

**Elderly Commission**  
**Regular meeting**  
**December 8, 2020**  
**9:30 am**  
**Oxford Senior Center**

**Present:** Sue DeSheen, Joyce Niestemski, Larry Morgan, Re Bailey, Heather Haney

1 **Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance**

- Meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer at 9:30am

2. **Amendments to the agenda:** None

3. **Audience of Citizens:** None

4 **Review and Approval of Minutes...**

- Minutes were approved with a motion by Betty Andrews and seconded by Sue DeSheen. Motion approved unanimously.

5 **Correspondence:** None

6 **Municipal Agents Report:**

- Here we are at the end of the year 2020. I believe the theme for this year is *Change*. No one really likes change. When I think of this year in review, I just think of the Corona virus, nothing else, and how it changed all of our lives. It's like nothing else is important for most of us nor have we ever seen or experienced anything like it. This pandemic has ruled our lives past year and not in a good way. I'm sure that each and every one of us knows someone that had it and all of us have been affected by it. Our lives have certainly been put on hold. It seemed our lockdown would never end and we couldn't see our children, grandchildren or friends for fear of contacting the virus. Being elderly, we feared for our lives and still do if we should catch Covid-19. The Corona virus is not senior friendly and most of us are compromised health wise, if for nothing else at least our age doesn't help. Basically, a lot of our parts are wearing out, at least mine are.
- So here we are in December almost a whole year of dealing with this can be worse than the first wave. Restaurants are once again closing a closing their jobs because businesses are failing and the unemployment rate is once again climbing. Perhaps it will get worse before getting better but there is a light at the end of the tunnel. There is a vaccine and it seems more than one company producing it. Within a few months this should be available to us and I understand the elderly will be one of the first groups that it will be available to. It will be so nice to be able to get on an airplane to travel for vacation or to go see a relative that lives far away or even just to go out and not to be afraid that you will easily catch the virus. I believe, that it would be wonderful to just be able to live a "Normal" life like we used to. I want my normal life back and I'm sure each and every one of you do too. Hoping for that bright light at the end of the tunnel.
- At the end of November, The Department of Social Services, took special measures to assist SNAP (food stamps) enrollees during the Covid-19 public health emergency. They are providing an additional \$16 million in Emergency Supplement Nutrition Assistance benefits to more than half of Connecticut SNAP eligible households, this was authorized by the Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020. The extra food benefits will go to approximately 110,000 households not currently receiving the maximum benefit. The average emergency benefit is approximately

\$153 in addition to their regular SNAP amount. This will also be debited to their monthly EBT remaining.

### **Director's Report:**

- Updates:
  - Programs are doing well in person and on Zoom
  - Monday flex and fit
  - Tuesday and Thursday- walking
  - Wednesday virtual strength and balance-very well received
  - Turkey trot- 78 people in attendance- very well attended
  - Book club- huge attendance with more people reading
  - You be the judge- more people attending
  - Quilters- meeting in big room as craft room closed every other Friday
  - Reiki- Ann Cumming , a Reiki Master, is offering her time on Tuesday and Thursday for 2 people
  - Happy Hookers meet every Monday virtual
  - Movie matinee- 10 people. root beer floats and popcorn was served
  - Bingo- virtual and in person- 8 people attended. Rae and Annie called Bingo. December will be holiday Bingo. Oxford residents will be in person all others will be Zoom.
  - Halloween- drive thru at the high school- very good and was well attended
  - Pool room- doing OK
  - Food program- doing extremely well. Out of town can come in to pick up meals. You have to need to order 3 meals
  - Crafts- \$5.00 for project in center or on Zoom at home
  - No Christmas Party---will have an outside Christmas party December 17 from 11:30 to 12:15. It will be drive thru and 8 Christmas Carols will be sung. It will be limited to 1000 people. Need to call in by December 10.

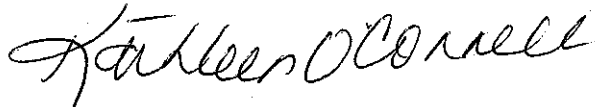
### **8 Budget Review:**

### **9. Old business:**

- Dues are due. January newsletter is complimentary but dues will have to be paid to receive February newsletter
- Tax assistance- AARP will start in February
- We have purchased new flags
- The septic has been pumped
- All vehicles are up to date
- Mike and Rosalie are the only drivers we have at this time. Lisa works mostly from home
- We have a new custodian- Johnny. He is working out very well
- Larry Morgan called Proctor and Gamble and was able to get us Microban. Thank You.
- Heather submitted some changes for the website. We need to be in compliance with state grant
- We will have a blood drive on January 2, 2021
- We have purchased a new vacuum which is working well
- The girl scouts are working on a special project to pass out Christmas cards to everyone at party
- There is a new log book with waivers and log in sheets
- The following trips are scheduled
  - Portugal- April 2021
  - Panama Cruise- November 2022

10. **New Business:**
- We will have a Hot Dog drive thru on January 210, 2021
11. **Other Business:**
12. **Adjournment:**
- Meeting adjourned at 1100am with a motion by Rae Bailey and seconded by Larry Morgan. Motion passed unanimously.

**Respectfully Submitted,**



Kathleen O'Connell  
Clerk

20 DEC 16 PM 3:33  
DEAN OF SUPERIOR CT  
Kathleen O'Connell  
CLERK