

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes  
**Thursday, September 15, 2011**

**Present:** Kathi Liberman, Jane-Helen Ross, Donna Mattison, Claire Mehan, Joe Mehan, Christine Taylor, Mary Thibeault (for Kathy Bagley), Chris Skowronek, Gerri Roberts, Nancy Stilwell (ex-officio)

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM.

**Minutes:** There was no quorum at the May meeting, so there were no minutes to approve.

**New Business:**

- Committee membership: Jane Helen Ross reported that the AARP chapter is in the process of closing, so there will be no rep from that organization.
- Donna Mattison reported that of the \$2,000 allotted for the SCAC for the current fiscal year, \$600 remains to be spent. The remaining funds are encumbered for the monthly calendar in the Rare Reminder. The funds that remained at the end of the last fiscal year were spent on small ice buckets, table cloths and a new coffee urn.
- Discussion was held on possible topics for the spring workshop. It was agreed that the topic will be protecting assets and senior law issues. Committee members will be seeking speakers and researching the topic for the next meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- Council – Gerri Roberts reported that there are two bond issues on the ballot for the upcoming elections. Both are related to redevelopment – one on the Silas Deane Highway and the other on the Berlin Turnpike.
- Housing - Kathi Liberman reported that the new heating and air conditioning installations at the Housing Authority are complete. Parking lot paving and new lighting are still ongoing.
- Clergy – Chris Skowronek inquired about how the area churches might assist in town wide emergencies (e.g., weather, shelter opening, etc).
- AARP – No report.
- Elderly Services – Chris Taylor reported that the energy program starts at the end of October but funding for the program is reduced. There will be an Energy Blitz on Nov 9<sup>th</sup> to take as many applications as possible in one day. Renter Rebate ends today and over 400 applications have been taken. She also reported on changes in Medicare and Medicaid – open enrollment this year is 10/15 to 12/7 which is earlier than in the past.
- WACPD – no report
- Senior Club – Joe Mehan reported that there are new officers. Setback has planned a Halloween party for Oct 28th and there will be a food drive at that time. The Christmas party is scheduled for Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Craft Fair will be Oct 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Social Services – Donna reported that there will be one combined newsletter for October and November. Line dancing has been discontinued due to low enrollment. Some participants are taking Zumba Gold instead. Enrollment for Belly Dancing has also been low and that may be dropped. Wii bowling and the chorus group are very active with Oct and Dec performances planned. The Computer Learning Center is

seeking new volunteers to do specific workshops. They are doing a program for Channel 14 to spread the word about the CLC. And on Tuesdays, they will have an “answer man” available for people to come in with computer related questions.

There will be workshop on stress reduction for care givers on Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. There is a Senior Expo in Cromwell on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, and a Neighbor to Neighbor Energy program on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.

Nancy Stilwell reported that the new Dial-a-Ride service is going well after some initial problems.

The next meeting will be October 20<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jane Helen Ross and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Mehan. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

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