

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

Minutes
Shelton Senior Commission
March 13, 2012

The March 13, 2012 Meeting of the Shelton Senior Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Walter Oko, at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Shelton Senior Center. The pledge was recited by all present.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Walter Oko
Shirley Keller
Martha Bova
Jill Bruno
Shirley Keller
Louise Manger
Jim Martin
William Smarz
Roberta Sutkowski

Also Attending

Kathy Ramia

Absent

Joe Benanto

PUBLIC PORTION

Jim Kelly stated that the minutes for January and February have not been posted on the Web site. Corie Blanck stated she e-mailed them to Rudy Skowronki. Kathy Ramia stated she received an e-mail from Rudy stating there was a problem with putting them on the Web Site. Kathy and Rudy are working on a solution. Jim also asked for a 2011 financial report. He also questioned whether the Commission had a long range plan for the money in its CD's. He suggested spending it on putting WiFi in the Senior Center. Kathy state she spoke to Dan Bednarsky and it is something they are planning to have at the Center. There are some issues to work out such as who will be responsible for the bill, will there be a time limit and will there be a charge to membership. Kathy stated it will not be ready until July. Mary Ann Grygorcewicz from Trumbull presented a petition to have ceiling fans put in the main room where they exercise. There was some discussion regarding the ceiling and how fans could be installed. Shirley Tar asked the Commission to allow the ballroom dance class to change its day and time. Kathy stated the best time to change it to would be on Monday after the ballroom cardio class.

MINUTES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROBERTA SUTKOWSKI TO ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MARTHA BOVA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for month ending February 29, 2012 was read by Jim Martin reporting a forward balance of \$9,742.51. Receipts \$128.80. Disbursements \$1350. leaving a cash ending balance of \$8521.31. Five CD's totaling \$57,543.19. The updates on the CD will be reported when Joe Benanto returns.

The Membership treasurer's report was passed out to the Commission for review.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LOUISE MANGER TO ACCEPT BOTH THE COMMISSION AND MEMBERSHIP TREASURER'S REPORTS AS PRESENTED. MARTHA BOVA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Kathy Ramia stated the Membership Report reflected income from Mardi Gras and the Valentines party on the March report because Johanna didn't receive the receipts until after the February report was completed. She also stated that Joanna will reimburse the Commission for the deposit for the Casino Trip because the Membership will be taking over the trip. Betty Goddard gave Kathy a bill for the balance of parts for the installation of the TV.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attorney Drazen is continuing his seminars at the Center, the last one was on "How to Choose the Right Person to Handle Your Affairs". There were 11 people present and he spent over two hours with them. The next seminar is on "Ten Myths About Planning for Long Term Care". Griffin Hospital will present a talk on the "Risks of Colon Cancer" on March 14, 2012. March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month. Jack O'Donnell from Bishop Wicke will present a food demonstration on March 27, 2012, reservations are required. The Caregivers workshop started up again on March 8th. Twenty eight people attended. Topics will be in the newsletter and posted on the bulletin board. They will also be on Valley Cable and in the CT. Post so non-members can see what programs are available. The Caregivers Committee thanked the Commission for their donation. The Digital photo class began this week and the beginner's computer class will begin on Monday April 23rd. Both classes are filled and have a waiting list. AARP driving class will be held this month on March 20th and will also be scheduled in April and May. The social events held this month will be the St. Patrick's Day Party, Thursday at noon and the March Birthday Party, Friday, March 23rd which will offer a waffle bar. There is still an increase in attendance for lunches and the staff has been doing some fun things such as serving cherry pie for 25cents on George Washington's Birthday, lunch was \$2.29 on Leap Day, National Pork Roast Day was celebrated and oreos were served on the 100th anniversary of the oreo cookie. Kathy has more special days planned for the seniors. Recycle bins were purchased to make the bottle and can returns easier. The TV is up and installed they thank Chris Patucek of the maintenance department for his help and assistance. The van was brought in for service. The check engine light was on and it has no headlights. Finance sent an e-mail that the clerical union had settled their contract and the Mayor wanted the full time budget sheet corrected. Kathy had to come in on her vacation to make the corrections. She also had to adjust the full time salary requests. Kathy also did the payroll because part-time positions can't do the payroll. Kathy and Walter will meet with the Board of A&T tonight to present their budget. Kathy met with the Mayor regarding his recommendations for the full time budget. He cut the part time monies by over \$25,000. Kathy learned that the outreach driver will not be replaced nor will the part time kitchen help be funded. The clerk position will be filled after the testing takes place. There is no time set for testing yet. Senator Kelly's will sponsor a Health Fair at the Center on May 30, 2012. They want to hold it in May as it is Older American Month, it will be held 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. There will be health testing such as hearing, vision and balance. The center will be opened and nothing will be cancelled. Kathy will be contacting more organizations to see if they want to participate. Ballroom dance class would like to change to Monday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. following the ballroom cardio class. Kathy passed out a copy of Monroe's medical and physical consent form for the Commission to look over. Kathy also spoke to the police department regarding the painting of lines and signs for the parking lot and handicap parking changes. Mark Singlinger is now in charge of traffic. He told Kathy the walkway would have to be striped and signs would have to be put up. The curbing also will need to be painted. He gave Kathy places to call that the city uses for signs and painting. He stated the police department doesn't paint or take care of the signs any longer. Walter also mentioned putting the arrow on the driveway to show which way to

enter the parking lot. Walter is going to speak to the Mayor regarding the costs for this project. Kathy stated if the cost is over \$999, it will need a purchase order. Kathy stated there was money in the building maintenance. Jill Bruno asked whose responsibility is it for the safety of the seniors. She feels it is the city's responsibility. Bill Smarz stated that you may have to wait a couple years. Walter will work on getting prices. Kathy stated that Newtown sent representatives to tour the center again. They brought their first selectman and a committee and took pictures and asked questions hoping to provide their town with info for a new center. Kathy stated their yearly dues are \$12 and their members pay for their programs. The signs requesting no food or beverage have been posted in the lounge. Kathy has secured a bus free of charge through a grant for the Wi bowlers to Greater New Haven Senior Expo to compete on May 11, 2012. 20 people can attend. Kathy is asking the Elder Abuse Team if they can change their Elder Abuse Awareness Day program to the June 14, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to accommodate the senior's second party during the month of June. The program is not open to the public. The Center is having a Country Ho-Down Concert on the May 16, along with the Annual Art Show. Valley Community Foundation was asking for donations to repair and restore the plaques that were damaged. This was discussed among the Commission. Kathy has stressed to the instructors that it is important to have the participants sign in during their classes. Walter stated it is important to have the sign in when the numbers are sent to city hall for attendance. When we want funding it's important to have the numbers to back us up. Kathy stated by the end of March people who don't renew their membership will not be allowed to take class.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROBERTA SUTKOWSKI TO ACCEPT DIRECTOR'S REPORT. MARTHA BOVA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

Louise Manger asked if the marjon players could play for money. This was discussed by the Commission and it was unanimously agreed that they do not condone gambling of any kind.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHIRLEY KELLER TO CHANGE THE BALLROOM DANCE CLASS TO MONDAY AFTERNOON FOLLOWING THE BALLROOM CARDIO CLASS. JIM MARTIN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

OLD BUSINESS:

The handicap parking was discussed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JILL BRUNO THAT THE CENTER BE OPENED FOR THE HEALTH FAIR ON MAY 30, 2012. ROBERTA SUTKOWSKI SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Kathy discussed the Elder Abuse Awareness Day during her director's report. She will be asking them to change the day to June 14, 2012.

Walter spoke regarding the budget. The mayor reduced the part time account by \$25,000. He explained the monies still in the budget with the assistant director, clerk and outreach driver which will not be spent. Walter spoke with the mayor regarding running out of money in the part time budget. He stated that we can make a proposal to transfer money. Jill asked if the proposal was better this year in regard to the help. Kathy stated she is proud of the staff. They all chip in and work together and they share the same work ethic. Jill congratulated Kathy and her staff for the work they do.

Walter also stated the Mayor questioned him regarding the cleanliness of the building. He stated he felt it was clean. He also told the mayor the floors haven't been refinished since they have been installed. The mayor stated that they need to be done. Kathy stated the city needs to have somebody that knows how to do it correctly. The fact that the shrubs haven't been maintained either was discussed. The parks and rec department maintains it now. Mr. Martin asked if the floors could be taken care of by the maintenance account.

Bill explained that the purchase orders have been put in and refused. Kathy asked the Commission if the barrels out front could be moved to the back of the building. No one is planting in them anymore. They are cracked and there are some members that would like to plant herbs in them. Walter stated that if the things need to be done and done correctly then money needs to be spent. The Commission is going to have to fight for these projects.

SHIRLEY KELLEY MADE A MOTION TO USE THE TOWN OF MONROE MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CONSENT FORM MODIFIED FOR SHELTON SENIOR CENTER. MARTHA BOVA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Kathy explained that the instructors have to let the participants know to dress properly for class and tell them that you are going to sweat if you are doing exercise.

Walter agreed but felt the Commission still should look into pricing the fans. Roberta felt that it is more of a circulation problem that heat issue. Bill and Jim were explaining the construction of the building. It was decided that Walter will do some research on the costs. He will contact a professional to come in and give an estimate.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JILL BRUNO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:30 P.M. SHIRLEY KELLER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Attested to: _____ Date: _____