



# 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 13, 2013 was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Chairman Al Barney.

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

**Minutes from the meeting of April 8, 2013:** Distributed. A motion to accept the report was made by Treasurer Novachek and seconded by Commissioner Negri. All were in favor.

**Municipal Agent's Report:** Distributed by Municipal Agent Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report was made by Chairman Barney and seconded by Commissioner Menti. All were in favor.

**Director's Report:** Distributed by Director Lisa Plumb. A motion to accept the report was made by Treasurer Novachek and seconded by Commissioner Negri. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Distributed by Treasurer Novachek. A discussion followed. A motion to accept the report was made by Chairman Barney and seconded by Commissioner Negri. All were in favor.

**Old Business:** Treasurer Novachek asked if the blinds had been fixed. Director Plumb stated that they had been fixed but are broken again and that she will be in contact with the company that installed the blinds.

- Director Plumb stated that there were some complaints regarding the Judy Garland show at the Aqua Turf. Two days later a letter of apology was received from the Aqua Turf stating that they were very embarrassed by the performance, they apologized, it was not up to their standards and they realized how many people were disappointed with the show. Treasurer Novachek stated that an apology is not enough if the show was that bad and that they should be reimbursing the seniors for the entertainment portion of that day. Director Plumb said that she would follow up with another letter.

- Commissioner Negri inquired if anyone could use the new exercise equipment given to the Senior Center from the Park & Recreation staff. Director Plumb told her that people will need to be trained, sign a waiver and there will be supervision. They also must be a registered member of the Senior Center. The equipment will not be available until June.

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

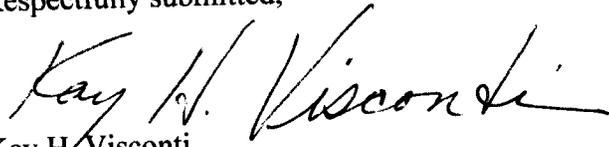
**New Business:** - Director Plumb stated that she is getting calls asking if the Senior Center provides transportation to doctor's appointments, etc. She stated that there is really nothing in Bethel that we have for the seniors other than the SweetHART bus. She commented that some people don't know how to use the public transportation and therefore has set up a "ride the bus" day on May 23, at 11:30 a.m. There will be a presentation by HART explaining the routes and prices and then all will ride together on the bus and get familiar with the routes, etc. Other options are taxi, Veteran's service, Ann's Place or the Cancer Society. Director Plumb said that there are people in the community that have said to her, "I'd love to volunteer, are there any opportunities to volunteer, to drive people to and from, etc?" Treasurer Novachek suggested that the COA look into reinstating Friends in Service Here (FISH). Chairman Barney stated that FISH "sounds like an answer to the need." After more discussion, Director Plumb stated that "she would look into it." "My real desire is to have some kind of transportation here in the Town of Bethel that the Senior Center, own, rent or lease or something like a van." She stated "that's down the road but I would really like to look at that." Chairman Barney suggested a campaign to get donations. "I think people would respond to a transportation need for the seniors." Director Plumb stated that there are fund raisers out there that we could do and it is something to look at. She also suggested a holiday party, perhaps at the Amber Room, for all the Senior Centers to attend and we would organize it, the seniors would enjoy it and we would get the profit from it. A lively discussion ensued.

- Treasurer Novachek stated that she would like to discuss starting up an outreach program for the new people that are moving into the community. "You don't have to be old to be at the Senior Center." A discussion continued.

**Miscellaneous (Good of the Order):** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. by Chairman Barney. Next scheduled meeting is 2:30 p.m. on **Monday, June 10, 2013.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay H. Visconti  
Secretary, Commission on Aging

# **BETHEL SENIOR CENTER**

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

## **MUNICIPAL AGENT REPORT**

**5/13/13**

1. Several requests and/or inquiries for transportation for seniors or disabled persons.
2. Have an appointment to meet with a member concerning special programs for low income including SNAP (nutrition program).\_
3. Lisa taking a second Choices course through the Western CT Area Agency on Aging.

*Lisa Rumb*

5-10-13

# BETHEL SENIOR CENTER

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1 School Street, Bethel, CT. 06801  
Telephone: 203-792-3048; Fax: 203-744-3812

## Report to the Commission on Aging Bethel, CT.

Date: 5-10-13

### OLD BUSINESS

- The Card Party date has been changed. The new date is Friday, June 28 at 7 pm.
  - The stove has been delivered. The old stove was removed. When the new stove was delivered it was not able to be hooked up because a certified plumber needed to be hired. The plumber came the next day and the stove was hooked up. It is working beautifully and is much safer to operate.
  - New Programs are doing well. The new Balance class started in May. It was started because of frequent requests by members to initiate it again. The first class had 11 participants.  
Zumba Gold in the Afternoon had 0 participants, the class was cancelled. Four members showed up the second week. The class is back on the calendar.  
Ballroom Dance for One was cancelled. One member participated the first week and felt uncomfortable to participate by himself. The program will be advertised with a new name (Dancercize), description, and time, to see if members are interested.  
Set Back is averaging 6-8 participants weekly; Line Dancing is averaging 9 -10; Muscles and Motion is averaging 7 participants.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Dr. Smith, the Superintendent of Schools, met with the seniors on Friday, May 3 to discuss the budget. There was a question and answer period. The seniors were impressed by the awards and recognition the school programs have received for their accomplishments. The proposed budget is requesting a new Reading Specialist. Dr. Smith would like to see the seniors involved in the school system to assist the children reading.
- May is National Older American's month. We have a slide show running continuously showing our members participating in a suggested activity from the National Council on Aging which is displaying their opinion to the statement, "I believe Older Americans...".
- Special programs are planned for the month of May to celebrate Older American's month which are: Coffee House: Storytelling, Poetry and Creative Writing; a Photography contest; and a display of the Creative Writing group's work.
- A program is planned with the HART Bus Company to educate members how to ride the bus and to take a bus ride together on May 23.
- New exercise equipment was given to the Senior Center from the Park & Recreation staff. The Selectman agreed to have the equipment professionally moved. The equipment

is in the cafeteria. A plan is being put in place to have a Circuit Training class and Personal Trainers for members to participate. A Waiver is being reviewed by the Selectman and the town lawyer to be used by anyone participating in the exercise equipment program.

- There is a new Ceramic Instructor. A member who has been a participant in the Senior Center Ceramic program for years was hired as the new instructor. Lisa (Director) and several members of the ceramic program will be taking a trip to Newburgh to purchase supplies on Monday, 5/13. The second ceramic room has been cleaned and organized. The kiln is broken. The supplier has been contacted and ordered the part necessary to repair the kiln vent.
- The Gardening Leadership Project between Rockwell and Berry School and the Senior Center will take place on Wed., May 15. 22 children and teachers / Supervisors will visit to plant flowers around the picnic table in the back of the building near the Senior Center entrance.
- We had 30 members attend the Cinco de Mayo lunch; 28 attended the Mother's Day lunch.

○ **Upcoming Special Events / Programs**

BBQ to celebrate Older Americans Month, Billy Michael performs - Friday, May 17

Bus Ride and Training - Thursday, May 23.

School Concert & Pizza lunch, 5/31.

AARP Safe Driving Course- Thurs., June 13.

Picnic at Bennett Park - Friday, June 14.

○ **Upcoming trips for BSC:**

May 7 - Duprees at the Aqua Turf.

June 4 - Foxwood Casino.

Yankees Game, 8/15.

**Attendance:**

**Average attendance per week** - 4/8- 4/12 = 504; 4/15-4/19 = 424; 4/22 -4/26 = 487; 4/29 - 5/3 = 456. Averaging 467 /weekly.

**Accidents / Incidents**

None to report.

Respectfully Submitted By: 

**Lisa Plumb, Senior Center Director**