

## SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Minutes

April 15, 2004

Present: Jane Helen Ross, Mary Pezzlo, Janet Kieft, Betty Smith, John Cascio, Grace Piencikowski, Sue Miller, Estelle Knurek, Mary Thibeault (for Kathy Bagley), Christine Taylor, Nancy Stilwell, Donna Mattison, Kitch Breen Czernicki

Absent: Kathi Liberman, Adele Antoniou, Marion Conroy, Clergy

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 by Chairwoman, Janet Kieft. The [minutes of the last meeting](#) were amended to indicate the Chair's report to the Town Council concerned the Advisory Committee goals. Motion to accept the amended minutes by Jane Helen Ross and second by Estelle Knurek.

Chair: Correspondence to Kathy Bagley concerning the loss of revenue to the Advisory Committee as James Dwire will not participate in the Wethersfield Glass Show. This is a projected income loss of \$650.00. Janet also indicated the possibility of a decrease in town contributions to organizations for fiscal 04-05. Funds to the Senior Advisory Committee are used for publicity.

Old Business: Discussion around the possibility of a cookbook continued. Example cookbooks were viewed and the type of cookbook, recipe and story, were discussed. The Chair indicated concerns about timing, workload and volunteer hours needed to get a new cookbook to the market. Councilor Cascio mentioned the possibility of having the Wethersfield High School graphics department do typeset and printing of a cookbook. It was decided the Committee needed additional information in order to come to a decision. John Cascio and Christine Taylor will provide additional information at the May meeting.

New Business: None

Reports: Christine Taylor, Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent for the Elderly, reported about subsidized assisted living project in Hartford, adjacent to Hartford Hospital including 100 units for 97 people and 3 caregivers. The Retreat, as it will be known, will break ground in September. Christine discussed information concerning asset limits and notification of inclusion for ConnPace and information on discount medical cards. She also offered some information on increased rates for medical assistance for those with chronic illness. She circulated information sheets on a few of the topics. Christine indicated there would be a program on May 11, 2004, at the Pitkin Community Center at 1:00 p.m. on changes in Medicare and followed by a program on Fall Prevention. Both programs are free of charge.

Senior Club: Grace Piencikowski reported the Club's honoring 30 outstanding volunteers with a luncheon and that the Club is preparing for the annual Spring Banquet in June.

Social Services: Nancy Stilwell reported on some small problems with the Dial a Ride service. She had conversation with Sal Marotta on scheduling glitches. Logisticare will work with the department to correct the problems. Senior Center: Donna Mattison mentioned the programs scheduled for May 11th and entertainment programs on 5/3 and 5/24 with Steve Dolan who will sing and play the keyboard. Discussion of Congressman Larson's visit concerning the new Medicare prescription program included Donna and Grace and Jane Ross. Janet suggested to Donna the possibility of programming around the book *Healing Power of Reminiscence* by Robin Edgar.

Council Liaison: Councilor John Cascio discussed the success of the automated trash system and the Spring Street sweeping clean up. He also mentioned the changes along the Silas Deane Highway with the anticipated opening of Bed Bath and Beyond and the ground breaking for a free standing CVS and Starbucks. He mentioned the public presentation of the next town budget on 4/26 and the budget workshops in the following three weeks. He advised the members of the committee that Wethersfield is facing revaluation and tough economic times and that the Council will do all possible to protect core services. He mentioned that Silas Deane Middle School is a state model for technology.

Housing Authority: no report

Clergy: no report

WACPD: off this month

AARP: President Kitch Breen Czernicki reported that Gerri Roberts has been willing to step up to the President position for the next two years. Brenda Kelly from the State AARP would be addressing the membership on prescription drugs. The AARP day of service is 5/11 and the local chapter will be participating. Volunteer recognition will take place during the Spring Banquet and installation of Officers.

Motion to adjourn by Jane Helen Ross and second by Sue Miller. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,  
Kitch Breen Czernicki