

Oxford Senior Center
10 Old Church Road
Oxford, CT 06478
Elderly Commission
November 9, 2022

1. Call to order/Pledge/Prayer: Meeting called to order by Joyce Niestemski at 9:30

2. Amendments: none

3. Audience of Citizens: none

Review and Approval of minutes: minutes were approved with a motion by Sue DeScheen and seconded by Edee Witham.

5. Correspondence-

Instructor Joe Lanier, Oxford's Youth Conservation Corp Coordinator would like to partner with the senior center staff and our members to offer a variety of intergenerational programs for students and seniors. Many great topics have been discussed and hopefully soon, we will be able to plan some wonderful programs.

6. Municipal Agent News:

Last month in October, we had Rob Pun come to our Senior Center and present the different insurances for Medicare. Just a reminder, Open Enrollment is October 15th through December 7th. If you are not happy with your Medicare insurance now is the time to change.

It is also the time of year for the cold weather to descend upon us. High fuel costs for heating is also descending on us. I wonder how seniors and the disabled are going to be able to afford the high costs of heating their homes this year. The State received nearly \$160 million from the Federal Program to help the Low Income Energy Assistance Program also known as LIHEAP. LIHEAP, a federal program funds our Connecticut program for energy assistance and Connecticut is applying for more funding right now to try to cover the higher cost for heating this winter. The Naugatuck Valley area must apply to Team, Inc which is located at 30 Elizabeth Street in Derby, CT. Operation Fuel provides energy assistance to lower and middle income working families, needy elderly and the disabled. Operation Fuel helps with all types of heating sources including gas, electric and deliverable fuels such as oil, propane etc. This program started accepting applications September 1st and Team is urging you to apply for this assistance due to the volume that they anticipate will apply for this program. Team can be reached at 203-736-5420 press 3 for energy assistance, then press 1 to apply. You can also email them at energy@teaminc.org. Or you can also visit their website to see the programs that Team offers at www.teaminc.org. Stay warm this winter!

7. Director's Report:

Senior center members total 1,239 to date. As of November 8, 2022 our membership dues deposits total \$6345.00

Senior Center Donations Received:

A \$4,500.00 check was received from the Mabel Fischer Grant Foundation on October 10, 2022. A \$4,000.00 must be allocated to pay instructor Gabriella Takacs-Fabry for exercise and dance classes from November 2022 to June 2023. The remaining balance of \$500.00 will be used to benefit all members of the Oxford Senior Center.

Red Cross Blood Drives at the Center

A blood drive was held on Saturday, October 8th with 36 appointments scheduled. Next scheduled blood drive will take place Saturday, February 4th.

Motor Coach and Extended Trips:

- October 25th- Caesars Casino-133 travelers. Commission has yet TBD
- MGM Casino and Oktoberfest trips were canceled. Each trip could not meet the minimum number

of required sign ups.

- Americas Music Cities Trip- 8 individuals traveled. Susan Kovacs was the senior center's group leader. A combined commission check has been received from Collett in the amount of \$3,878.35. This check includes the National Parks Trip commission as well as the Music Cities Trip. \$5,580.75 was the total commission earned for the National Parks Trip. \$3,778.00 was used from that amount to allow Susan Kovacs to travel with our group, leaving that trip with a commission of \$1,802.75. Americas Music Cities Trips generated a commission of \$2,075.60 leaving the senior center with a total combined commission of \$3,778.35
- Panama Cruise- 38 travelers departed Sunday Nov 6th- Commission check has not yet been received.

Senior Center Bus Trips: September

- Goodspeed Opera-October 12th-20 members traveled
- Continuum Distillery-October 14th-7 members traveled. Good feedback
- Beyond Van Gogh-October 21st-18 members traveled. Two members did not make this trip. No refunds were issued.

October Programs and Events:

- All programs classes and events have been extremely well attended for the month of October

Vehicles

- Driver Lance Kruger was involved in an accident that occurred on Tuesday, October 11th at 479 Chestnut Tree Hill Rd, Oxford. Lance was backing into a resident's driveway after taking her grocery shopping when he was hit by another vehicle. Our van was hit on the front passenger side entry door. Two senior center members were on board the van at the time of this incident. Fortunately, no one was injured. The van was driven back to the center by Lance and was later towed to Turnpike Motors Autobody in Newington, CT. We are currently waiting for an assessment of the damage. A minivan with a ramp is currently being rented to replace the van. Progressive Insurance will cover the cost of the rental.
- On Thursday, October 27th, at approximately 3:00pm, driver Lance tripped over a member's foot that was in the aisle of our van and his hand hit another member's wrist. The member's wrist turned black and blue and was very sore to the touch. An incident report was filed and will be kept on record.
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Facility Updates:

- On October 24th HVAC technician Brian Passerini was called in, due to lack of heat in the building. Brian had to replace the oil pump on the oil burner. We have not yet received an invoice for this service.
- CRF Interior Systems received the part that was ordered to repair the partition door in the main room. The service has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00am. They will need approximately 4 hours to complete the repair, so all morning classes will be canceled.
- Due to medical illness, electrician Matt Romeo is unable to complete the necessary repairs needed at the center. I will be scheduling this work with another electrician over the course of the month.
- Eagle Cleaning Service- needs rugs cleaned and painting

Senior Center Updates:

- Annual Christmas Party, December 8th at the Grand Oak Villa-currently 147 members are registered
- New membership fee increases were announced in the November newsletter. Members are already beginning to renew for the upcoming year.

A Red Cross clothing and shoe donation has been delivered to the center. It is located in the rear of the parking lot, next to our vehicles and will be emptied on a weekly basis.

The center will no longer be offering the Center Cafe and Somethins Cookin monthly lunch programs. Caterer, Elaine Marcucio is currently working on a State subsidized meal program that hopefully our center can partake in.

8. Budget Review- doing ok

9. Old Business

- Center is not being cleaned properly. Suggested we clean every six months professional
- Craft fair was a great success
- Discussion on transportation

10. New Business:

The center will be offering "Haircuts by Donna." This service will take place in the poker room once a month. All November appointments are currently filled.

The center will be purchasing the Ancestry.com program online. This program will be used by all members who are currently attending the monthly Genealogy Program. Cost is approximately \$200.00 for a six month subscription.

I will be looking into the cost of repairing or replacing the center's projector as well as three microphones, as we are experiencing issues with this equipment

9. Old business-**10. New Business-**

- Office help- not everyone is on the same page as to how things are done. Not everyone is not paying when signing up.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Betty Andrews with a second by Sue DeScheen at 11:00.. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathy O'Connell

22 NOV 14 PM 1:25
TOP OF OXFORD, CT
Margaret A. Whit
TOP OF OXFORD