



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 January 9, 2012 was called to order at 2:40 p.m. by Commissioner Barbara Negri.

Members present: Commissioners Ann Cummings, Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Director Kathy Oles, Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen and Chairman Al Barney.

Minutes from the meeting of December 12, 2011: Distributed and accepted as read.

Municipal Agent's Report: Distributed by Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen and accepted as read.

Director's Report: Distributed by Director Kathy Oles and accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Director Kathy Oles.

Old Business: - Commissioner Cummings inquired into the status of the benches to be used by seniors waiting for buses and transportation in the back parking lot. Chairman Barney stated that it sounds like a project for him and Joe Zappala to construct. After discussion all were in agreement.

The proposed annual budget was presented by Director Oles. A discussion ensued and Chairman Barney made a motion to accept the proposed 2012/2013 budget. Commissioner Cummings seconded the motion. All were in favor.

New Business: - Chairman Barney announced Treasurer Lou Walsh's resignation. A meeting with First Selectman Knickerbocker will be upcoming to determine who will replace the commissioner's seat. Chairman Barney suggested someone with a business background. There were no other suggestions or nominations.

The 2012 Commissioner's Meeting Schedule was distributed by the secretary.

Miscellaneous (Good of the Order): None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay H. Visconti
Secretary, Commission on Aging

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Commission on the Aging

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Director's Report January 9, 2012

Our Christmas and New Years Parties were both a great success. The senior chorus was great at our Christmas party, attended by about 120 people. Christmas dinner was delicious. Our entertainer; Ron Spataro, has a great voice and can sound quite like many of our favorite singers. Michael Thomas, a member of the Creative writing class, won the Poinsettia Quilt. The New Years Party was attended by 60 people, who really enjoyed themselves and the entertainment by Bob & Josie Schmidt.

A new service has been introduced into Bethel this past Wednesday, which our Seniors and all ages can participate in. It's a Mobile Health Van that will provide work, school, and sports physicals, sick visits, immunizations, and TB testing. They will be operating every Wednesday from 9 am to 1 pm, and will be located in the rear of the Municipal Center between the two back doors.

Later on this month we will hold our first meeting to make this year's Quilt. Our annual St. Valentine's Day Party will be held on February 10th. Chris Merwin will be performing for us after lunch. He sings and plays a few different instruments, including the Steel Drums.

Our new Tai Chi class is very popular. Asking people to pay by the month or for a total number of classes is really a good idea. On March 26th, we will be starting another **It's your Life, Live it Well** 6- week workshop. There are also plans for doing a bridge workshop on Wednesday and Friday mornings in March.

On January 12th, 1,700 newsletters will be distributed, among mailings, deliveries to Bishop Curtis and Reynolds Ridge, and those picked up at the Senior Center. Visiting the Center in December, we have an average of 95 people a day. We have not started the Needs Assessment process yet. We do know that the Teen Center did not get the Steeps grant that they were looking for. They did get \$150,000 reinstated from the CT government. We will be talking to Phyllis Canski as to where to go from here.

Trips in 2012

Jan 10	Foxwoods - \$25
Jan 25-26	UConn Women's Basketball at Syracuse with Turning Stone Casino overnight - \$192
March 15	A Great Day for the Irish at Ace in the Hole - \$ 74
April 12	Crooner and Cannoli - \$ 74
June 14	George M.- Westchester Playhouse - \$ 83
June 27-July 1	Elkins, W.V. - \$ 749
July 10	Sail a Tall Ship Around Manhattan - \$ 74
Aug 16	Good Vibrations - \$88

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Oles, Director, Bethel Senior Center

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Kathleen Oles
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Kathleen Gillen

Acting Social Services Director
Municipal Agent

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street, Bethel, CT 06801
Telephone: 203-794-8537, Fax: 203-778-7520

Commission on Aging Report – January 9, 2012

December is a very busy month in my department . We had 94 families sign up for food baskets, as well as many for gifts, toys, Santa Visits etc. Fund raising is also an important part of this month. We didn't do as well as in some other years. This concerns me because utility heating customers are receiving much less toward their winter heating expenses than in the past. When the winter protection period is over, clients look to me help in keeping their service on.

Senior citizens continue to use the food pantry in pretty good numbers each month. I received enough donations

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**November and December to keep me
going for at least a few months.**

**Transportation continues to be an issue
with older residents and residents with
disabilites.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Gillen

**Kathleen gillen
Municipal Agent for the Elderly**