



COMMISSION ON AGING

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 792-3048

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DEC 12 2007

**TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK**

COMMISSION ON AGING

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by the Chairman.

MEETING MINUTES (taken by Shirley Dann)
Dec. 10, 2007

IN ATTENDANCE Al Barney (Chairman), Shirley Dann, Jim Newell, Gail Hilton, Kathy Oles (Director), Mary O'Leary, Kathleen Gillen

Minutes of last meeting distributed.

1. Minutes accepted as read.
2. Municipal Agents Report-read and accepted.
3. Report, Director, Bethel Senior Center- Report read and accepted
The search for a new Assistant Director has been unsuccessful. The position will be re-advertised in January.
4. Report - Treasurer's report read and accepted.
5. Old business - The senior needs survey conducted by Brookfield was distributed to all for inspiration and review.
- Regarding guest lecturers a rabbi will address the World Religion class. All are welcome.
6. New business - The 2008 meeting schedule was distributed and reviewed. Treasurer's report will be combined for Nov. & Dec.
= The budget will be discussed at the Jan. meeting. The emphasis will be on carpeting for the hallways.
7. Miscellaneous (good of the order)- None

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 P.M. by the Chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Barney

Carol Barney

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Commission on Aging Report – December 10, 2007

I have been extremely busy with holiday food and gift programs. We are attempting to get each senior citizen who requests a food delivery for the Xmas holiday a gift card to a local store as well. I decided to go this route instead of buying gifts for each individual. This way I won't get so many returns in January. Also I have been assisting seniors who heat with oil to get certified for the Low Income Heating Assistance program. I am concerned because the grant amounts have not increased, but the price of oil certainly has. In January I will begin taking applications from those who heat with utilities.

Areas that I have noticed an increase in need this year are help with dental expenses and with hearing aids. I was able to help some older residents with these expenses with funds from the Community Council of Bethel. But the need is overwhelming and our funds are very limited.

I have also noticed an increase in the number of older residents who are living on home equity credit lines or reverse mortgages. Although the number of evictions I have had to oversee this year has increased exponentially, only a few have involved senior citizens so far.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathleen Gillen
Municipal Agent for the Elderly



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Commissioners' Report December 2007

Our annual craft fair held on November 16th and 17th was very successful. We sold about 200 hot dogs and 80 homemade pumpkin or apple pies. The white elephant was the most profitable that we've had since the start of the craft fairs. On November 29th fifty seniors went down to New York City to Cirque du Soleil. It was very entertaining but I think everyone enjoyed the French restaurant even more. On the next day, we had a very successful Bingo party. Bob Mele performed a holiday medley of songs and everybody really enjoyed his performance. After lunch we played Bingo for Bethel Food gift certificates.

Meanwhile at the Senior Center we still have not hired a replacement for Donna. This is keeping the three Senior Center personnel and a few of our volunteers very busy. We still do not have our air conditioning but we do have new rugs in the Library and craft room. We had a two part elder law series on November 8th and 15th. On the second day Attorney Fowler-Cruz gave many seniors twenty minutes of free advise. We've had several people come to the center with questions regarding Part D. The prices for the insurance have gone up almost double compared to 2006 prices.

Coming up on December 14th we will be raffling off the quilt and having our annual Christmas party. The Bethel High school chorus and the Bethel Senior chorus will sing before lunch. Peter Piolo, DJ will be entertaining us after lunch. On the 20th the World Religion class will host a special guest Rabbi to discuss Judaism.

The average number of people per day for the month of November was 119. We mailed out over 1150 newsletters and distributed another 500 by hand. Everyone here at the Bethel Senior center wishes you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Trips:

Dec.19, 2007	Mohegan Sun	\$20
Jan 15, 16, 2008	UConn Basketball	\$163
Mar. 4-5, 2008	Philadelphia Flower Show	\$199 & up
April 16, 2008	"Buddy The Buddy Holly Story"	\$75
May 19 th	Springfield International Tattoo	\$74
Nov. 6, 2008	"The Producers"	\$75

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Oles - Director, Bethel Senior Center

Bethel Senior Center 2007-2008 Fiscal Year

Prepared By: _____
Approved By: 11/30/07

Acct #	Budget	5 Months Expended	Unexpended Balance	% Unexpended
101 CENTER DIRECTOR	40750	17240	23510	58%
105 ASST DIRECTOR	38116	12108	26008	68%
109 LONGEVITY	0	300	-300	0
201 OFFICE EXPENSE	7500	3934	3516	47%
301 DUES & EDUCATION	1500	195	1305	87%
304 MILEAGE	650	261	389	60%
317 ACTIVITIES	29500	10231	19269	65%
403 CAPITAL EQUIP	7500	1702	5798	77%
	125576	46021	79495	63%
	NOV	YTD		
ART	360	945		
BINGO	125	225		
CERAMICS	1578	2335		
CHORAL GROUP	210	210		
COFFEE SERVICE		172		
COMCAST	306	602		
COMPUTER		250		
CRAFTS	67	233		
CREATIVE WRITING	20	200		
ENTERTAINMENT	150	525		
ITALIAN CLASSES	140	560		
LINE DANCING		420		
NEWSLETTER	210	1070		
OFFICE SUPPLIES	100	276		
PAPER PARTY SUP.	286	286		
POSTAGE		41		
POSTMASTER	200	1395		
PRINTING	268	1318		
SENIORCIZE				
SPANISH CLASSES	225	525		
SQUARE DANCING	165	555		
SUBSCRIPTIONS		317		
TAI CHI	270	420		
TAP DANCING	180	180		
WATER	62	222		
YOGA	82			
MISC	504	1039		
	314			
	29			
Total	5861	14221		

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