

## **Senior Services Commission**

**October 19, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Luella Landis at time 10:34 a.m.

Roll Call:      Ann Jordan                      Luella Landis                      Madeline Lowry  
                    Paula Luna                      Linda Polke                      Patricia Sienna  
                    Mertie Terry

Absent:          Shirley Banic                      Helen Zalewski

Others:          Amy Saada, Senior/Human Services Director  
                    Nick Talbot, Senior Outreach Coordinator  
                    Pat Ahlquist, Council Liaison

### **Approval/Amendment of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda made by Linda Polke; seconded by Mertie Terry. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020, Regular Meeting made by Mertie Terry; seconded by Paula Luna. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **Senior/Human Services Director's Report – Amy Saada and Nick Talbot**

Cromwell's number of positive COVID cases is increasing. There are a lot of people from the schools who are quarantining, and the High School is closed until October 21, 2020. Amy reminded the commission to "Be careful. Wear masks. Stay home and stay healthy".

CHOICES counseling is available over the phone. Open enrollment is from November 1, 2020 - December 15, 2020. During the first 2 weeks in November, the CHOICES counselor is unavailable so Laura Crews at Senior Resources will be assisting Cromwell residents.

The Cromwell staff will have Energy Assistance appointments starting in the beginning of November.

There were 121 Renter's Rebate applications processed, totaling \$50,595.21. This is more than the previous year.

Applications for donors and clients for the Holiday Human Services programs are due November 6, 2020.

The "Current Issues" class will not be held in November or December. More virtual classes are being offered and Nick Talbot is helping seniors get online.

The Boy Scouts will be holding a town wide food collection during the November 7 and November 14 weekends. This brings in thousands of pounds of food to the food bank.

Amy is looking to interview local veterans and highlight them on the website and social media pages in celebration of Veterans Day.

The Senior Donation Account Balance is \$ 22,076.91.

The term for all members of the commission, except Paula Luna, has expired. Amy asked the commission members to inform the Mayor if they would like to continue on the commission.

Nick thanked everyone for the great pumpkin. There will be a drive by Halloween celebration, bringing treats to seniors, on October 30, 2020. Sign up is required.

Nick held a virtual chat last week and will create a virtual trivia game series.

Nick would like to get permission from class instructors to post class for seniors to watch another time (not just at the designated class time).

#### **Director of Public Health Update – Amy Saada**

Sal Nesci was not present, so Amy reminded the commission about the upcoming flu clinics on October 28 and November 7, 2020. There are special hours reserved for seniors.

#### **Council Liaison Update - Pat Ahlquist**

Food boxes were delivered. The library received a grant and there are now 12 laptops available to borrow. Ann Grasso spoke at the last Town Council meeting during public comment about the Cromwell Creative District.

\$40,000 has been approved for a building usage study. It is up to the Town Manager to hire a consultant and get this done.

The budget seems to be on track.

Remember to lock your car and do not leave valuables in your car. Juveniles are opening cars and stealing items in the middle of the night.

Cromwell Landing is closed. There is a grant to have the dock redone and made handicapped accessible.

The next Town Council meeting will be November 18, 2020.

#### **Old Business**

a. Re-Opening – Amy

There is no update. Amy reminded the commission that people age 65 and older are recommended to stay home.

b. CRT - discussed under Director's Report

#### **New Business**

LPI is back to printing the newsletter. They printed 150 copies of the October newsletter and they are available in the lobby.

#### **Citizens Comments**

Luella Landis informed the commission that Mertie Terry just published a book. The title is "*The O'Brien's: Sean*".

The next meeting will be November 9, 2020 at 10:30 via zoom.

The commission was reminded to vote on November 3, 2020.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Polke; seconded by Paula Luna.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stockman

Recording Clerk