

[NOTE: These minutes are made available to the public prior to Senior Citizen Advisory Committee acceptance.]

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - Thursday, September 16, 2004

The meeting was opened by Chairperson Janet Klett at 3:00 p.m. at the Pitkin Community Center. Members present were Gerri Roberts, Grace Piencikowski, Estelle Knurek, Jane Helen Ross, Betty Smith, Donna Mattison, Christine Taylor and Kathleen Bagley. Guest at the meeting was Judy Keane.

1. Minutes of June, 2004, meeting were tabled.
2. Chairperson's Report.
 - a. Chairperson Klett reported that she received a booklet from the Police Department regarding safety issues for residents. She passed the book around to committee members and suggested Donna Mattison keep it for senior citizen reference.
 - b. Chairperson Klett reported that she received a letter from a customer on a complaint about Dial-a-Ride. She sent a copy of the letter to Nancy Stilwell. Chairperson Klett wrote a response to the customer thanking her for the letter and explaining that she sent the complaint to Dr. Stilwell.
 - c. Chairperson Klett reported that the committee has received donations in memory of William Mislick, a very active senior citizen in town, who passed away recently. Chairperson Klett wrote a letter to each donor thanking them for their generosity and then sent a letter to the family notifying them of the various donations. The commission received \$475 in donations in memory of William Mislick.
3. New Business.
 - a. Chairperson Klett introduced Judy Keane to speak to committee members about the status of the Keane Foundation. Mrs. Keane reported that the Keane Foundation will be providing an after school program for students in the Middle School for two days a week. In the future, the Foundation will look to provide an inter-generational program between the Middle School and senior citizens. She will be soliciting suggestions for this program. Also, the Keane Foundation will look at integrating preschool children into programming at a later date. Mrs. Keane welcomed thoughts from the committee regarding suggestions for inter-generational programs. Committee members gave Mrs. Keane some ideas and will think about additional programs. Mrs. Keane reported that programs will probably start up in the beginning of the New Year.
 - b. Budget.

Chairperson Klett reported the budget is the same as last year. Committee members discussed their priorities for the budget. Donna Mattison reported that the Rare Reminder can be a full-page ad every month for the next twelve months. A motion was made by Jane Helen Ross and seconded by Donna Mattison to continue with the full page ad with the Rare Reminder at a cost of \$190 per month. The motion passed unanimously. Committee members then discussed ideas for the budget and the donations in the memory of William Mislick. Some ideas included:

 1. Help fund the volunteer party for senior citizens in the spring.
 2. Provide scholarships for senior citizens to take part in recreational programs.
 3. Provide funds to offer a workshop on depression for senior citizens and their caretakers or use the funds for a variety of educational workshops.
 4. Purchase a CD for the Senior Citizen Center.
 5. Help fund a brochure for the "Friendly Visitor/Friendly Shopper" Program.
 6. Look at the potential for helping fund inter-generational programs with the Keane Foundation.

Chairperson Klett suggested that members think about this for the next meeting with a timetable of a vote in November as to how to spend these funds.
4. Reports.
 - a. Wethersfield Senior Club.

Grace Piencikowski reported that the Club is back to business after a hiatus of three (3) weeks. Attendance is very good and they raised their dues from \$3.00 to \$5.00 starting in October.
 - b. Senior Center.

Donna Mattison reported that fall programs have started. Over the summer she had Mahjong classes and

line dancing and for the fall, line dancing has a record number of people. Programs also include Book Club and art and computer classes. Due to grant funds, new computers will be purchased for the computer lab. Donna will be hosting and coordinating a Halloween party with Glastonbury and Newington seniors on October 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pitkin Community Center. She also reported that the flu shot schedule is available and is posted around town. Attached to minutes is the flu clinics schedule.

c. AARP.

Gerri Roberts reported that AARP will have their first meeting on Monday. Chairperson Klett welcomed Gerri Roberts to the meeting as the new AARP President.

d. Elderly Services Coordinator.

Christine Taylor reported on a variety of different programs ongoing for seniors in town. She will be doing training for the Friendly Visitor/Friendly Shopper program and gave information on a variety of programs for senior citizens.

e. People with Disabilities.

Christine Taylor reported on this meeting. She will now represent the committee at the request of Chairperson Klett. Mrs. Taylor reported that the committee is talking about developing a new handbook for residents with disabilities. They are looking into the possibility of a Web Site.

5. Adjournment.

Grace Piencikowski moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Jane Helen Ross and voted unanimously.