

SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2010

James Gere, Vice-Chairman, called meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

PRESENT: Larry Anderson, Loris Balkun, Theresa Fucini, James Gere, Claire Hickey, Jane Johnson, Cathy Kelley, Mertie Terry, Helen Zalewski. ABSENT: Mary Konopka and Madeline Lowry. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Cathi Jackson, Wesley Bell, Theresa Strong and Board of Selectman Liaison Patrick Ahlquist. Joyce Norman, Commission Clerk absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Claire Hickey moved, seconded by Loris Balkun, so moved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Theresa Fucini moved to accept minutes of November 8, 2010 meeting as written, seconded by Jane Johnson, so voted.

SC DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Theresa gave her report including information on the currently facilitated financial program "energy assistance", present programming including the upcoming holiday senior basket program, transportation update and budget report. Claire Hickey moved to accept her report, seconded by Cathy Kelley, so moved.

MUNICIPAL AGENT: Cathi reported on 31 new inquiry calls during the month of November, 2010. Helen Zalewski moved to accept report, seconded by Loris Balkun, so moved.

FRIENDS OF THE SENIOR CENTER: Claire reported that the store and the "Friends" group are doing very well. Jane Johnson, treasurer reported that the group currently has a balance in excess of \$1,300 since opening their checking account in November with a mere \$100 deposit. Helen Zalewski moved to accept the friends report, seconded by Theresa Fucini, so moved.

BOARD OF SELECTMAN LIAISON: Pat Ahlquist reported items discussed at Board meeting which was held last week on December 8, 2010. Pat informed the commission that the BOS December meeting was short and there wasn't much on the agenda. Cider Hill is still under administrative investigation with the PD, Senator Drive is currently at the State's Attorney office for possible action, the charter revision commission and the P&Z were granted approval from the BOS to hire attorney council. Pat also mentioned that he continues to make sure that the senior department issue be included in the charter revision going forward. Lastly, he commented that budgets are due to be very difficult this year and urged all commission members to come out and supports the senior services budgets when applicable during the budgetary process.

OLD BUSINESS: The issue of the Senior Services Department being adopted as a “Town Ordinance” with the Charter Revision Committee will remain on our agenda .

NEW BUSINESS: Theresa and Commission members discussed the upcoming budgetary process and requests. A general discussion was held regarding the various line-items within the senior services and transportation budget(s). A more detailed discussion will follow at our January 2011 meeting prior to the budget requests being submitted to the First Selectman for approval.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: Michelle Miller inquired about transportation services and the concept of adopting a possible fee for some transportation components and also inquired on whether out-of-state trips with our senior buses have been approved by our insurance company. Theresa reported that per our HR Director, Tom Roohr, we can utilize our senior buses to travel out-of-state for outtrips and it does not present any insurance issues. Theresa will pursue this for future trips next summer. Dorothy Pandolfi spoke about the quilting class and the issue of them having to make weekly suggested-donations.

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chairman, James Gere adjourned the meeting at 11:56am.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Strong
Senior & Human Services Director
Town of Cromwell

