

**Commission on Aging
Annual Meeting
Wednesday September 2, 2009
Greenwich Senior Center**

Present: Karen LaMonica, Lori Jackson, Chip Serrell, Kristen Browne, Sam Deibler, Catherine Brennan, Jim Dougherty

Guests: Laurette Helmrich, Adm. Sr. Center; Gerry Christophersen, Greats; Cristina Pica; Christine Edwards, Jr. League Task Force, RTM; Ann Hagmann, GADC; Joan Yankowski; Ruth Wilson, Greats; Marva Savarian, Senior Center Chef; Doris Katzan; Edward Lutz; Judy Stoddard, LCSW; ? Diejenbach

I. Approval of July 8, 2009 Minutes:

Approved.

II. Chairman's Report:

Training session scheduled for 9/10/09. This is an opportunity for the Commission to look at the bigger picture of what the goals and needs are of seniors. There is a need to have a sense of where the Commission needs to go next. The Commission's priorities need to be identified. Currently there is a strategic plan in place.

III. Old Business: No old business to report on.

IV. New Business:

Senior Center staffing... Gary Weiss, custodian of 35 years retired. Offer being made to potential replacement. Currently there are 2 part time custodians. This service will now be under auspices of A. Minelli and there will be more coverage including after hours. A request has been made for the Program Coordinator position to be extended to full time. Kitchen staff positions reviewed and need for more regular coverage from those with appropriate certification. Discussion of study results which included recommendation for expanding food service program. Consideration still being given to Morrison Food Services.

V. Reports:

- **Senior Center Business Plan Guidelines:** Will adapt model of taking a look at broader issues in the community and put the work of the COA in the context of the community at this time. Will be looking at the future and the influx of baby boomer needs in addition to the past, present and anticipated challenges in the future.
- **Elderly Tax Relief:** Meetings of the working group have been held. Review of deferring a dollar amount of \$1,000-2,500 of tax each year with no cap on the deferral. Consensus for a Sunset Provision for deferral to see how it is going. There is a 60K income cap. People will be given a choice between the credit and deferral program if they qualify for both. With the deferral program there would be a lien on one's house. To go before RTM and BET.
- **Multipurpose Senior Center:** Working towards moving forward with the 501c3. Will be meeting in October.
- **Nathaniel Witherell:** Minutes distributed and reviewed.

- **Senior Center Director's Report:** The Senior Center had a wonderful summer! Had a very successful lecture series which was held as a result of the survey. Viva Pop is complete and up and running. Tremendous response to the Tai Chi class with requests for a second class. A second class will be offered at 5:15pm and will begin in October. Along Judy Stoddard, LCSW-membership will be reviewed for appropriateness of participation in Senior Center. Some may be more appropriate for another setting due to cognitive/physical limitations. Formal guidelines have been developed for participation at the Senior Center.

VI. Meeting Adjourned..

**Submitted by,
Kristen N. Browne
Secretary**