

**COMMISSION ON AGING
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT
Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2016**

A meeting of the East Granby Commission on Aging was held on January 5, 2016 at the East Granby Town Hall. Those present were Members Richard Galluccio, Yvon Lemieux, Felice Mara, Barbara Skinner, Mary Ellen Tressy, Zettie Shookus, Corrine Dickerson, Alternate Rose Egnat, High School representatives Paige Derlinga and Kylie Geer, Social Services Director Alicia Van Neil, and Senior Services Director Kelly Jacobs. Lucia Ziobro arrived at 6:45pm. Marie Sandora was absent.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Richard Galluccio called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and wished all members a happy new year. He stated the new walkway with handicapped entrance is complete as well as newly painted down spouts. The red chairs are new to the center, having come from the ambulance office. Mr. Hayden will be at the next meeting. He placed an article in "Lets Talk Turkey" seeking two alternates and a clerk. He distributed an updated improvements list.

MINUTES OF PAST MEETING

A motion was made by Barbara Skinner and seconded by Yvon Lemieux to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2015 meeting as presented. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

SENIOR SERVICES UPDATE & COMING EVENTS

Kelly Jacobs reported that the Travelers Chorale was a phenomenal event and was very successful. The brunch at Seasons Restaurant went well. The midwinter gathering will be this Friday. The brain health event is upcoming as well as the trip to the Benton Museum at Uconn (February). She has posted tech seminars in "Lets Talk Turkey". One person is registered for the January 27th at 5:30pm class and three people are registered for the February 19th at 10am class. Mary Ellen Tressy was asked about posting the information about the seminars in the Higley newsletter. She has booked the musician for the March 8th St Patty's day luncheon. She will be looking this week for club chairs to replace the couches.

SOCIAL SERVICES UPDATE

Alicia Van Neil said it was a very successful holiday season with about 60 baskets donated and about 37 children in the adopt-a-child program. The Friend to Friend thrift store will be closed for the winter and will re-open in April. Energy assistance applications are ongoing. Granby has a grief loss program and a healthy minds program that residents may participate in.

GOOD SAMARITAN PROGRAM

Alicia Van Neil gave a 2015 summary on the program. There were currently 18 volunteers and one was recently added after the new year. Matches included transportation, yard work, housekeeping, and home repair. Eight businesses (the same as 2014) were available to assist. There were only 2 requests that were unable to be filled at the last minute.

OLD BUSINESS

Encourage and educate seniors to make use of town services if they need help – Yvon Lemieux said the group met and discussed the objective. There are still some questions regarding who will run the administrative side of a Facebook page, but still want to continue moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

Richard Galluccio distributed a proposed change to the COA Bylaws. The proposed addition deals with the appointment of EG High School student members to the commission to participate in meetings and serve as community liaisons. This has been going on for the past two years and it is felt that something official be set up. Voting on this proposal will be next meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Sarah Oberg stated the potential Facebook page would be an ideal outlet for the group to continue community outreach. Once the page is up and running, it can essentially run itself without having a particular need for a daily administrator.

COMMENTS FROM COA

Most comments expressed happy New Year wishes to everyone. Barbara Skinner thanked Alicia Van Neil for all of her hard work, especially during the holidays. Zettie Shookus reminded everyone she would not be present at meetings until May. Corrine Dickerson would like to see Jim Hayden address the issue of combining school systems at the next meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Zettie Shookus and seconded by Mary Ellen Tressy to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sarah Oberg, Acting Clerk