal Agent

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Chairman Bonnie LeBlanc.

Approval of Minutes: Geri McCaw moved the minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting be approved as written and distributed. Seconded by Darlene Hathaway. Approved.

Correspondence: Letter of response from Peter Hutchins regarding the use restriction for the senior center (see attached).

Treasurer's Report: Darcy Battye indicated the budgets were on target.

Reports:

1. Coordinator and Municipal Agent. Ms. Battye reported there has been an increase in van rides and foot traffic; lunches have been better attended as well. A discussion ensued on van personnel and schedules. Over the Thanksgiving weekend, as Municipal Agent, she helped a senior who was released from a nursing home.
2. Bingo. Ms. Hathaway stated today's bingo had 44 players and Friday night bingo had 25. A drawing with gifts donated by Ms. Hathaway raised \$40 for the local food pantry.
3. Whist. Jane Cady reported that she is trying to get teams of four to sign up for the next session on January 29th. Other senior centers will be invited and a notice will be put in the newsletter.
4. Trips. Marion Russo reported there are 70 travelers for New Year's Eve, 48 for Atlantic City in February and 48 for Nashville in April. An Irish program has been booked in March at Foxwoods. She asked for assistance with the "Memory Lane Pot Luck" scheduled for January 15th.
5. Friends of the Lebanon Senior Center. Ms. Russo stated that to date, \$3,485 was raised at the holiday fair.
6. Luncheon. Clergy lunch tomorrow with the High School Jazz band. Jukebox Bingo will entertain the week after and 75 have registered for the holiday luncheon.

Old Business:

1. Public Use of the Senior Center. Postponed until a response from the Selectmen is received.

New Business:

1. Fundraising Dinner. Ms. Russo moved that the Commission on Aging co-sponsor a fundraising dinner with Bryce Johnson, the Eagle Scout raising money to construct a gazebo at the senior center. Seconded by Ms. Cady. Approved.
2. Snow Days/Snow removal. The senior center will close for inclement weather if the schools do. If there is a delayed school opening, the center will open at 10 am. A discussion ensued on sidewalks. Consensus agreed that the senior center director could close off areas she felt a safety hazard.
3. Memorial Funds. There has been confusion on memorial donations to the senior center and/or van program. Ms. McCaw will conduct research on a large, recent donation and report back to the Commission.
4. Lebanon Senior Center Policies and Procedures. Updated draft copies were distributed for review. Discussion was postponed until next month.
5. 2016/2017 Budgets. Ms. Battye presented the proposed budgets. She explained that the 20% increase for the van budget is due to a significant increase in ridership hours (over 600 more). The center budget has a 1% increase, but it might change due to the additional need for repair and maintenance. Draft budgets are due January 23rd and the public hearing is February 27th.
6. Other New Business.
 - a. Consensus agreed that the lobby gas logs will be used for certain events during the cold winter months.
 - b. OSHA inspected the all of the town buildings, including the senior center. Ms. Battye reported issues with a fire extinguisher, first aid skills, evacuation plan and outside trash can.
 - c. Ms. McCaw reminded the commission about available van transportation for the cabaret this Friday. She will send out notices.

Public Forum: No activity.

Motion to adjourn was made by James Donnelly. Seconded by Ms. Cady.
Approved unanimously at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Bauwens, Secretary

Lebanon Small Cities Program

579 Exeter Road
Lebanon, CT 06249

December 6, 2015

Ms. Geraldine McCaw
740 Trumbull Hwy
Lebanon, CT 06249

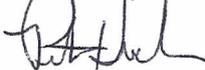
Dear Ms. McCaw,

On July 23, 2015 I was asked by the Selectman's Office to present any literature regarding the "Use Restrictions" placed on all Senior Centers that used Small Cities funding for site improvements, construction or renovations. Prior to the meeting on July 23, 2015 I researched data that was available regarding the use of Senior Centers and was able to print two Small Cities Bulletins dated 3/13/2008 and 05/30/2008 as well as testimony from a Public Hearing that took place on June 30, 2010.

I presented the printed material to the Selectman's Office and discussed with First Selectman Joyce Okonuk my interpretation of the two bulletins and the testimony from the Public Hearing. Unfortunately without prior authorization from the Selectman's Office I am unable to discuss anything that was presented at that meeting.

I would suggest that the Commission On Aging directly contact the Selectman's Office to get answers to any questions they may have regarding the Town Of Lebanon's "Use Restrictions" policy of the Senior Center.

Sincerely,



Peter Huckins
Small Cities Coordinator