

## COMMISSION FOR SENIOR SERVICES MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17, 2014

WESTPORT TOWN HALL

### Attendance:

CSS Members: Howard Maynard, Stan Nayer, Teri Klein, Michael Stashower, Jo Fuchs Luscombe, and Janet Filling

Guest: Cheryl McKenna, League of Women Voters

Staff: Barbara Butler, DHS Director and Susan Pfister, Director of the Westport Center for Senior Activities

Minutes: Minutes of May 16 and recap of September 19<sup>th</sup> CSS Annual Meeting approved.

New Business: Baron's South Senior Housing Update: The meeting of the Baron's South Committee for October has been cancelled. Barbara Butler reported that First Selectman, Jim Marpe needs time to review alternatives proposed by the developer. The meeting will be rescheduled in the next few weeks. "We are hoping for some acceptable compromise."

Proposed Compo Beach Plan: The Parks and Recreation Commission is currently reviewing the proposed plans which met with a very large opposition from the community at a recent "standing room only" open meeting at Town Hall.

Old Business: ITN Coastal CT Senior Transportation: Recent Fundraiser held at Pequot Library. Need for rides continue to increase. Money raised may support purchase of a vehicle for the program. Need continues for volunteer riders. Communication about the program has to be balanced with growing need.

Citizen Transit Committee update: There was no report at this time.

The Center for Senior Activities continues to be very busy. There was a large turnout for the fall programs.

Energy Assistance program. Susan Stefenson is very busy. She is booked to the middle of November taking appointments.

Kristen Witt will be taking Sue Lebrija's place two days a week. She has previous experience at the Fairfield Social Services Department. Medicaid issues referred to the Center for Senior Activities and Choices volunteers. The "New Perspectives" edited by Sue Lebrija was very well received.

Committee Reports: Senior Center and Planning Board. Baron's south still on the agenda. Need to move forward. New chef from Creative Culinary at the Center.

Friends of the Center for Senior Activities: AT&T cultural programs are well attended. A raised stage has been purchased for the Center for senior Activities.

Southwester CT Area Agency of Aging (SWCAA) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrated. New Directory of Resources published.

Housing – The Saugatuck: The Town is supervising installation of the new roof which is now underway.

CSS Mission Statement and By-Laws: These were discussed in detail. Janet Filling said that she would like the Commission to be more pro-active. Howard Maynard asked how do we accomplish this and what are we accomplishing?

Suggestion of perhaps holding a Community Outreach Forum to access needs of Seniors in an informal Q and A session. Request made to change wording of “elderly” to “seniors.”

Stan requested that comments regarding changes in the Mission Statement be emailed to him.

Meeting adjourned

Submitted by Teri Klein