

## Senior Services Commission

December 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Anne Kaiser at 10:35 a.m.

Present:	Judy Benvenuto	Deirdre Daly	Ann Jordan
	Anne Kaiser	Pat Snow	Linda Worden

Absent:	Bonnie Sprague	Steven Falco	Mertie Terry
---------	----------------	--------------	--------------

Others: Amy Saada – Senior/Human Services Director

Paula Luna – Town Council

Al Waters – Town Council

Kathleen Cartwright – Cromwell Resident

### Approval/Amendment of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Linda Worden; seconded by Deirdre Daly. All in favor. Motion carried.

### Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022, Regular Meeting made by Linda Worden; seconded by Pat Snow. All in favor. Motion carried.

### Senior/Human Services Director's Report – Amy Saada

Amy provided grant information:

- Awarded \$2880 grant for Tai Ji Quan.
- Awaiting announcement on Community Foundation of Middlesex County Grant for new electronic Bingo machine and display board.
- Awarded 100% DOT5310 funding for a new bus (expected delivery summer 2023).

It has been a busy month. There are still several upcoming December programs:

- December 14<sup>th</sup> – Snack & Learn – signs and stages of dementia
- December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 - Drama club presentation of "Scrooge...A Comedy?"
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – Magic Lights tour at Rentschler field with dinner at Maggie McFly's; there are 2 buses for this trip and there is currently a waiting list

- December 28<sup>th</sup> – Lunch at the Hangry Goose and Fantasy of Trees at the Florence Griswold Museum; this trip is almost full
- December 30<sup>th</sup> – The Great Senior Bake Off; rules are listed in the newsletter

Amy is working with Friendship Tours and expects to have a complete list in January. There is a Florida/Bahamas cruise scheduled for October 15-22<sup>nd</sup> (8 days/7 nights for \$749) and “Spring is in the Air” lunch and show outing at the Chowder Pot on April 27<sup>th</sup> for \$74.

The transportation update shows that many of the vehicles are getting past their “useful life” (5 years or 150,000 miles, whichever comes first, per the DOT). As of November 30, 2022:

#1 – 2011 – 96,879 miles – new engine installed

#2 – 2012 – 150,632 miles – currently off the road awaiting parts

#6 – 2018 – 55,798 miles – shared vehicle with the town of Portland (available to Cromwell every 2 weeks)

#7 – 2018 – 70,605 miles

#9 – 2019 – 45,788 miles

Amy is working on FY24 budgets and will discuss it at the January meeting.

#### **Director of Public Health Update – None**

#### **Council Liaison Update – Al Waters**

There has not been a council meeting since the last Senior Services Commission meeting. The next Town Council meeting is on Wednesday.

The highway department has a full staff of mechanics, but still has issues getting parts.

Anne Kaiser asked Al if he attended “Coffee with the Mayor”. He did not, however Paula Luna did attend, as did Deirdre Daly and Pat Snow. Per Paula, there were many people in attendance. There was a lot of discussion about the new community center. A construction manager for the school project has been selected.

Paula said that Steve did a great job. The meeting was almost 2 hours long and there were lots of questions. The mayor would like to do this again.

Judy Benvenuto advised the Commission that someone mentioned the empty meeting room in the library and Steve said he will look into this.

#### **Old Business – Amy Saada**

##### **a. Community Center Discussion/Updates**

This was previously discussed during the Council Liaison update. The Town Manager was also in attendance for the "Coffee with the Mayor".

Amy will work with John Harriman to apply for grant funding through the USDA. The application deadline is February 28, 2023. There is no median income requirement. Amy said that the grant is "very broad" and could be used for land, design work, etc.

Per Deirdre Daly, the Town Manager mentioned that the Water Department has land on Coles Road. Al Waters advised that they were going to sell the land for \$350,000. The land is there and still a possibility.

- b. **Senior Vehicle Updates** – previously discussed under Human Services Director's Report

**New Business - None**

**Citizen's Comments - None**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Judy Benvenuto; seconded by Pat Snow. Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stockman  
Recording Clerk