

Elderly Commission
Regular meeting
October 13, 2010 9:30 am
Oxford Senior Center

Present: Sue DeScheen, Hank Rotzal, Joyce Niestemski, Betty Andrews, Heather Haney

Absent: Larry Morgan

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...

- Motion made by Hank Rotzal and seconded by Sue DeScheen. Motion passed unanimously

5 Correspondence:

- Donation made by Mrs Ashe of Oxford Map in memory of Brian Ashe
- Donation made of medical equipment

6 Municipal Agents Report:

The word is "cooler". That describes the weather as of late. One week we were in the 80's the next week we were in the 60's and then downhill ever since. But it is the season of Autumn and we do live in New England. So I guess we are right on target for this time of year. I'm still wondering where the three months of quarantine went to.

Not only is it Autumn but it's October and that means Open Enrollment for Medicare Insurance which runs from October 15th thru December 8th. If you are not happy with what you currently are enrolled in, now is the time to change. Every year, I invite an Insurance Specialist to the Senior Center to explain the different policies and changes for the upcoming year in Connecticut. With Covid-19 and the senior center being closed, we may have to be a little creative this year. Right now, hoping the Senior Center will be open, I have scheduled John Somero to come and speak to us on October 13th. at 11:00. There will only be a certain number of members that will be allowed in to the senior center at one time, (Remember Social Distancing), so everyone will not be able to attend John's presentation. As I mentioned, we are being creative this year and his presentation will be video-taped and presented on Zoom at a later date. This will enable everyone to see and hear what John has to say for the upcoming year concerning Medicare and changes to our insurance. So watch the Newsletter to see when the Zoom meeting with John will be presented along with the link.

The next thing on the agenda is November and now we have the November Election on November 3rd. Covid-19 changed this too in a big way offering Absentee Ballots to everyone. Being the Registrar of Voters also, this has affected me personally in a big way. They claim as many as 2/3 of the registered voters in Connecticut possibly could vote by Absentee Ballot. We want to make sure that your ballot is counted and I would like to review some common mistakes that are made by voters that automatically

rejects your ballot. First of all, please read the instructions that come with your ballot carefully. Your absentee voting set consists of an absentee ballot, inner and outer envelopes for its return and instructions. **Fill out your ballot and insert it in the inner envelope, sign the sworn statement on the outside of the envelope and then insert the inner envelope into the outer envelope** that is addressed to the Town Clerk. A common mistake the voter makes is failing to sign the inner envelope by the X that contains their absentee ballot. This is an automatic rejection by law. Another cause of rejection is that **only one ballot can be placed in the inner and outer envelopes**. Everyone has to use their own set of envelopes. Placing 2 ballots in one envelope is another automatic cause of rejection. The last thing you have to do is return your ballot and you have 3 ways you can do this. 1) The Secretary of State has provided Drop Boxes that look somewhat like an ivory mailbox to all the cities and towns. Oxford's is right in front of the front door of the Town Hall on the other side of the circular driveway. There are signs leading up to it. 2) You can mail your ballot back allowing enough time for your ballot to reach the town hall before Election Day. 3) You can hand deliver your ballot directly to the Town Clerk's Office. If you do not want to vote by Absentee Ballot, the polls will be open at Quaker Farms School 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for in person voting. Masks are required and 6 ft. Social Distancing will be followed inside and outside the building while waiting in line. If you have any questions concerning absentee ballots, please call the Town Clerk at 203-888-2543 X 3024.

Go Vote, It is your right!

Director's Report:

- Virtual programs are going very well and well attended
- Starting new program You beg the judge
- Heather is offering training for Zoom and it is very helpful for seniors
- October 15- Octoberfest at Jackson Cove with 100 people attending
- There were 58 people for drive through- very enjoyable
- The sign in front was fixed and the old sign was repainted
- The computer room door jam was fixed, custodian door fixed, cupboards in kitchen fixed
- Santa furl is the new gas company
- Brian came in to check heating and cooling and everything is in good condition
- The carpeting in the main hall and offices were cleaned
- There is money for covid expenses such as Plexiglas, disinfection and anything connected with covid
- A new vacuum was ordered
- A new custodian is needed for 3 hours a day because of the disinfecting
- The center is opening October 19 to Oxford residents only. A letter from the First Selectman is being sent to out of towners
- The new guidelines for entrance to the Senior Center are:
 - Check to see if person is Oxford resident
 - Sign waiver
 - Need to use hand sanitizer
 - Temperature is to be taken
 - Time signed in
 - Questionnaire- what activity they are here for
 - When they leave need to record check out time
 - Pool players will need to make an appointment
- Bingo will be in November for one week with 18 people then virtual for the rest of the month. Everyone can bring a snack and a drink. Mask will be have to be worn unless eating or drinking

- There are some computers being donated
- Month of November we will have walking video and will have to sign up
- Boggi will be played outside but will not be able to come in to use bathroom if out of town
- There are no trips, Mohegan Sun trips have cancelled
- No holiday parties
- The foot clinic has been postponed to October 28. There will be 8 people per day with 45 minutes between each appointment
- There has been another nurse added to the flu clinic. You will need to call Pomperaug Health 203-264-9616, ext 0 to schedule an appointment
- Transportation- there have been no problems. Only 2 drivers, the other 2 will be back after Thanksgiving.
- Vehicles are up to date with maintenance. Public works washed and cleaned vehicles
- The center is opening Monday October 19
- Library-container for returned books in the front hall. Books will need to be quarantined before returned to the shelves. To go into library gloves will need to be worn to handle books
- Veterans Day-a Zoom presentation will be available. David S Miles Post will do "Outside salute to Vets" on Wednesday November 11. Wrapped Hot Dogs Potato Chips and water will be served. Senior Center will be closed. All activities will be outside

8 **Budget Review:** None

9. **Old business:** None

10. **New Business:** None

11. **Other Business:** None

12. **Adjournment:** meeting was adjourned at 1045 with a motion by Hank Ratzal and a second by Betty Andrews. Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen O'Connell

Kathleen O'Connell
Clerk

20 OCT 14 PM 1:42
TOWN OF POMPERAUG, CT
STAG, J. H. O'Connell