

The Senior Citizens Commission held their regular meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Senior Center at 2:51 P.M. Present at the meeting were members: Paula Friez, Patricia Morianos, and Tina Giuffre; Senior Center staff Alice Hare and Director of Senior and Social Services Jennifer Ochoa.

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Friez called the meeting to order at 2:50 P.M.

**2. Public Comment**

Ms. Udin's Seniors Inc. Report:

- At the October meeting, there will be a pasta luncheon
- Ms. Friez is going to try to get soup donated for the Veteran's Luncheon (November 18<sup>th</sup>) to offer with sandwiches
- Ms. Friez spoke with Gerry Wright, he will coordinate bins for a collection and arrange for a speaker
- Options for the holiday party were discussed, it will be held at Angelino's in Vernon on December 10<sup>th</sup>; seniors will pay \$20 and Seniors Inc. will pay the difference
- Ms. Udin listed several upcoming trips including: Chef's Hat, Cheney Tech, Casino and George's

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

**June 11, 2015**

A motion was made by Ms. Morianos, seconded by Ms. Giuffre to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2015 meeting. Motion unanimously passed.

**4. Municipal Agent's Report**

A. Food Pantry

- a. Upcoming donation from high school will be coming in at the end of the month. A portion of the donations will be donated to MACC due to a strong need. Students from the high school will regularly work on organizing the food pantry.

Ms. Ochoa reviewed the process of the Chore Worker Program for senior residents. Students age 15 and over can be hired to assist seniors with light cleaning and yard work. It is a grant funded program. Ms. Giuffre asked about students doing community service. Due to liability issues, it may not be feasible. The application for the chore worker program will be added to the town website. The group briefly discussed different ways of getting information out about the program.

**5. Old Business**

A. List of ideas from Pam Sawyer

The group reviewed the list of ideas discussed at the previous meeting, and considered what items to try:

- Bulk mailing in January with list of events for the first six months
- Newsletter: Copies of the newsletter could be left at Subway, Bolton Doctors Office, Georgina's and other local businesses
- Evening program that would draw people in
- Adult Coloring starting in November
- Comedy/karaoke/psychic/hypnotist
- Ms. Udin suggested splitting the cost of a program with Seniors Inc. to make it a nominal fee to the seniors (psychic, comedian)

- Ms. Ochoa tried to have a walking club, however only one person showed. They tried to hold it at the Senior Center in the nicer weather, at the mall, however there was no interest.
- Ms. Morianos suggested an annual overnight train trip to possibly Canada? Or possibly have a travel agent or travel video at a Seniors Inc. meeting to determine if there is any interest

## 6. New Business

- A. Veteran's Luncheon and Collection: Mr. Wright will be coordinating donation bins and a speaker. Ms. Morianos distributed a list of suggested donations for the collection bins. The collection bins will be available November 1-17.
- B. Elections
  - a. A motion was made by Ms. Morianos, seconded by Ms. Giuffre to nominate Ms. Friez as Chair of the Senior Commission. Motion unanimously passed. Ms. Giuffre expressed interest in becoming a full member. She will need to resign as alternate and request appointment to full member.
- C. Journal Inquirer
  - a. Monthly Events: Ms. Ochoa will be handling this.
  - b. One big article: Ms. Friez suggested doing an article in the Journal Inquirer similar to the Reminder article.

Ms. Ochoa will be holding a health and wellness fair in 2016, the date is still to be determined.

### **Additional suggestions for the Senior Center**

The group briefly discussed the Silver Sneaker Program which is available through certain insurance plans. Ms. Giuffre suggested the Senior Center offer a program that may be covered under the plan.

Ms. Morianos suggested a buddy list, especially over the winter to check in on.

Christmas caroling for the seniors; puzzle/large print book /videos mobile-drop off to seniors on monthly basis. Ms. Giuffre suggested working with the library for items to loan. Seniors would need to be called in advance to see who is interested. Jen will fine tune the list of seniors to use for contact information.

Ms. Morianos suggested a petition for tax related issue to propane. Ms. Ochoa suggested submitting it as a question for the upcoming "Meet the Candidates".

## 7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Giuffre, seconded by Ms. Friez to adjourn the meeting at 4:14 P.M. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Bolduk  
Board Clerk

PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.