

**Senior Services Commission
June 8, 2015
Minutes-Regular Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mary Konopka, at 10:35 a.m.

Roll Call: Mary Konopka Theresa Fucini Claire Hickey
 Patricia Sienna Madeline Lowry Helen Zalewski
 Linda Polke Patricia Alsup James Gere
 Eleanor Corciullo

Absent: Caroljoyce Cannito Wesley Bell, Public Health Director
 Mertie Terry, Town Council Liaison

Others: Joy Hollister, Senior/Human Services Director

Approval/Amendment of Agenda

Motion was made, by Eleanor Corciullo, to make the amendment to approve Patricia Weston as permanent Senior Commission Clerk, and seconded by Pat Sienna. All in favor; Unanimous.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made to amend the Minutes for April 13, 2015. Correction one was to clarify the statement made by Mertie Terry that, "when a Senior Commission membership expires, it is automatically put back on the list for another term". Eleanor said that under the Town Ordinance, 57-4, "Filling Vacancies", a Commissioner shall continue in office until him or her, if not reappointed, a successor is appointed in their place. It is only temporary. They cannot automatically stay for another full term. They will still need to give their name to Enzo to be selected for another full term. The second correction to the minutes is that the meeting was adjourned and seconded by Mertie Terry. Mertie is an ex-official member and therefore she cannot second motions. The corrected name given instead was Helen Zalewski. The final correction to the minutes was the correct spelling of the quilting instructor's name. It is Carolyn Aaronson. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Helen Zalewski, and seconded by Madeline Lowry. All in favor; Unanimous vote. There were three abstentions by members who were not in attendance at the April 13, 2015 meeting; Theresa Fucini, James Gere, and Helen Zalewski.

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Senior/Human Services Director's Report-Joy Hollister

Joy opened up her presentation by asking the members to read the report she sent out detailing center events. Joy mentioned the notable June out- trips, the monthly Birthday celebrations, as well as the current event classes currently being held. Joy mentioned the AARP Safe Driving Class that was held last week, and the upcoming picnic being held on June 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., so sign up. Joy stated that every Thursday in July, at 1:00 p.m., there will be a, "Train your Brain" class taught by Joan Harrison Becker. The series involves tactics to keep the brain sharp and memory intact. Ms Becker has taught other classes at the center, including a series specifically dealing with memory, and one on positive thinking. Joy stated that another town has donated a pool table they no longer need, to the Cromwell Senior Center, free of charge, including free delivery. However, someone will need to be hired to balance and set up the table, and that will be paid out of the money already allocated for a new table. Joy stated that the Wii Bowling club participated in a tournament in Bristol, Ct and had a great time and therefore will be participating in more tournaments, as well as pool tournaments. She stated that with the addition of a new table, the Cromwell Senior Center can now host pool table tournament events. Joy mentioned that the Art and Yoga class will resume in September, and the Donation Fund will allow the Quilting class to continue through the summer, as well as the Arthritis and Exercise Arthritis classes to continue. Joy mentioned that the Tai Chi instructor will be trying something new by holding classes in July and August this year and taking a few months off in the winter instead. The Yoga instructor however has children and will not be able to teach during the summer months. Joy mentioned that for the next fiscal year, July 2016, she will attempt to get all the instructors on the same number of weeks, 40/42, per year. It would be easier to keep track of for everyone, but the decision will be up to the Council and Board of Finance. Mary Konopka inquired about the movie situation; Library vs. the use of Netflix. Joy mentioned that Netflix only uses credit cards for payment, and she does not have access to one. As for the Library, Licensing is based on the number of times a movie is shown, and how many people are watching it, therefore, regardless of one or two, the cost would be the same for both the Library and the Senior Center; there would be no discounts. A discussion was then held about the use of Library movies and being charged vs. the Library donating the movies to the Senior Center, or the Senior Center continuing to purchase their own movies. Nothing was resolved to date. Mary Konopka suggested trying to get this resolved by September, and possibly the Center buying the movie for two weeks and borrow the movies for two weeks. Joy stated she would discuss it with Eileen from the Library.

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Director of Public Health Update-
None

Town Council Liaison Report-
None

Old Business-

- a. Establish Subcommittee to survey programs of other Towns-Tabled.
- b. Future Senior Commission Dates-A motion was made to take this off the table by Claire Hickey and seconded by Madeline Lowry. Eleanor Corciullo then spoke about the number of regular meetings the Commission holds. Per the Town Ordinance, 57-5 "Organizations" there only needs to be 4 per year, not 12. She also proposed taking July, August, and September off, not just July and August. Mary Konopka suggested a motion be made today and a discussion of the format be held at the September meeting. Eleanor made a motion that to finish off 2015, that the Commission take July-September off, resume in October, and take December off. The motion was seconded by Theresa Fucini, for purposes of discussion. A vote was taken by a show of hands. Eleanor Corciullo was the only one in favor of her proposal, all others were opposed. The chairman did not vote.

New Business-

- a. Program Suggestions-None made.
- b. Election of Chair and Vice Chair----Pat Sienna nominated Pat Alsup as the new Chair. Theresa Fucini nominated Madeline Lowry as the new Chair. Madeline, however, declined. All were in favor of Pat Alsup as the new Chair. Unanimous vote. Helen Zalewski nominated Linda Polke as Vice Chair. All were in favor of Linda Polke as Vice Chair. Unanimous vote. Pat Sienna, first motion, and Pat Alsup seconded the motion to nominate Patricia Weston as the Senior Commission Clerk. All were in favor. Unanimous vote.

Citizen Comments-

Two citizens were present. One wanted to know the procedure for canceling meetings, and how much notice is given to the Commission members. Both Mary and Joy said that there was no set procedure and that it varies. They suggested calling the Center prior to coming out for the meetings. Mary suggested that the new Chair and Vice Chair work on establishing a possible two week notification for canceled meetings. The second citizen asked if the Art class instructor set out display's in the lobby. No one knew for sure.

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Good and Welfare-
None

Misc-

James Gere said that today he is resigning from the Senior Commission because he is moving to Rocky hill, CT. He said he was glad that the Senior Center was doing well, far better than it was several years ago. He credited the improvements to Joy Hollister's leadership. He wished everyone well wishes in the future. Mary Konopka who is stepping down as Chair also thanked everyone for her six years of service.

Adjournment-

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Pat Sienna, and seconded by Claire Hickey, at 11:15 a.m. All in favor; unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Weston
Clerk