

Commission on Aging

February 22, 2016

Andover Old Fire House (AOFH)- 11:00 a.m.

Judy Knox called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with a pledge of allegiance to the flag. In attendance were: Georgia O'Brien, Judy Knox, Sue Schmidt. Excused: Bob Wanagel and Barbara Foran. Guests: Diane Grenier and Cathy Palazzi.

Public Speak

Diane Grenier has joined us; she toured the Andover OFH, asked questions of our charter, explained the process for the annual report and relayed expectations for this year's documentation - May/June timeframe.

Connecticut has the third largest elder contingency in the country - per Cathy

Documentation needs to be sent to all members of the Board to insure information is shared amongst the board in a timely fashion.

Motion to accept October 19, 2015 minutes: Georgia advised that the June meeting date was incorrect in the minutes, those will be corrected - motion to accept by Sue Schmidt and seconded by Georgia. Correction made to June 6, 2016.

Old Business Reviewed:

- a. Microphone System at any town meeting needs to be used by the speakers. Low voices and mumbles cannot be heard by the audience.
- b. Something needs to be done about the reverberations in the Community Room, speech is echoed through the room - possible banner in the ceiling area would provide noise control.
- c. Garbage pickup has been sporadic - example: the last two weeks has not been picked up
- d. Garbage bags (55 gallon) are paid for by YAH, should be a part of the building maintenance, as all other office buildings.
- e. Grants - Cathy reported the LOCIP (energy) grant that has provided the OFH with new windows, darkening shades and curtains - helping with heat consumption in the winter and sun heat control in the summer. CIP grant put in for new 12 passenger bus to replace an existing 14 year old bus that is becoming a maintenance issue. Waiting for approval by BOS and Finance groups.

Cathy currently writes grants - who in the town office is the grant writer

- f. Trips - updates provided through new Business
- g. Sr. Activities cancelled due to weather or mud driven parking lot. Andover Congregation Church cannot be used due to liability. The Community Center is not viable because lack of kitchen utilities, food restraints and movement of furniture. The meeting/s would probably be cancelled.
- h. Heating Issue at the OFH has been resolved by filters being replaced on the furnace.
- i. Social Service Agent - there are not enough hours in the agents weekly contract to cover the COA meeting. Laurel can also not report on Sr. activities because she is having help from a past agent - due to lack of hours for her to cover all basis. No reports received
- j. Water Leak in the kitchen of the OFH has been resolved with the new window
- k. Annual report of 2014 - 2015 was submitted to the town for publishing and website posting
- l. Diseased Tree on the private property above the parking lot and another tree to the left of the entrance to the parking lot have been taken down by a tree service - preventing any potential injuries to cars and people

New Business:

- a. OFH Windows, room darkening shades and curtains are up - thanks to Rusty, Mike, Frank, Mary and Sue
- b. Trips for Seniors: Georgia O'Brien - partial funding from town - advertised in Rivereast and at YAH meetings and Sr. Lunches
 - a. Aqua Turf: 3/16 St. Patricks Day Celebration
 - b. Aqua Turf: 8/16 Tribute to the Grand Ole Opry
 - c. Aqua Turf: 11/14 Salute to American Veterans
 - d. Goodspeed Show and Lunch - 6/8 Anything Goes
 - e. Looking into
 - i. Little Theatre of Manchester for 11/2016
 - ii. Lighthouse cruises from New London - summer
 - iii. Lady Katherine Cruises - summer
 - iv. Adams Mill Murder Mystery Dinner
 - v. Ct. Riverquest Cruise to watch the Swallow Migration - fall 2016
 - vi. New Britain stadium - summer, need shade

vii. October 2016 Fest in New Britain East Side restaurant

- c. Documentation:
 - a. Sue to get email addresses of all BOS members - documentation to be sent to them
 - b. Outstanding issues for repairs or considerations will be documented and sent to all BOS
- d. Furnace:
 - a. Maintenance program should be set up for the OFH furnace to insure continued heat to warm the seniors.
- e. Senior Awareness of programs and services available to them
 - a. Notes and responsibilities of the COA will be posted out on the WEB - THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE ANDOVER SENIORS - Sue
 - b. How COA can reach out to the Andover Seniors not in the YAH or Friday Sr. Lunch Program - Sue/Georgia, Georgia to look into Census to get numbers of Sr.'s in Andover
 - c. COA to compile lists of helpful contacts, items useful to them, this includes procedures when meetings moved, emergency shelters, a Sr. Handyman- all, shovelers - Diane to send list to Sue/Georgia to get published
 - i. Who should the lists go to and how to distribute: Library, Town Hall, OFH,
 - d. Bob Wanagel/Edith Prague was our contacts from the state and other aging outside Andover meetings, need to reestablish - Judy continuing to work with Bob and Georgia looking into State websites and other towns committees.
- f. OFH flooring
 - a. 3 spots of the flooring in the OFH have dipped lower than the floor and offsets canes and walkers if placed at an angle. Now called the sink hole - identified by a magic marker strike on the right side of the big room, general area of the first closet door - Bob made aware and to have the Town Maintenance Crew to look at it. It is covered by the carpet but doesn't help with the balancing issue.
- g. OFH Parking Lot
 - a. Heavy rains, thawing ground has created a mud lot for the Senior's to walk/ maneuver through to get to the staircase of the OFH. Suggestion is to put a clay base or dirt and roll it to a flatter finish (unable to pave - due to drainage issues and costs

- h. Grants - Cathy Palazzi currently writes grants, but who in the Town Office is responsible, who and how do we look for grants. Need advice.

NO Public Speak

Next Meeting: June 6, 2016, 11:00 A.M. Andover Old Firehouse, Center St., Andover

Motion to Adjourn: made by Georgia, seconded by Sue