

WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING, INC.
September 20, 2024
MINUTES OF MEETING

ATTENDANCE: Steve Allinson, Erin Ambler, Anne Bernick, Evangeline Bourgeois, Rosemary DeAngelis, Rocco DiGenova, George Duffy, Tom Finn, Alberta Flynn, Ronald Graziani, Audrey Grove, Glenn Havumaki, Joann Hummel and Bill Viola

EXCUSED: Jane Fisher, Susan Gomes, Tara Knapp and Karin Pyskaty

ABSENT:

Vice President Rocco DiGenova called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Vice President Rocco DiGenova asked if there were any additions or corrections to the July 19, 2024 Secretary's Report.

Alberta Flynn made a motion to accept the July Secretary's Report. Glenn Havumaki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

July and August 2024 Operating Account Reports

Treasurer George Duffy reported on the two months ending August 31, 2024. Receipts are \$175,615 which is \$230 above the budgeted amount of \$175,385. Expenditures are \$178,101 which is \$2,717 over the budgeted amount. All of this results in a net negative of \$2,487. This is a timing issue and will work out over time.

Anne Bernick made a motion to accept the July and August Operating Account Reports. Steve Allison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

July and August 2024 Program Account Report

Program Director Erin Ambler reported that things are plugging along. Club 60+ now has 371 members. There were 1,587 swipes in August for SilverSneakers or Renew Active, resulting in a check for just over \$3,000. Also received commission for an overseas trip with Collette Tours for \$3,272.

Evangeline Bourgeois made a motion to accept the July and August Program Account Reports. Rosemary DeAngelis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Rocco DiGenova asked that the Consent Agenda be accepted.

George Duffy made a motion to accept the July and August Consent Agendas. Glenn Havumaki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 9/20/24
AT 11:55am AND RECEIVED BY
Mike Pango (US) TOWN CLERK

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director

Executive Director William Viola shared a letter from a member that was sent to Joann Hummel, the Social Services Coordinator thanking her for her help. It's rewarding to be able to help people. A lot has happened since the last meeting in July. One of the projects that was finished was the fence in the back which hopefully, will last another 20 years. Looks good and it's nice to see the lake view. Also, received a great offer from NuStep, to replace three T5 machines we have in Club 60 which are 9 years old. There is no longer support for the machines and it will be hard getting parts. We received \$1,500 credit towards each new machine but NuStep didn't want the old machines back. Contacted Advantage Fitness that does our quarterly maintenance and they took the old machines and they gave us a \$1,000 credit towards an almost new recumbent bike. Nice improvement for Club 60. Had some intermittent problems with the lifts on the buses, so ED sent each of them to Advanced Wheels in West Haven and also had them washed. After a transportation staff meeting, all transportation staff had training for the proper use of the wheelchair securement system, as suggested by our insurance company. Our auditor had recommended we only keep \$250,000 in any bank for FDIC coverage, so we moved money around and opened new accounts. We are substantially better off now. Added new advertiser to the PrimeTimes, which will begin in October. This will help with the costs for production and printing of the monthly newsletter. Have experienced issues with our custodial company again, this time the dumpster was not being emptied, causing trash to overflow. Also, supplies were not being provided to the custodian, Rosy. This has caused weeks of anxiety for us and also SCOW, who is having the same issues with them. Erin will share some of the great success we've had with programs but I want to express my appreciation to her and Alyson's hard work on these big programs.

Program Director

Program Director Erin Ambler reported that the sign out front is looking good and she feels it was money well spent. It has been so helpful because it has a lot of options to use. Entertainers really like seeing their name in lights and sometimes their picture. It's a learning curve with what colors to use, etc. Alyson is doing a great job and learning a lot about it. We have been very fortunate with the weather recently for our events, like cruise night. Had the most cars we ever had and it was overall a great event. Tag sale was great and all vendors made money. We made over \$1,000 after advertising. It was really fun. Reviewed other events. Tried a couple new things along with the new equipment in Club 60+ to show appreciation to our members and encourage others to join as well. Utilized volunteers recently to help clean out the closet in the Activity Room. While it took all day, we found a treasure in the closet - pictures and info of the very first Senior Center from 1974 to 1984. Its out in the front after walking for everyone to peruse. Night Out with WPD was a great night out.

Social Services

Joann Hummel complimented the support group we are doing on Fridays. Honored to be a part of it and work side by side with the woman that runs it. The beauty of our support work is it lasts longer than the usual six weeks and most people aren't over what they're dealing with by then. It's a beautiful group of people and we're doing great work. So grateful to have the board's support. Affordable housing continues to be a big issue. On September 25th there will be a meeting here with four guest speakers to discuss affordable housing in the community. A representative from Luther Ridge Congregate Living in Middletown will talk about their facility which is like a dorm setting with its own bedroom/bathroom and public areas for meals and activities. There is nothing similar in Wallingford. Also, someone from Silver Pond (Carrabeta) will be there. Contemporary Tiny Homes will be there, as well. They will build on properties that are already owned, similar to an in-law apartment. In Wallingford, you cannot have a second home on one property but can if it

is attached. Should be very interesting and everyone is invited. The mayor is listening to the issue which is good. Food share is twice a month and going well. Very proud of that. Having about 120 – 140 people and they love it here. Medicare enrollment is coming up and will be very busy meeting with people for that. Fuel assistance is starting October 23rd and New Opportunity bill be here on Wednesdays every week.

OLD BUSINESS

Grants Review

Exhausted the funding from the AASCC grant and Town ARPA funds have a balance of \$14,000 after the original \$25,000. Called the town to see if additional funds were available but there isn't and also found out we have to use the money by the end of October. Current plan is to pre-pay the therapist for future services and it should carry us through a year. Will give ED time to look for additional funding for support groups.

Annual Audit and 990 Drafts Review and Approval

ED emailed the board the draft for the audit and 990. Heard from Jane Fisher who reviewed it and said it was fine; Sue Gomes also had a question about the 990 which was checked with the auditor. Would like a vote of approval in anticipation of Tom Roy coming to the next board meeting.

Rosemary DeAngelis made a motion to accept the draft audit and 990 as presented. Audrey Grove seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Long Range Planning Committee – LRP Review

The LRP Committee met and ED was happy to report that we've meet 88% of our goals. Getting the information about the center out to the community is one of the big goals and also, creating more interest in the senior center. Erin came to the meeting prepared with her own long-range goals which was good.

NEW BUSINESS

Rosemary DeAngelis mentioned that she would like to go to SCOW to learn what they do. She mentioned maybe having a board meeting there or possibly going after a meeting. ED will talk to Adrianna about this.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Alberta Flynn made the motion to adjourn. Anne Bernick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Beth H. Johnson
Administrative Assistant