

**Elderly Commission
Regular meeting
October 12, 2021
Oxford Senior Center**

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

- 1 **Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance** Meeting called to order by Joyce Niestemski at 9:30am with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer
2. **Amendments to the agenda:** None
- 3 **Review and Approval of Minutes:** Motion made to accept minutes by Hank Rotzal with a second by Sue DeScheen. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4 **Correspondence:** See Directors Report
- 5 **Municipal Agents Report**

Welcome Autumn! welcome all the wonderful Fall colors of oranges, yellows, golds and reds. Welcome cooler days and colder nights and welcome all the days getting us ready and preparing us for the cold Winter days ahead. Meanwhile, enjoy our New England Autumn days filled with Apple picking, corn Mazes, horse drawn hay rides to the pumpkin patches and returning home with our bounty and baking apple pies. I can smell the aromas now that fill our kitchens and houses. oh, and don't forget to buy your apple. cider and your homemade apple cider donuts. oh, the smells of Autumn mmmm! enjoy!

1. Did I mention that it's October? What is the month of October noted for in our Senior world? Yes, you guessed it, "Open enrollment" for choosing a new insurance policy or if you are in your "Happy Place" doing nothing. so, now is the time to ask yourself questions concerning our medical insurance and decide whether you want to keep what you have or change. Some questions to ask yourself: Are your premiums too high? Are all your prescriptions covered? Are your copays too high and any other potential problem that you may have come up with over this past year.
2. We have invited Robert Pun, John Somero's Associate, who came to our senior center last year to educate all of us on all of the new Medicare changes for 2021, to once again explain the new changes, coming down the pike, for the up-and-coming 2022 new year. So put your thinking cap on and get your questions ready for Rob who will be joining us at the Senior Center on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 11:00 and consider joining us for a chili dog aa 12:00 after Rob's presentation.
3. I don't know if this will come to fruition, but a little Birdie told me that the 2022 Social Security increase will be the highest in 40 years due to all the Covid-19 figures. don't forget it's based on the 2021 Cola figures. I hope this comes true but please don't hold it against me if this doesn't play out. Let's keep our fingers and toes crossed for this one. We could use it!
4. Wishing everyone a Happy Halloween! Until next month

6 Director's Report:

- Current membership to date is 1031 members. Masks are still required for members who show proof of vaccination. If an individual is not vaccinated, they must continue to wear a mask at all times except while eating or drinking. we continue to update the vaccination log located at the reception desk.
- Correspondence:

Letter from Robert A. Beer with the Mabel Burchard Fisher Grant Foundation. Enclosed in the letter was a check in the amount of \$13,000.00. This donation was made payable to the Oxford Senior Center to fund exercise and dance classes for seniors at our center conducted by Gabriella Takacs-Fabry. A huge thank you to Gabby for making this possible. A thank you letter was mailed out to Mer. Beer thanking him and the foundation for this extremely generous gift.

- Motor Coach Trips

Motor Coach- Lancaster, PA- Oct 6-8, 2021- 50 travelers

Motor Coach- Octoberfest- Panoma, NY- 28 travelers currently

Motor Coach- Mohegan- October 26-2021- 49 travelers currently (Derby&Beacon Falls)

Motor Coach-Atlantic City, Caesars- Oct 26-28, 2021- 52 travelers currently

Motor Coach-Atlantic City- Tropicana- Nov 28-29, 2021- 33 travelers currently

Portugal-Nov 2-11, 2021- 12 travelers-

Panama Cruise-Nov 6-21, 2021 26 travelers currently- (presentation at center Oct 14th)
More sign-ups are expected after the presentation

- Senior Center Bus Trips

Luman Orchards/lunch- 6 travelers

Esses Steam Train& Riverboat Cruise (two trips scheduled Oct 4th and Oct 18th _40 travelers

Goodspeed Opera- 20 travelers

- Programs and Events

Bingo- approximately 50-55 members attend each scheduled event

Outdoor Swingin Dance Party at the Cove- approximately 170 in attendance, including 17 orchestra members

Center Café Lunches-24 members served

Hearing Screenings- 7 appointments scheduled

Blood Pressure-9 appointments (peg Sierakowski is our new nurse from Pomperaug Health)

Polish Sausage Day- 67 members served

Zentangle Art Cladd-9 members attended

Movie Matinee- approximately 20-25 members attended

Foot clinic-7 appointments scheduled

Hot Dog Lunches- approximately 40-50 members served at each lunch

Monthly Blood Drive- we continue to have a very high turnout here at the center, usually over 50 appointments scheduled

- Programs and Classes that have recently resumed or have been added

Yoga Class

Poise and Posture Class (new)

Salsa Dance/exercise Class(new)

- Vehicles

Bus2- currently at Advanced Wheels n East Haven. drivers are still experiencing an intermittent issue with the lift

Ford Taurus-on 9/24/21 lube oil filter, rotate tires and rotate tires and check tire pressure- Cost 64.79

- Facility Updates

Purchase of two large round garbage pails for the use during large parties.

Men's bathroom door was coming loose from its hinges. Diamond Rosa handled the repairs. we have not yet received an invoice

We have been experiencing telephone issues Lately. dropped calls, voice emails getting cut off and occasional trouble dialing out. data Tel and frontier have been notified and both have come to the center to figure out which company is responsible for the issues. They will be scheduling a join meeting at the center.

Ice Machine repair by P&s Appliance Service. Cleaned and blew out drain. Cost \$95.00

- Senior Center Updates

The Garden Club held their first meeting and plant swap in the library on Tuesday, September 28th from 2:00- 4:00. the meeting went well and everyone was much happier meeting during day, rather at night.

Thanks to the kind and generous heart of longtime member, Lou Granato, we have been receiving large produce and daily donations from the Vertical Church in West Haven for the past several weeks. Lou picks up and delivers these wonderful donations to the center every Thursday. This should continue for another few weeks. Our members and staff are very grateful to Lou. A thank you note was sent.

Senior Center Bell Choir offered a wonderful performance to our members on September 16th. They have been working very hard and recently added a couple new members to their group. they have two off site performances scheduled over the next two months.

Choral Group has also been practicing very hard for their upcoming performances both at the center and off site. Choral Director Helen Scully will be taking a leave from her position for a while due to health issues. Choral group member and organist, Diane will fill in for her during the interim.

Oxford housing Authority's Resident Service Coordinator Joan Kayser handed out Farmers Market Vouchers to many of our members who met income qualifications.

A meeting with all receptions will take place this Friday, October 5th at 10:30 to discuss office procedures and protocol.

Tag Sale that was held Saturday 25th was a huge success. The weather was gorgeous and everyone did well and enjoyed the day. we collected \$240.00 in table rentals. we had two members cancel and senior crafters were not charged for their two tables. the crafters made \$56.00 in proceeds. I will furnish the commission with the total of hot dog proceeds at our next meeting

Annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Thursday, December 9, 2021 at the Grand Oak Villa, Oakville. Cost \$32.00 per person. we currently have 127 signed up and paid.

We recently had three members suffer falls here at the center. the first was LG who on September 30th tripped over the curb in the parking lot while delivering food donations from the Vertical Church. He fell forward onto his face, causing a cut on the bridge of his nose from his eyeglasses. he also scratched his nose and a small area on his forehead. Sue Kovacs was the only one at the center at the time. the rest of us were still cleaning up from the party at the cove. sue cleaned up his cut and put a band-aid on his nose. LG refused medical care at that time. he came back the following day and told us he was fine. Will buy reflectors and paint curbs.

On Friday October 1st, VR and GM both tripped and fell to the floor while ballroom dancing in the main room at the center. GM went down first and VR went right over GM and slowly fell to the floor hitting the left side of his forehead and face. He had a small abrasion and bump on his head. many helped them both get up and VR then requested to sit down. GM landed on her right elbow. She and VR were both given icepacks to apply to the areas. GM said she was fine but VR complained of feeling dizzy. I immediately called an ambulance and VR was examined by the medical team.

they offered him a ride to the hospital to be further checked out but he refused. He sat for approximately an hour and then I drove him to his apartment. BG followed us in VR car. I called both members to check them over the weekend. GM said she was fine but VR said he had a headache and was going to be checked out. after seeking medical care, he informed me that he suffered a slight concussion and had to take it easy for a couple of weeks. he said he would keep me posted as he recuperate4s. Incident reports are on file for all three falls.

- Budget- we are good
- Tag Sale

People were coming through the kitchen and should be redirected to use the front door

- Kitchen

People are still coming through the kichen who should not be there

- New Business

Discussion on dogs being in the center and it was stated that they should not be here

- Meeting adjourned at 1100 with a motion by Hank Rotzal and a second by Sue DeScheen

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen O'Connell

Clerk

21 OCT 19 PM 4:28
T. J. O'Connell, OCT
C. J. Rotzal, A. West
H. Rotzal, S. DeScheen

7 **Budget Review:**

8. **Old business:**

9. **New Business:**

10.

11. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 11:00 made by Hank Rotzal with a second by

Sue DeScheen. Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathleen O'Connell

Clerk

21 OCT 19 PM 4:28
TC 1030700-101
S. Reginald A. Ulloa
IN 1030700