



# 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 September 14, 2015 was called to order at 2:31 p.m. by Commissioner Novachek.

Members present: Commissioners Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Judy Novachek, Kay Visconti and Senior Center Director/Municipal Agent Lisa Plumb.

**Minutes from the meeting of June 8, 2015:** Distributed. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Commissioner Menti. All were in favor.

**Municipal Agent's Report:** Distributed by Municipal Agent Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Commissioner Visconti and seconded by Commissioner Negri. All were in favor.

**Director's Report:** Distributed by Director Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Commissioner Visconti and seconded by Commissioner Menti. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Distributed by Judy Novachek. A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Commissioner Visconti and seconded by Commissioner Menti.

**Old Business:** There was an inquiry into the plans for the new Teen Center's progress.

Director Plumb spoke again of the need for a van for the Senior Center.

**New Business:** Director Plumb stated that WiFi has been installed at the Senior Center.

There was a discussion about upcoming trips and holiday parties for 2016, increased prices for classes and new classes for the Fall.

A support group for care givers was discussed.

The condition of the rug in the hallway and card room was considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. by Commissioner Novachek. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 2015.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay H. Visconti  
Secretary, Commission on Aging

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

# **BETHEL SENIOR CENTER**

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center  
1 School Street, Bethel, CT. 06801  
Telephone: 203-792-3048; Fax: 203-744-3812

Commission on Aging  
Director's Report - 9-14-2015

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Senior Information Fair was held 6/11/15. The fair was successful and had 300+ visitors from the community. Several vendors asked to present Lunch & Learn programs at the Bethel Senior Center. The vendors were pleased with the attendance and rated our fair excellent in comparison to other similar fairs they were involved in.

The Yankee baseball game trip was filled and enjoyed by all who attended. The bus was delayed picking members up after the game and the members had to wait in the hot sun for about an hour after the game. Members were hot and some were dissatisfied having to wait, however the majority of people were understanding and patient.

The members attended several trips this summer including the Lobsterfest at Delaney House, sponsored by Friendship Ship Shop; Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun Casinos, and Westchester Dinner Theatre.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There are few spots available for trips being held the remainder of this year. Most trips have been filled and have a waiting list. The 2016 trip schedule is being completed with staff and member input. Lisa met with one tour company, has had telephone conversations with numerous tour companies and will meet with a second tour company this week. The final 2016 trip and special event schedule should be completed by the end of October.

Members enjoy attending theatre productions at the Westchester Dinner Theatre. Four (4) dinner theatre shows have been booked for 2016.

The Bethel Senior Center has 26 members going on a cruise on September 19. Three meetings have been held with the tour company. The group is scheduled to leave Saturday, 9/19/15.

As of September 2015 the prices for three classes have been increased from \$2. to \$3. per class. These classes are: Italian class, ceramics class, and creative writing class.

New classes for the Fall include: Pokeno, Wheel of Fortune, Spelling Bee, Astrology, Computer classes, Left/Right/Center, Massages, Beginning Quilting, Scrapbooking, Art class, Knitting lessons, & Therapeutic Coloring. In November we hope to be offering a new IPOD and Kindle class at the Senior Center.

The BSC had WiFi installed in July 2015. The routers are in the Social Room and the new Library. Service is also available in the hallways.

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Commission on Aging  
Municipal Agent Report - 9/14/15

- Several inquiries have been received over the summer months regarding Senior Housing. The BSC staff is working on developing a brochure that could be easily mailed out or handed out for people that are inquiring. In addition the information could be accessed on the Senior Center website.
- One woman inquired about home care services for her elderly mother who suffers from dementia. The elderly woman was visiting the senior center 2/x a week. The Director had a discussion with her daughter stating that her mother was too confused to remain at the senior center alone and that she needed a companion with her should she visit in the future. The woman was lost several times and found in the parking lot wandering.
- Several people called inquiring about assistance services. They were directed to the Department of Social Services in Danbury.
- A physical therapist called regarding a Bethel elderly resident who is homebound and needs private computer lessons in her home. The Director is attempting to get her someone to assist her.
- Regional Hospice telephoned the BSC to inquire about their patient. The woman is a Bethel resident who is in need of Medicaid services due to her being denied on several of her Medicaid bills. She was referred to the Department of Social Services, Danbury, where she could get a counselor that would assist her.
- Nursing Homes and Assisted Living facilities were telephoned inquiring about placement for a Bethel senior citizen who does not have family available to assist her. She is presently receiving 24 hour home care. The information was received and given to both the Bethel resident and her family.
- Bill Caron was referred by several people who had Medicare issues or who need to choose a prescription plan. BSC members have been very pleased with the services that Bill provides. He has been a good supporter of the BSC.
- Lisa met with several individuals over the summer counseling on a variety of issues including Medicare, Assistance programs, housing, home care, and food programs.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Plumb  
Municipal Agent

Bethel High School Community Service club has inquired to start an intergenerational club with the senior citizens. We will be starting a information technology session weekly on Wednesdays in the afternoon. We hope to offer additional programs with the students as well. The curriculum is in the planning stages.

Members have recently offered suggestions for lunches. Some would like to see more variety and hot lunches served. The staff had reserved hot lunches to the Fall and Winter months. The staff discussed their suggestions and have incorporated hot meals occasionally into the lunch schedule. In the past few weeks hot sandwiches, macaroni & cheese, pizza, quiche, and stuffed baked potatoes have been served.

In an effort to save money the Senior Center staff will be printing the newsletters in house rather than have the newsletters printed by an outside printing company. The newsletters will be copied in house for November on a trial basis to see if it is feasible to do this monthly.

The overhead metal equipment in the cafeteria that hangs low in the front corner of the room will be evaluated by the Maintenance department in the next few weeks. We have had 2 minor injuries from people hitting their head on the equipment.

Rosemary Cywin and Lisa Plumb attended the National Aging Conference in Philadelphia, PA. in July. The conference was excellent with numerous seminars that each woman attended. In addition there were numerous vendors displaying geriatric devices, equipment, etc... that were both interesting and useful to learn about. Several brochures and samples were given out and both women brought back information to the BSC.

The M & M fundraiser that the Friends of the Bethel Seniors completed was a success profiting more than \$300. The fundraiser was felt to be such a success that the fundraiser is being repeated and is currently underway for a second time.

The BSC will host a Coat Drive once again to begin in November through January 2016. The Coat Drive serves many community members who donate and others who come to take coats, etc...

The Card Room has a carpet in it that has numerous coffee spills on it. The carpet is unsightly and beginning to have an odor. The carpet is also fraying in spots. It is recommended to put easy to clean linoleum in its place.

The Bethel Senior Center office has a new desk set. The set had been donated by a company in Bethel that is undergoing a renovation.

There are 6 flu clinics scheduled at the Senior Center. The Bethel Visiting Nurse is once again offering the clinic as well as the English Apothecary.

Farmers Market coupons were received for BSC members. All of the coupons were not taken by members and had to be sent back to the State of CT. Members receive coupons at the senior

housing facilities in town. The BSC received the coupons a month after local facilities and this could possibly be the reason why members did not take advantage of the coupons.

The BSC staff is working on offering a Caregiver class. It is in the process of being developed.

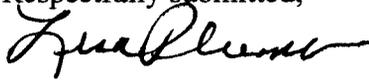
**VOLUNTEERS**

- 2 volunteers - 1 Adult; 1 student.

**ACCIDENTS**

None reported.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Plumb  
Senior Center Director