

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, January 17, 2008

Present: Jane-Helen Ross, Donna Mattison, Kathy Bagley, Gerry Seklecki, Maribeth Dwane, Joe Mehan, Caroline Tedone, Estelle Knurek, Bertha Keenan, Nancy Stilwell

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.

Brian Rarey, Project Director of ITN, Middlesex County gave a presentation on the Independent Transportation Network (ITN) that will include Wethersfield later this year. He explained how the program works, what the costs will be, funding sources, etc and answered questions about the program. He left information to be shared with anyone who is interested.

Minutes: There was no December meeting and as there was no quorum in November, the Committee approved [the minutes from October](#) as written.

Old Business:

Joe Mehan provided an update on the Emergency Preparedness program to be presented on May 8, 2008 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. He has been working to get a sponsor and has had a positive response from CTC products in California. They will send kits and Joe will finalize the arrangements with them. The four topics for the program will include:

1. Financial first aid (what to bring or have ready depending on whether you are sheltered at home or in a communal facility)
2. Shelters (where they are, what to expect, when to come, etc)
3. Specific preparations for people with Special Needs in an emergency
4. Caring for pets in an emergency

Donna Mattison requested a budget allocation to cover printing of emergency preparedness material and other miscellaneous items for the event. The committee voted to spend up to \$300 for the event including printing.

New Business: None

Reports:

- Council - no report
- Wethersfield Housing Authority - no report
- Clergy - no report
- AARP - There was no January meeting. A February meeting is planned and will include entertainment
- Elderly Service - coupons are available (2 per household) to convert analog TV's to digital so that seniors will have service when the conversion is completed next February (2009).
- WACPD - The annual meeting on transportation was held on 1/16/08. Most people are satisfied with Dial-a-Ride services. Most complaints were related to old vehicles used by Ambassador that are sometimes in very poor condition. Mention was made of some vehicles that do not have enough hand holds or railings to steady riders as they move on or off the vehicles.
- Seniors Club - A successful Christmas Banquet was held. The club donated money to Safe Graduation and to the Channel 3 Camp Fund. They also gave gifts to the building's janitors who are always helpful. They will be

having a Valentine Party in February.

- Social Services - the Prom Shop will take place on February 6th. Donations of gently used prom gowns and accessories will be accepted at Social and Youth Services or at the high school prior to February 6th.

Donna Mattison passed out literature on Independence Unlimited - an advocacy program for people with disabilities. She also talked about the Triad Program which was presented at a previous meeting. SeniorNet of Wethersfield now has its own website.

Finally, Kathy Bagley provided an update on construction at the Community Center and at Town Hall. It is anticipated that the gym and activity rooms will be completed sometime in June. Construction in these areas is currently on target.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stilwell, Ph.D.
Director, Social and Youth Services