



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 May 14, 2012 was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Chairman Al Barney.

Members present: Commissioners Al Barney, Ann Cummings, Mary Menti, Barbara Negri, Assistant Director Heather Rogalski and Municipal Agent Kathleen Gillen.

Minutes from the meeting of April 9, 2012: Distributed and accepted as read.

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

Director's Report: Distributed by Assistant Director Heather Rogalski and accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: None.

Old Business: - Chairman Barney announced that Director Oles has prepared and distributed a job write-up to be posted for her Senior Citizen Director/Municipal Agent's position. Assistant Director Rogalski stated that it will be posted "in house" first. There will be more job descriptions available at the Human Resources Department.

Regarding the budget, Chairman Barney announced that the budget voting will take place on Thursday, May 17, 2012.

Commissioner Cummings asked about the bench for the seniors to use while waiting for the bus trips, etc. Chairman Barney stated that it is still in the planning stage.

New Business: - None.

Miscellaneous (Good of the Order): None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on Monday, June 11, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay H. Visconti
Secretary, Commission on Aging

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TOWN CLERK



Commission on the Aging

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Director's Report, May 14, 2012

The AARP Tax Aide Program was very successful this year with over 150 seniors being helped with preparing their taxes. We must thank Paul Kempf and his volunteer staff for all their time and effort. AARP also held a safe driving class on April 10. Twenty-three Seniors participated in this four-hour session. Ana and I completed our six-week class, **It's Your Life, Live it Well**. We both feel that the five people who completed the course will be able to use the skills that we taught them to better their lives.

On April 17, we went to Hoboken, N.J., on a trip called Crooners and Cannoli. It was OK but not the best trip we have been on. We also went to Mohegan Sun on April 24. It was a beautiful day and we got a free buffet. Here at the Center, we had a visit from Thomas Murphy, an elder law attorney. Also, Maplewood of Danbury brought their cook over and he made a delicious flaming dessert for our Thursday lunch crowd. We also had a very successful Volunteer Tea. We had entertainment from Bethel High School students, lots of goodies to eat, and purple bags for all the volunteers.

Our Senior show, "That's Entertainment," will be performed twice on June 8. Everyone has been working hard getting their songs ready and the choir really sounds great. Lucille Lividini and Judy Novachek work very well together. We have about a month to go and everything is going well. You know we just need practice, practice, practice. Cost of the show tickets will be \$5.

We had 19 people signed up for our new Balance class that started this past Friday and will run for 8 weeks; we were pleased that more than twice that many people show up for the first session. Many participants reported feeling great after the class. Eileen Byrnes will teach the class and we are not charging for this first set of classes. On Saturday, May 5, we had 25 vendors participate in our largest ever Tag Sale. On May 17 we will be traveling to the Platz Brauhaus in Pamon, N.Y., to the Lobsterfest.

In April, 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 April, we had an average of 106 people a day. The next AARP Driving class is on June 19. We know that the stove was left in our budget. We will also get our new picture TV installed on May 16.

Upcoming Trips in 2012

May 17	Lobster Fest at Platz Brauhaus - \$69
June 14	George M.- Westchester Playhouse - \$ 83
July 10	Sail a Tall Ship Around Manhattan - \$ 74
June 28	Foxwoods - \$25
Aug. 16	Good Vibrations - \$88
Oct 14-18	Virginia Beach-King Neptune's USO Show - \$884 pp double, \$1084 single

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Oles, Director, Bethel Senior Center
Heather Rogalski, Assistant Director, Bethel Senior Center

Commission on Aging Report – May 14,
2012

Winter Protection period for the utility companies has ended for the season. Even though the amounts granted toward winter heating costs were less than in previous years, I haven't yet heard from many seniors that they are in danger of losing service.

The postal workers food drive was this Saturday. The food they collected is stored in the Brotherhood in Action warehouse and I will have access to it during the summer. This is when donations are low.

City water bills were due last week and some customers face shutoff. I've been

able to help a few with my emergency funds. One was an older woman on a fixed income.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gillen

Kathleen Gillen
Municipal agent for the Elderly