



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 June 13, 2011 was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Chairman Al Barney.

Members present: Chairman Al Barney, Commissioners Ann Cummings, Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen, Treasurer Lou Walsh, and Director Kathy Oles.

Minutes from the meeting of May 9, 2011 were distributed. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Commissioner Cummings.

Municipal Agent's Report: Distributed by Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen and accepted as read. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Chairman Barney.

Director's Report: Distributed by Director Oles and accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: None available.

Old Business: Treasurer Walsh inquired about the plans for the "senior ball" to celebrate our senior center's 35th anniversary. Director Oles stated that she will be meeting with Hilda DeLucia from the Teen Center to discuss the plans for the party. She also stated that the Teen Center will be having an open house on June 15th at their new location.

Commissioner Cummings announced that a place to buy American made flags is at True Value store in Bethel.

New Business: Director Oles stated that she will be using money left over from the donation for the carpeting to make a small grassy area outside of the Senior Center's door into a small picnic area. The Park and Rec Department will remove the bushes and lay pavers down in that area. Director Oles also has ordered a new picnic table with benches and umbrella for that area. Municipal Agent Gillen noted that there are old benches upstairs gleaned from the old train station that may have some potential. Director Oles said that she will look at them to see if they are something that the senior center could use.

Miscellaneous (Good of the Order): None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay H. Visconti
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Secretary, Commission on Aging

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK



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Director's Report June 13, 2011

We aren't "Singing in the Rain", but everyone had a great time watching this performance at Westchester Playhouse. All those who went on the cruise really enjoyed the food, fun, and all the ports of call, although it was pretty chilly.

Our free Postural Screening was attended by 10 Seniors on May 17. It was a good class. Only 3 Seniors showed up for the seminar on senior housing on May 24. Others that were there for cards and coffee listened in. These two ladies from Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage were very interesting. On May 18th, we attended a very nice function for all our volunteers at Ethan Allen. Our First Selectman attended.

This past Friday, we had a concert performed by children from the Johnson School and Bethel High School. Of course, they were great. It almost broke our piggy bank, but we treated them all to pizza and ice cream.

This Friday we are having our Senior Center Picnic at Bennett Park. We are hoping to have about 125 Seniors attend. Bob Schmidt and his wife will be here to entertain us. Our annual Card Party will be held on June 24th. We could use support from our commission with your attendance and/or some baked goodies.

On May 24, 1,700 newsletters were distributed, among mailings, deliveries to Bishop Curtis and Reynolds Ridge, and those picked up at the Senior Center. Visiting the Center, we had an average of 112 people/day. Averaging the past seven months, we have had 104 people per day. I talked to First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker on Thursday, June 9, about the needs assessment. The money has been put aside, and they plan on going forward with this process. The Friends of the Seniors have voted to pay for half of the \$5,000 fee.

Unfortunately, two days after the Cruise was over, Ana Ross' husband died of heart failure. He is already missed.

Trips in 2011-

June 7	Foxwoods - \$25
June 16	World Flower Show - \$96
June 20-22	Lancaster, PA and "Joseph" - \$397
June 29	A Day at the Races-Suffolk Downs - \$71
July 16	Behold Block Island-\$116
July 21	All you can eat Lobster- \$89
Sept 19	San Gennaro Festival-\$52
Aug 25	Yankees-\$30

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Oles, Director, Bethel Senior Center

**Commission on Aging Report – June 13,
2011**

Everything slows down in the summer, except for evictions. I have had to store possessions of several families recently.

I received notification that the ConnPACE program will come to an end. Everyone must apply for MSP programs now. We knew this was coming for a while.

The food pantry is getting low as is usual for the summer. I used up what is left in the Bethel Emergency Fund to buy gift cards for Bethel Food and for the first time, I purchased some gasoline gift cards. People who come in are desperate for help with the cost of gasoline.

*Kathleen Gillen
Bethel Municipal Agent for the Elderly*