

**ELDERLY COMMISSION  
OXFORD SENIOR CENTER**

**February 8, 2022**

**9:30am**

Present: Heather Haney, Edee Witham, Joyce Niestemski, Sue DeScheen, Betty Andrews, Rae Bailey

**1. Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by chairman Joyce Niestemski with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer  
We welcome our new member, Don Mayers

**2. Amendment to the Agenda:** none

**3. Audience of Citizens:** none

**4. Review and Approval of Minutes 1-18-2022**

Motion made to accept minutes with a motion by Betty Andrews and a second by Sue DeScheen

**5. Correspondence:**

- An anonymous per is going to donate money for lunch for the pool players.
- An email was received from Ron Stebar who wants to know if the center would like to purchase poker table for \$250.00

**6. Municipal Agents Report**

Hope you are all doing well and staying healthy with all this Covid-19 going around. I can't wait for this Covid-19 to die down. I would like to say for Covid-19 to be over, gone, disappear but I don't think it will totally ever be over. I think it is here to stay, to add to our list of illnesses like the flu or pneumonia. It will be like a yearly flu season something else to add to the list but that is just my theory or opinion that means nothing! I hope I'm wrong on this. As far as weather is concerned, this winter it has been pretty mild but recently we have been making up for it. What can we expect, we do live in New England. Actually, quite a few of the storms have been just below us and veering out of our way. That's okay with me and I'm sure all of us. A few more months and we will be I for warmer weather. Yeah!

It's that time of year again for the Elderly and Totally disabled Tax Relief Program. Applications for the State of Connecticut Tax relief through the Elderly and Disabled Homeowners Programs are now available. In order to eligible for this program, you must be the homeowner, 65 years of age by December 31, 2021 and a Connecticut resident for one year prior to filing. You

must also reside in the house. Persons who are totally disabled and receiving Social Security benefits, regardless of age are also eligible for tax relief.

The Maximum income limit for this State of Connecticut program is \$46,400 for a married couple and \$38,100 for single individuals. For married couples, income from both husband and wife must be counted in establishing qualifying income. These income limits include social security benefits and proof of income must be submitted with your application. If you have any questions, would like more information on this program or to make an appointment, please call the Assessor's Office at Town Hall. The Assessor's Office can be reached at 203-888-2543 extension 3015. Monday thru Thursday. The Filing period for the State of Connecticut Tax Relief Program is February 1-May 15, 2022.

Wishing all you Sweethearts a Happy, Happy Valentine's Day!

#### 7. **Director's Report**

We currently have 775 members to date. As of February 7, 2022 our membership dues deposits total \$4,125.00. On February 3<sup>rd</sup> First Selectman George Temple informed us that as long as an individual is vaccinated, face masks are no longer required to be worn at the center. Unvaccinated member *must* continue to properly wear a mask at all times, except while eating or drinking. We continue to update the vaccination log located at the reception desk.

##### **Motor Coach and Extended Trips:**

- Atlantic City trip- February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>- currently 30 Senior Center travelers and 16 individuals from another location who will be sharing the bus. Total; 46 passengers to date
- St Patrick's Day Cabaret at the Aqua Turn- March 14<sup>th</sup>- 22 travelers to date
- Abba at the Log Cabin, MA- April 20<sup>th</sup>- 16 travelers to date
- Camp Ladore, PA- Aug 8<sup>th</sup> 012<sup>th</sup>- 9 travelers to date
- Neil Diamond at the Log Cabin- July 28<sup>th</sup>- 16 travelers to date

##### **Senior Center Bus Trips:**

No trips were scheduled for the month of January

##### **Programs and Events**

- Foot Clinic- Jan 11<sup>th</sup> – 13 appointments scheduled
- Center Café Lunch- Jan 12<sup>th</sup> – 19 members served
- Bingo- Jan 12<sup>th</sup> & 26- 95 members attended
- Hearing Screening- cancelled for the month of January
- Blood Pressures- 13 appointments scheduled with Peg from Pomperaug Health department
- Tasty Tuesday Taco Lunch- Jan 18- 21 members served
- Traditions, Roots & Branches- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – 8 members

- Movie Matinee & Ice Cream Sundae Event- Jan 25<sup>th</sup>- approximately 20 members attended
- Magical Winter Lights Celebration- Jan 27<sup>th</sup> -91 members served
- Hot Dog Lunches- approximately 35-45 members served at each lunch

#### **Programs and Classes**

- Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> program- Judge Calabrese-Why Estate Plans Fail: Part 2 had to be rescheduled due to inclement weather. most other programs and classes have been well attended

#### **Vehicles**

No vehicle issues or repairs for the month of January

#### **Facility Updates**

- The town has purchased a new telephone system through Data Tel for all municipal buildings. The Senior Center was one of the first to have this system installed. we were offered a short training session here at the center. I myself, find this system to be rather confusing and a bit complicated for most. I feel more training is needed and have requested another, more thorough training session for all of us here at the center. training session is scheduled for Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. eventually when the upgrades are completed, all town buildings will be connected to one another
- On Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> I came in to find the refrigerator reading 59 degrees. All contents inside had spoiled and were properly disposed of. Artic Air was called in and determined that the thermostat was set too low. A technician adjusted the thermostat and cleaned condenser. Awaiting invoice.
- Tuesday January 4<sup>th</sup> Oxford Fire Marshall Mark Krassner conducted annual Fire and Safety Code Inspection of the center. Two violations were found. Emergency light unit 01 in front lobby entrance and emergency light unit 17 in crafts room not working. both batteries were replaced the day of inspection. Mr. Krassner will return to conduct a reinspection of the premises to determine compliance with this order.
- Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, the urinal in the men's bathroom and the toilets in the lady's bathroom were spraying fine mists of water onto the floors. We also had a problem with the drinking fountains. these issues were due to a pressure reducing valve that was not working properly and allowing excessive pressure into the plumbing system. with the approval of Finance Director Jim Hliva, plumber Don Vaivoda was called in to fix the problem. A new pressure reducing valve had to be installed. Total Cost \$3000.00. we also received an invoice for 11-17-21 for leak in kitchen ceiling in the amount of \$165.00. A new auto vent was installed in kitchen ceiling.
- On Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> I came in to open the building and noticed we had no heat. The building was extremely cold. I immediately called Santa Fuel and Brian Passerini our HVAC contactor. Brian was at the

center within 15 minutes and Santa Fuel made an emergency delivery of fuel. We currently have automatic delivery set up through the town and had just received a delivery on January 15<sup>th</sup>. due to the extremely cold temperatures and excessive fuel use, we ran out of fuel. Lines had to be bled by Brian and I increased our fuel deliveries with Santa Fuel so that this issue will not happen again.

- Elderly Commission FY 2022-2023 Budget was submitted to the Town. I am currently working on the 5 year Capital Improvement plan.

#### **Senior Center Updates**

- A very warm welcome to our newest Elderly Commission member, Mr. Lyndon "Don" Mayers. We are so happy to have you on the board. Thank you for volunteering your services here at the center
- AARP Tax Appointments have started at the center and will end April 13th

#### **Budget**

- 5-year capital
  - New refrigerator needed- current one is 25 years old
  - Painting entire building
  - Carpeting- library, computer room and office
  - 2 new cars

#### **Old Business**

- Ballroom dancing- suggested we go every other Friday starting in March and should have minimum in class
- Bingo- person not member is playing bingo and she should not be. On the day of bingo no one should be in the room when exercising or another program is going on. should wait in the computer room.
- On days when we have big meals why do we have walking group, should be on another day.
- Motion made by Sue DSeScheen with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Betty Andrews to begin new fiscal year to have 3 no activities when another program going on. Motion carried.
- Unauthorized people are still going into kitchen.

#### **New Business**

- Drivers are not allowed to pick up people in driveway that is not plowed. should not carry groceries on unshovled driveway. we need to keep our drivers safe. please keep driveways and sidewalks clear.

Motion to adjourn made by Betty Andrews and seconded by Edee Witham.

Respectfully Submitted by

*Kathleen O'Connell*

Kathleen O'Connell  
clerk

22 FEB 17 PM 1:27  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
*August A. West*  
TOWN CLERK