



# COMMISSION ON AGING

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 792-3048

The meeting of the Commission on Aging for February 11, 2013 was cancelled due to inclement weather. The meeting for March 11, 2013 was called to order at 2:29 p.m. by Chairman Al Barney.

Members present: Commissioners Al Barney, Ann Cummings, Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Judy Novachek and Senior Center Director/Municipal Agent Lisa Plumb.

**Minutes from the meeting of January 14, 2013:** Distributed. A motion to accept the report with the following modification was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Commissioner Menti. A modification regarding Director Plumb's statement about the new stove under Old Business is as follows: The purchase of the gas stove for the cafeteria kitchen is "in process of being purchased."

**Municipal Agent's Report:** Distributed by Municipal Agent Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Chairman Barney.

**Director's Report:** Distributed by Director Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report was made by Chairman Barney and seconded by Commissioner Novachek.

**Treasurer's Report:** None.

**Old Business:** Director Plumb stated that the gas stove for the cafeteria kitchen will not need modifications to the door to facilitate delivery. It was discovered that a part on the front of the stove can be removed for delivery. The bids for the work on the door were approximately \$1200.

- Commissioner Novachek addressed the senior show's problems. The new date, September 6 is the Labor Day weekend. It was agreed that it may be an issue. It was suggested that the show should be postponed for a year. Director Plumb suggested that a meeting should be scheduled for next week to discuss plans for the show. Commissioner Novachek agreed.

- Commissioner Cummings stated that she is still working on the bus stop "revamp" at Reynolds Ridge. She said that the Housing Authority is very interested in her plan.

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**New Business:** - Chairman Barney announced the appointment of Judy Novachek as a new commissioner. He also announced that Commissioner Cummings has resigned her position and that today is the last meeting she will be attending. "I want to thank her for being on our commission and lending her creative talents to what we've been doing."

- Commissioner Cummings asked if the computers are available to the seniors other than the classes offered. Director Plumb stated that they are if a request is made at the office.

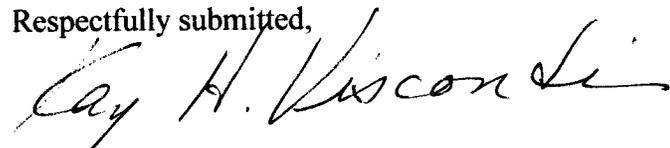
- Director Plumb discussed Newtown fund raising projects. She is offering bracelets and green ribbon pins. She would also like to implement the Comfort Bears Project.

- Chairman Barney asked Commissioner Novachek to produce a treasurer's report for the April meeting.

**Miscellaneous (Good of the Order):** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay H. Visconti  
Secretary, Commission on Aging

# BETHEL SENIOR CENTER

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center  
1 School Street, Bethel, CT. 06801  
Telephone: 203-792-3048; Fax: 203-744-3812

Report to the Commission on Aging  
2-11-13

## OLD BUSINESS

- New Stove: Bids are being received from 3 vendors to install a door in the large kitchen that would accommodate the new stove. If the outside door molding is removed the stove would fit, then new molding could be installed. One vendor has submitted a quote. We are waiting for a response from the other two vendors.
- Painting in the library and hallway of the Senior Center has been completed.
- The Ceramic Studio has been thoroughly cleaned, painted, and organized. The Senior Center is grateful to Eileen Earle who rented a floor stripper and supplies. Two of her workers completed the job on the weekend. They waxed the floor also. It looks great!

## NEW BUSINESS

- The Danbury Healthcare volunteers have stopped their volunteer work. They have reached a union agreement and are going back to work. A couple of volunteers who enjoyed working at the Senior Center stated they will continue to volunteer in their free time.
- A Danbury News Times paper has been ordered for the Senior Center to be delivered Mon - Fri. The cost is
- All Senior Center staff will participate in a training program to be certified in first aid, CPR, and the AED machine during March and April.
- Lisa is taking a Choices course which will allow her to inform members about aging and disability information and programs. This course is given through WCAAA.
- The Roundtable meeting scheduled for 2/6/13 will be rescheduled in March. Lisa was out ill.
- The Mohegan Sun Casino trip was held 2/7/13. Lisa was unable to attend due to illness. Al Barney supervised the trip. The participants were grateful he agreed to supervise the trip so the trip did not have to be cancelled.
- The Chinese New Year lunch was cancelled due to the senior center being closed because of inclement weather.
- The Superbowl Party was a big success. 15 members attended. One member asked if we could have an evening party once a week.
- The new procedure to sign up all participants in programs and trips as members has begun. 59 people registered as members to date. This is important not only to have information on the person participating, but, also emergency information should the situation arise. There have been several incidents the past few months where no information was available for a person

In addition to the education budget we have increased the capital budget requesting 5 new computer stations, one IPAD, and one Kindle, in the amount of \$ 3800. (computers); \$ 500.00 (IPAD), and \$400. (Kindle); totaling \$4700. The last request in this year's budget are two air conditioners for the ceramics room, totaling \$1000. The air conditioners are more 10 years old and do not function efficiently.

- There was a Roundtable Discussion held March 6, postponed from the original Feb. date. 22 members attended. Accomplishments made by the BSC were discussed, goals for the future were discussed including four community projects (Newtown fundraising and Comfort Bears Project; Museum Project; and Community Gardens). Members offered suggestions for trips, the Newtown project. Gifts from the Friends of the Seniors were also announced. There were sign up sheets for upcoming projects, committees, and suggestions. Eileen Earle, Park & Recreation Director, was presented with a card and flowers to thank her for her support. Eileen provided staff and supplies to have the Ceramic Room cleaned and floors stripped and waxed. Lynn, from Cruise Holidays attended to speak to the group about a Mediterranean Cruise being planned through Cruise Holidays. Several members are interested and attended a separate meeting after the Roundtable.
- The new Town of Bethel website has launched and is quite impressive. The Senior Center site has been updated and our hope is to have the newsletter available on line in the next month or two.
- There is a new procedure for mailing the newsletter. This is a procedure mandated by the Postal Service regarding bulk mailing. The cost of supplies to mail our newsletter has increased by \$200./month. In addition, a process to prepare the newsletters for mailing has gone from 1.5 hours to 4 hours. Many volunteers who participate to prepare the newsletter simply cannot stay that amount of time due to other commitments. Members are asked to pick up newsletters at the BSC if they are in for programs. Also, the newsletter will be available on line in the near future. If members have access to a computer they are asked to get the newsletter online to help us cut our costs. Anyone else that would like to pick up the newsletter, and not have it mailed, we ask that you please notify staff in the office. We are hoping these changes will help to cut costs and time.
- The theatre show the BSC puts on annually has been changed to September 6. The group believes this will give them additional time to recruit new participants and additional time to practice.
- In addition to the travel plans announced at the last Commission Meeting, a Suffolk Downs trip is planned, 3-day Lancaster, PA trip is planned to see the show Noah at the Sight and Sound Theatre.
- Lisa and Heather have discussed goals for the next few months. The goals include marketing the senior center, having the newsletter on line; getting additional ads for the newsletter; hiring a few new instructors (Tap Dance; Line Dance); introduce pm exercise classes, meal choices.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Plumb  
Senior Center Director

# BETHEL SENIOR CENTER

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center

1 School Street, Bethel, CT. 06801

Telephone: 203-792-3048; Fax: 203-744-3812

Report to the Commission on Aging: 3-11-13

## OLD BUSINESS

- New Stove - One of the vendors giving a bid on the stove discovered that part of the front of the stove can be removed for delivery. This saves the Senior Center from replacing the door and door frame to have the stove delivered. The stove will be ordered this week.
- The newspaper has been delivered daily. People are enjoying reading it. More and more members seem to be reading it as they discover it is available.
- Lisa has begun the Choices Training 5 week program in Bridgeport. It will be completed at the end of the month. The Choices program covers Medicare, Medicaid, and State and Federal programs that are available for seniors.
- The new procedure to sign up for programs in the office is running smoothly. There are a few complaints, but overall, members seem to be content with the routine and have been cheerful and cooperative coming in to the office. Instructors check with staff to verify numbers of participants paid are the same as the number of participants attending. So far, the numbers have matched.
- All instructors and vendors have completed an application. Insurance and certifications are included, if applicable.
- The television in the hall is showing a photo slide show continuously. The current photos have been placed on a memory card. Additional photos of parties and trips will be added shortly.
- The BSC was invited to Bethel High School to a Valentine lunch. The Culinary Department did an outstanding job greeting us, decorating the tables and room with a holiday theme, and serving us homemade salad, quiche, and apple strudel and red velvet cupcakes. To our surprise the concert choir appeared to serenade us during lunch, the gentlemen in tuxedos with red satin cummerbunds and ties and the ladies in black gowns. They sang romantic songs. Everyone who attended was very impressed by the personable service, delicious food and heartwarming entertainment. The principal of Bethel High, Chris Troetti, and several teachers joined the seniors for lunch at their tables. It was a wonderful program.

## NEW BUSINESS

- The budget for the 2013-2014 Senior Center was presented to the Board of Finance in February. The Director requested the same budget as last year with the addition of an expense account for educational seminars of \$2500., an amount that had been deleted the previous year. It is believed that professional seminars are important for staff to attend to be progressive in the field, and expand the programs of the senior center in the future, particularly with the increase in the baby boom population that has already begun to turn the age of 65 in 2011. The baby boom population, people age 60 years and older in CT, is expected to increase from 2006 to 2030 by 53%.

participating in a BSC program. This concern has been resolved. A new membership form has been designed and implemented including coordinating the birthday list and the newsletter mailing list.

- A new procedure has also been implemented, as of February 1, requiring all members to pay for all classes, programs, and trips in the office. This eliminates money being given to instructors in class. Money received per class will be given to the town and a check will be issued to the vendor (or instructor) for each program at the end of each month. The new procedure was discussed with each vendor (or instructor) and the following week presented to the members in each class. The new procedure was also announced in the February newsletter.
- Another new procedure has been implemented. As of February 1 all vendors (instructors) have completed an application. This application includes personal information such as name, address, email, telephone/cell phone numbers, emergency contacts, as well as certifications, and insurance the vendor has. This process ensures we have proper contacts in case of an emergency. It also provides for certifications and insurance to ensure these are current.
- It is the policy of the Town of Bethel that anyone in the Municipal Center may not use alcohol unless the Selectman has signed a waiver making an exception to the policy. The Administration stated they were not aware alcohol was served at many of our functions which was in violation to this policy. The Selectman was given a list of all parties where alcohol would be served and he has signed the waiver good through 2013.
- There is interest among members to travel on a Mediterranean Cruise. The BSC is looking into options for this trip. Several day trips and programs have been planned for the remainder of 2013. The following is a list of upcoming events:

The following trips and events have been planned for 2013:

1. Diabetes 101 - Mon., March 4
2. Coin collecting - with Blair from Friendship Travel, Thurs., March 7
3. Pratzel Brauhaus, Pomona NY, St Pat's Day Festival
4. WCAAA - disability devices demonstration; Fri., March 15
5. Thurs., March 21; Book Signing, Philip Lu
6. Tues., March 9 Mohegan Sun Casino
7. Wed., April 10, Safe Driving Course
8. Thurs., April 18, Investment Fraud
9. Mon., April 22 Judy Garland Live, Aqua Turf
10. Fri., April 26, BSC Tag Sale
11. Tues., May 7 Duprees at Aqua Turf
12. Fri., May 17, Card and Dessert Party
13. Tues., June 4 Foxwood Casino
14. Thurs., June 13, AARP Safe Driving
15. Fri., June 14, BSC Picnic at Bennett Property
16. Fri., June 21, BSC Show
17. Thurs., July 11, Delaney House, "All you can eat" LobsterFest
18. Tues., July 16, Italian Fest at Aqua Turf
19. Thurs., July 25, Senior Information Fair
20. Thurs., Aug. 1, Westchester Dinner Theatre, Sound of Music
21. Thurs., August 8, Mohegan Sun Casino

22. Tues., Aug. 13, AARP Safe Driving
23. Fri., August 23, Grandparents Day
24. Sun., Oct 20, Log Cabin Holyoke MA., Celine Dion impressionist and Sunday brunch
25. Thurs., Oct 31, Halloween Party
26. Fri., Nov. 8 Veteran's Breakfast
27. Fri/Sat. Nov.15,16 - Holiday Fair
28. Tues., Dec. 10, AARP Safe Driving
29. Thurs., Dec. 12, Westchester Dinner Theatre, White Christmas

Travel: Plans are being made for a Mediterranean Cruise September 2013.

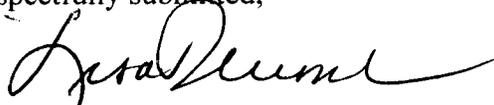
Trips are being considered to the following: Broadway show, Suffolk Downs, Bethlehem & Lancaster, PA Theatre/Noah show; casino.

- Lisa participated in a Town of Bethel web site training program. We will have a new website in the next month or two and our newsletter will be available on line. We will have the ability to update our website adding information and photos as desired.
- New Massage Therapist was hired to take the place of the former Massage Therapist who left to open her own business.
- The theatre group met and decided on a theme for this year's show. It will be "Inspiration". Heather will be the Director of the show. Rehearsals have begun.
- The Quilt group have met and decided on a theme for this year's quilt. The theme will be "Friendship". The quilt will feature different scenes you would typically do with a friend, as well as friendship quotes and poems.
- The budget for the new fiscal year is being developed. The BSC has requested 10 new computers, 1 IPAD, and 1 Kindle.
- An all day "Ladies Day Out" program is being held on Saturday, Feb 23. It will feature card making, scrapbooking, raffles and lunch. The cost is \$25. which includes all.

**ACCIDENTS / INCIDENTS:** No accidents / incidents reported the past month.

**REQUESTS:** No requests at this time.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Plumb

Bethel Senior Center Director

# **BETHEL SENIOR CENTER**

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1 School Street, Bethel, CT. 06801  
Telephone: 203-792-3048; Fax: 203-744-3812

Report to the Commission on Aging  
3-11-13

## **MUNICIPAL AGENT REPORT**

Feb 11, 2013 Report:

- 5 handicapped equipment loaned (commode, walkers, transport chair, wheelchair)
- 1 senior housing referral
- 1 meal on wheels referral to Danbury Hospital case worker regarding a Bethel resident.
- 1 Municipal Agent appointment regarding insurance and Medicare.

March 11, 2013 Report:

- 1 appointment regarding a Bethel resident in need of services
- phone call regarding information to fix a furnace
- phone call requesting transportation to Dr. appointment
- Member inquiry regarding State telephone numbers for housing / legal services
- Request from Matt Knickebocker concerning a resident who met with him requesting legal services and housing issues. Lisa followed up with the resident, meeting with him and provided information and telephone numbers.
- Numerous donations: canes, walkers, commodes, wheelchair, tub bench.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Plumb  
Municipal Agent