

APPROVED

Commission on Aging

Minutes of February 25, 2013

Special Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Will Bigl (2015), April Holinko (2014), Bev Korba (2014), Laurie McMorrow (2014), Don Nolan (2014), Joan Terry, (2013)

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Emile Poirier (Jensen's), Martina Wharton (Juniper Hill)

STAFF: Kevin Grunwald (Dir. of Human Services)

ABSENT: Sam Gordon (2014)

GUESTS: Lida Bilokur, Estelle Elliot, Bettejane Karnes, Steve Kegler

Minutes: The minutes of the January 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Correspondence – April received information from Cindy Dainton about a workshop entitled Bringing Your Boards on Board. Both will attend.

Assisted Living – There is no progress on providing water for the proposed Masonicare facility.

Wellness Center – Kathy Ann Easley, Social Worker, has been assigned to the Wellness Center on Wednesdays. The department vacancies will be discussed at the Council's Personnel Comm. on Feb. 25 at 6:00 pm.

Senior Center – Copies of the Senior Center report were distributed. Van drivers are being recruited so the new vehicle can be utilized. There was no report from the Senior Center Association.

Community Information – Martina said that trips will begin again in March for Juniper Hill residents. Many of the residents are taking advantage of the FoodShare program. Emile brought newsletters from Jensens to show the activities they offer. Bev reported that residents at Glen Ridge continue to enjoy a variety of activities.

Agency Funding Requests – Requests from Community Companions and Homemaking Services, TVCCA and WRTD were reviewed. Motions were made, seconded and passed to recommend that each of the agencies receive the amount they requested. This information will be forwarded to the Town Council.

Downtown Storrs - Joan reported that she and Ida Millman met with Cynthia Van Zelm to discuss things that could be done to make the new downtown senior friendly. Many of our concerns have been integrated into the current plan.

New Business - None

Old Business - April updated us on the status of the appointment of new members. Stephen Kegler and Bettejane Karnes will be recommended by the Committee on Committees. We expect the Council to act on the matter at tonight's (Feb. 25) meeting.

Triad – Will described the classes that will be offered at the Senior Police Academy to be held at the Senior Center on Wednesday afternoons beginning April 5th. He encouraged us all to attend.

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission – Lida Bilokur recommended a video called Livable Communities.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Terry, secretary

Next Meeting: March 11

Goals for the Commission on Aging 2012-2013

1. Monitor Mansfield's Long-Range Plan for seniors with a continued focus on priority issues of senior safety, information dissemination, senior center space needs and health care needs including changing federal benefit programs.
2. Continue to advocate for the installation of a bus shelter at the Route 275/Community Center bus stop.
3. Advocate for improvements to the local transportation system.
4. Encourage the Downtown Partnership to make the new Storrs downtown senior friendly.
5. Provide information regarding tax relief available to residents.
6. Monitor the development of an independent living/assisted living facility in Mansfield.
7. Support the hiring of a Senior Services Social Worker.
8. Support the implementation of the FoodShare program.