

# **DRAFT**

## **Commission on Aging**

Minutes of September 9, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sam Gordon (2014), April Holinko (2014), Bettejane Karnes (2015), Steve Kegler (2015), Bev Korba (2014), Laurie McMorrow (2014), Don Nolan (2014), Joan Terry, (2013)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Will Bigl (2015)

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Estelle Elliott (Wright's Way)

STAFF: Cynthia Dainton, Senior Center Coordinator

**Minutes** - The minutes of the June 10, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

**Correspondence** – April circulated a flyer advertising the Festival on the Green to be held on September 22. Cindy mentioned that the Senior Center Association would have a booth at the Festival this year.

**Senior Center/ Wellness Center** - Cindy reported that the Senior Center offices have been renovated and relocated. She said that last week's celebration of Senior Center Week went well and that a number of new members came to the Center. Linda Wallaby, administrative assistant, is retiring as of September 13. The fact that the assistant position will be vacant will make it necessary for Cindy to establish priorities time wise. In reply to a question about the overspent transportation grant, Cindy said she expects the Council will find money to cover the lack of funds. A new grant will go into effect soon and will have restrictions to help avoid a repeat of the overspending problem.

**Senior Center Association** – Estelle is hoping the Association will agree to a major fund raising effort to get money to update equipment and furnishings.

**Senior Housing News** – Laurie reported that Juniper Hill is now a non-smoking campus. Marilyn Gerling will no longer represent Glen Ridge at the Commission on Aging meetings. Estelle said that some landscaping is

being done at Wrights Way and that they expect to install gazebos soon. Laurie circulated information she gathered regarding various housing options in Mansfield. Bev mentioned that all the units at Glen Ridge are filled for the first time in several years.

**New Business** – Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: Chairman – Will Bigl, Vice Chair – April Holinko, Secretary – Joan Terry. The Commission voted to continue its meetings on the second Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. but will move its meeting place to the Senior Center.

**Commission Goals** – Commission goals for the next year were discussed. Members were asked to give some thought to the goals and to come to the next meeting prepared to make changes and additions. (See attached)

**Town Website** – The information about our Commission, its meetings and members is very outdated. April will send a note to Cindy asking her to request the Town information technology department to update the site.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Terry, secretary

**Next Meeting: October 21**

We will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday because Columbus Day comes on our usual meeting date.

## **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 increased hours for the volunteer driver coordinator.
4. Encourage the Downtown Partnership to make the new Storrs downtown senior friendly.
5. Monitor the development of an independent living/assisted living facility in Mansfield.
6. Continue to monitor the hiring process of a Senior Services Social Worker.

Some suggestions discussed at the 9/9 meeting:

- Educate the Commission on Aging re emergency services
- Increase the Commission's participation at Council meetings
- Monitor the success of the senior/adult services worker
- Eliminate goal #6

**When setting goals, make them SMART.**

**Specific – who, what, when, why. Break into steps.**

**Measurable – set criteria to measure progress.**

**Attainable – make a plan with reasonable time frame.**

**Realistic – are you willing and able to reach the goal?**

**Timely – a time frame gives a sense of urgency**