

Commission for Senior Services Meeting

Friday, Jan. 4, 2013

Westport Town Hall

Attendance: Teri Klein, Howard Maynard, Bob McGrath, Stan Nayer, Mike Stashower

Guests: Jim Marpe and Cheryl McKenna

Staff: Susan Pfister, Terry Giegengack, Barbara Butler, and Sue Stefenson

New Business:

• **Budget 2013-14**

- No new increases are planned. Donations from the town and grants have helped to off set budget. Commission will be informed when presentation to the Board of Finance is planned so representatives may attend to be supportive.
- **Celebration to honor Bill Meyer** Date has been set for Sunday, March 10th at 3pm. Mike will attend meeting on Thursday Jan 17th to help plan the event.

Old Business:

- **Annual Legislators Meeting:** Well attended. Legislators Supportive of issues, aware of problems and concerned about anticipated cuts due to state budget short fall.
- **Barons South Senior Housing:** A new RFP has been sent out to respond to Bd of Finance concerns. This allows for up to 200 units, preference 150; 30% affordable, can be 20%. It will also include ideas for phase 2. Two months to return the RFP. Members of Bd of Finance and RTM will be included on selection committee. Looks like it may be 3-5 years before this project actually (hopefully) gets underway.
- **Citizens Transit Committee:** Meeting Jan 9 to coordinate activities from different transportation programs. Survey planned which will focus on commuter needs.

Department Report:

- **Heating Assistance** To date about 200 applicants. Each year more people apply. About \$14,000 raised this year. Balance about \$70,000 from combinations of funds, awards and donations from the community.
- **Volunteer Coordination Community Preparedness** Initial Meeting Jan 10th 3:30 pm to begin to develop a volunteer core to support staff at emergency response shelters and other needs when the next emergency occurs.
- **Staff to Attend Livable Communities for all agencies form in Hartford Jan 14 .**

Committee Reports:

- **Senior Center Policy and Planning Board.** Revisiting long range plan for Center with or without Barons south Project. Looking toward expanding hours. Registration for spring programs going smoothly with late fee added.
- **Friends of Center for Senior Activities.** Musical series on Sundays to continue with light refreshments prepared by Chef at the Center. Long Range plans re \$10,000 grant from AT&T.
- **Housing- the Saugatuck** the grant secured from the state to fix the roof may need additional funding from the town to complete the project .

Other Business :

- Decision made by the commission to change meeting dates to the 3rd Friday of the month. Next Meetings, Feb 15, March 15, April 19.

Meeting Adjourned : 10:30 am

Submitted by Teri Klein