



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 February 13, 2012 was called to order at 2:31 p.m. by Chairman Al Barney.

Members present: Chairman Al Barney, Commissioners Ann Cummings, Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Assistant Director Heather Rogalski and Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen. Christine Rose, Editor for the Bethel Patch sat in observance.

Minutes from the meeting of January 9, 2012: Distributed. A motion was made by Commissioner Negri to accept the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Cummings. All were in favor.

Municipal Agent's Report: Distributed by Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Commissioner Menti. All were in favor.

Director's Report: Distributed by Assistant Director Heather Rogalski. A motion to accept the report was made by Commissioner Negri and seconded by Commissioner Menti. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: None.

Old Business: - Chairman Barney stated that there is no word from the Selectman's office regarding the resignation of Treasurer Lou Walsh. He asked if there was any interest among the commissioners for the position. There were none.

Chairman Barney brought up the proposed annual budget that was presented last month and asked for input regarding modification. A discussion ensued and there were no suggestions for modification.

Commissioner Cummings inquired about the benches for the back parking lot. Chairman Barney stated that he was working on the plans.

Commissioner Cummings mentioned the idea of opening a thrift shop at the senior center that had been previously discussed. Chairman Barney stated that we are still waiting to see if we get space for such a project (needs assessment).

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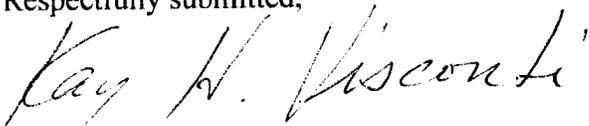
TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

New Business: - Chairman Barney stated that Director Kathy Oles has announced to the first selectman that she will be retiring the first week in August. He said that the hiring process for the job will begin once it is posted. "Those will be big shoes to fill." Assistant Director Rogalski stated that we will be looking for a new craft class instructor.

Miscellaneous (Good of the Order): None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kay H. Visconti". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Kay H. Visconti
Secretary, Commission on Aging



Commission on the Aging

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Director's Report February 13, 2012

January was very quiet. We had very nice weather and no snow days. On January 10, it was a great day to go to Foxwoods and just get out of the house. At the end of the month, seven Seniors went on an overnight trip to watch the UConn women play basketball. They all had a "ball". On January 12, Adele Moros had here annual "Hanging Party". About 30 people attended, and their art work is hanging throughout the Municipal Center building.

Our Quilting Class had its first meeting on January 26. We will probably have about 14 seniors working on this latest quilt, which will feature the Connecticut shore line. We also had our first meeting for this year's show. We will be singing and dancing to music from the movies. It's going to be great fun. All of our classes, including our tap and tai chi (the students love their new teachers), are doing great.

We had massage school students come on February 3 and give free 10-minute massages to our Seniors for two hours. It was great. Everyone who took advantage of the program agreed the students did a terrific job. Our annual St. Valentine's Day Party was held on February 10. Everyone seemed to enjoy the meal, and Chris Merwin's performance was entertaining, if a little too talky. He sings and plays the guitar and the steel drums. We will work on getting someone who can play more line dances for the next party.

A two-week bridge workshop will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons starting on March 6. We will be going to Ace In the Hole for a St. Patrick's celebration on March 15. On Monday, March 26, we will be starting another **It's Your Life, Live it Well** 6-week workshop.

On January 12, 1,700 newsletters were distributed, among mailings, deliveries to Bishop Curtis and Reynolds Ridge, and those picked up at the Senior Center. Visiting the Center in January, we had an average of 99 people a day. We have not started the Needs Assessment process yet.

Also, I wanted to tell all of you that I will be retiring the first week in August. My time at the Bethel Senior Center has been filled with joy and love, and I will miss everyone. But it is time for Mike and I to spend more time with my growing families, while they still want us.

Trips in 2012

March 15	A Great Day for the Irish at Ace in the Hole - \$ 74
April 12	Crooners 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
Heather Rogalski, Assistant Director, Bethel Senior Center

**Commission on Aging Report –
February 13, 2012**

We were pleased to learn that more money for utility heating customers was released by the state legislature the week after Xmas. Most CL&P and Yankeegas customers will receive between \$315 and \$395 toward their winter heating expenses. This is better than the \$140 they were originally going to receive.

I published the newer expanded income limits for SNAP benefits in this month's newsletter and

**am already getting calls from
seniors for help in applying for
them. I think I'll be doing a lot of
them this Spring.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Gillen

**Kathleen Gillen
Bethel Municipal Agent for the
Elderly**