

TOWN OF GRANBY
Commission on Aging
MINUTES
January 8, 2024

Members present: Chairman Jean Donihee-Perron, Jennifer Jalbert, Skip Mission, Judy Jones, Kathy Garlasco, Lynette Simpson, Ellen Thomson, Skip Mission, Kim Becker

Staff: Sandra Yost; Director of Human Services, Jennifer Kielbasa; Program Coordinator

Call to order: A quorum was present, and Chairman Donihee-Perron called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes

On a MOTION by L. Simpson, seconded by J. Jones, the Commission voted unanimously (9-0-0) to approve the minutes of December 11, 2023.

Chairmans Report:

- CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) has one or two more meetings.
- Three vacancies will begin in January for the commission. Two republican and one unaffiliated.
- Farmington Valley VNA will not be including an Ex-Officio for the commission meetings.
- BOS meeting has been postponed to February 5 at 7:00pm to discuss goals and achievements of the commission.
- Aging and Disability survey for CT State Plan Development was contacted about Granby being a host site. Granby has hosted previously; they are looking for other possible sites to host.
- Chair. J. Donihee-Perron asked the commission to bring two goals to accomplish to the next meeting.

Directors Report:

- Kitchen update; waiting for the signature from Department of Development. Will be working on a plan to not interrupt the CRT lunch service.
- Participation report vs unduplicated attendance summary- S. Yost gave out paperwork on participation reports. Trying to establish a baseline.
- The Center will be updating their check in kiosk. Working on establishing a “campaign” to have members sign in to get a more accurate count for participation numbers, usage etc. Slogan being used “You Count! Be Counted”
- Discussion ensued about the Senior Center Handbooks that had been previously handed out. Possibly update the handbooks and begin handing them out to new members. COA members discussed hosting a program “Are you a new member?”
- Meeting with Catherine Layton; Communications Staff for Granby to discuss changes to the Senior Centers portion of the website. Looking to make it easier for the seniors to access the Centers schedule and activities.

Activities Report

- J. Kielbasa gave an overview of the year. The Senior Van went on 38 trips around New England. 45 different vendors/presenters come to the Center to present. Had over 10 exercise courses offered. Offered variety of health and wellness services, visual arts and crafting, weekly billiards matches and more.
- Traveled with Collette Tours to Ireland, Canadian Rockies, and Italian Vistas.
- Coping with the Holidays was very successful, the session was extended one more week.
- Tai Ji Quan is a 26-week program that is currently running. Received first grant payment.

- 102 came to the Holiday dinner. Entertainment by Elderly Brothers, catered by Tuckers Restaurant. Volunteers from 103rd Airlift Wing came to serve and assist.
- Preparing for the Tax Aide program to start in a few weeks.
- The Senior Center is updating their display case. Will be an ongoing slide show of activities for the day, exciting events coming up. Etc.

New Business

- Commission discussed bringing back the Volunteer of the Month. Would it be a Center volunteer or someone who has done something for the aging community. Discussed a volunteer breakfast to recognize all volunteers. Chair J. Donihee-Perron mentioned a few dates to possibly host the breakfast. Will confirm next meeting.
- The commission will continue to assist in updating the Policy and Procedures book.

Adjournment

On a MOTION by S. Mission, seconded by E. Thomson, the commission voted unanimously (9-0-0) to adjourn at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vanessa Berrelli
Recording Secretary