

City of Shelton
Shelton Senior Center
81 Wheeler Street
Shelton, CT 06484
(203) 924-9324

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2020

The January 14, 2020 meeting of the Shelton Senior Committee was called to order by Walter Oko, Chairman, at 3:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Shelton Senior Center. The pledge was recited by all present.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Walter Oko - Chairman
Jill Bruno – Vice - Chairman
Judson Crawford - Treasurer
Roberta Sutkowski - Secretary
Barbara Hayslip
Cheryl Dziubina
Marilyn Terlaga
Margaret Keane

Also Attending

Doreen Laucella
Gerry Janofsky

Absent

PUBLIC PORTION:

None

MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JUDSON CRAWFORD TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER MINUTES OF THE SHELTON SENIOR COMMITTEE. MARGARET KEANE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Correction: Father Weiss' name was misspelled. Weiss

TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Judson Crawford read the Shelton Senior Committee's treasurer's report for the month ending December 31. He reported a balance forward of \$14,119.20 receipts \$587.75, disbursements \$1,054.55. leaving a balance of \$13,652.40 Interest on the four CD's for the month was \$108.71 bring the total amount in CD's \$60,990.88. The total amount in all accounts is \$74,643.28.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BARBARA HAYSLIP TO ACCEPT THE SHELTON SENIOR COMMITTEE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER. ROBERTA SUTKOWSKI SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Doreen told the Committee that the staff thanked the Committee for inviting them to the Holiday dinner. They all enjoyed it very much.

Gerry Janofsky read the Membership Council treasurer's report for the month ending December 31. He reported a balance forward of \$15,750.27, receipts \$6,089.25, disbursements \$1,049.40, leaving an ending balance of \$20,790.12. When added to the \$1,959.08 in the Memorial Checking account the total cash balance is \$22,749.20 There is \$33,394.37, in the four CD accounts leaving a total balance of \$56,143.57.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGARET KEANE TO ACCEPT THE MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER. JILL BRUNO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

The amount brought in by the groups that took part in the Festival of Trees was terrific. \$5,000 was added to the membership account. Cheryl questioned the 50/50 raffles line items. She questioned what it will be used for. Walter explained that it is for future enhancements to either a walkway or anything to do with the new parking lot.

A \$16,000. renovation to enhance the lighting at the Center with LED lighting has begun. Two rooms have had the lighting changed out to LED as of the meeting. An independent company together with the city and UI did a survey of the Center. The lighting will be enhanced both indoors and out. Walter Oko would like to see sensor lighting in the front of the building. Walter would like it to be brighter in the front of the building so the curbing could be seen easily.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Doreen reported the Festival of Trees was very successful for all involved. All the volunteers outdid themselves. Everyone is telling Doreen what a wonderful event it was. The Membership treasurer's report proved the Center did very well. TEAM also reported a successful event. Doreen will be meeting next week with the organizers. She is going to strongly suggest it be held the weekend after Thanksgiving. The Center has to put up the Christmas decorations for the Festival, then take them down and put Thanksgiving decorations back up for the Boy's & Girl's Thanksgiving dinner and the Center's Thanksgiving. Then she has to redecorate for Christmas again. It is too much work for the Center. November is a very busy month with the Veteran's Party and Thanksgiving events. Doreen also received a letter from Dave Morgan thanking the Center for the over 200 toys that were donated to the Toys for Kids. He called Doreen and told her that the Center was the strongest participant in Toys for Kids this year.
- Due to the loss of help in the kitchen the Christmas party was catered. The party was still a success. Everyone enjoyed themselves.
- New and renewed memberships have been taking place. Doreen reported over 100 new memberships and about 600 renewals since January 1. She stated the facility is filled daily.

- Doreen talked to the Mayor regarding getting full-time positions. She stated that the Community Center has five full time people and is encouraging the Mayor to give her some full-time help. Doreen needs someone who can run the Center when she is not there. She made a recommendation that the Committee maybe send a letter requesting a full time assistant. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the qualifications of the assistant and legal liability leaving the Center without someone to supervise when Doreen isn't there. The discussion led to when the full-positions were taken away. It was discussed that when Obama Care went into effect anyone who worked over 29 hours had to be given insurance. To save funding the part time workers could only work 29 hours. No new full-time positions were filled as people retired. They were filled with 29-hour positions. Jill Bruno suggested that Doreen design the team that she needs to run the Center and put that in her budget instead of the positions that are in place at this time. She suggested that she may need a social worker to provide services. Doreen stated that having a social worker on staff had already been discussed. The city and towns whose Center's that have social workers on staff are also Community Centers. Doreen stated that as an agent for the Agency on Aging in Shelton she has resources she can contact. She can recommend people to TEAM or BHC or she can call 211. Doreen let the Committee know that she doesn't need help with the social work part of her job. She also stated that her workers are team players and that they all can pitch in wherever they are needed. What she needs is some full-time staff. Doreen is putting in too many hours that she shouldn't be working.
- Doreen stated that the Center has received new computers with Windows 10. As the staff struggles to learn the new programs Shauna has been a great resource. Shauna is very tech savvy and understands the new programs.
- Cigna is going to use the renter's rebate office for 3 hours a month on a Thursday for the city employees to have access to their services.
- The swipe card machine was brought to the Committee's attention again. The need for the statistical data regarding the activity level in the building along with the security issues were expressed. Walter asked that it be put on the agenda for the next month. Walter asked if other Centers could be canvased to see what system they are using and if they are happy with it.
- The deposit for the anniversary party will be taken care of today. The parking area was discussed. Doreen is going over to Vazzano's on Friday to tie up any loose ends and she will check out the parking lot. Attire for the party was discussed. It was decided "Dress to Impress", No Jeans" was the theme.
- The Valentine's Day party sold out in the first day.

- David, the chorus director, and his friend Mark, will put on a cabaret style concert, “Afternoon of Sanatra”. This will be free for the membership. The Membership Council is going to pay for the event. It will be held in February.
- Chuckle of the Day – Doreen was approached that she is now a travel agent.
- The upcoming trips offered by the Center are Nashville in April and Nova Scotia in August. In August, 2021, a trip to Tuscany is being planned.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JILL BRUNO TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER DIRECTOR’S REPORT. JUDSON CRAWFORD SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

OLD BUSINESS:

Walter met with the Mayor at his party. The Mayor asked why the Committee sent him a letter regarding the heat. He told Walter if you don’t get a response to call him directly. Walter stated that the Mayor is generally supportive of the Center. He asked Walter to pass on to the Committee that they are doing a good job because he isn’t getting any calls or complaints crossing his desk. Walter also questioned when the Mayor is going to fill Mr. Smarz’s position on the Committee. The Mayor doesn’t have any letters requesting being appointed to the Committee. He asked Walter to hold off at the moment because he is very busy. He will fill it in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Council Rules

Gerry in speaking for the Membership stated that they would like to have the Officers and Delegates be residents of Shelton. It was discussed that it has to be changed in the Committee’s By-laws before the Membership can put it in their rules. He asked the Committee that they take it into consideration if they make any changes to their by-laws. A discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of having Officers and Delegates be residents of Shelton. The request will be put on a future agenda.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGARET KEANE TO ACCEPT THE SHELTON SENIOR MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL RULES AS PRESENTED. MARILYN TERLAGA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Jill Bruno brought to the attention of the Committee that the Charter is being revised. She feels that the Committee should send a letter to the Charter Revision Committee that The Membership Committee should be a Commission. Jill stated it just needs to be a word change. It wouldn’t change the Committee’s function. Jill offered to find out when the Charter Committee will meet and to draft a letter to be presented at the next meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROBERTA SUTKOWSKI TO ADJOURN AT 5:30 PM. CHERYL DZIUBINA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Attested to: Corie Blanch Date: 1/15/2020