

DANBURY COMMISSION ON AGING
Minutes of March 10, 2009
Elmwood Hall, Danbury Senior Center

Present: Helen Miller, Arlene Strucky, Jay Geib, Ronald Haberman, Charlotte Barrows, Sharon Kelly

Absent: James Derwin, Mary Mazucco

Staff: Susan Tomanio, Marnie Emerito, Fran Hendrickson: Intern: Katrina Barlowski

Helen Miller called the meeting to order at 2:20 pm.

Financial Report and Director of Elderly Services Report: (Copies attached.): Finances are status quo. All purchase items must now be justified. Forever stamps were received for rent rebate notifications and paper supplies, etc. were received. The senior afternoon Tea Charity Ball will be held on Sunday, May 3rd.

Municipal Agent Report: (Copies attached.): Operation Fuel Programs – seniors can receive \$1,000 by taking advantage of the \$500 program for all ages and an additional \$500 from Governor Rell's Aide to Senior Citizens. Seniors on Social Security, SSI, Rail Road Retirement, or Veterans in the Months of November, December of 2008 and in January of 2009 will receive \$250 in late May. Ron informed the commission if a senior who receives the \$250 and is working can receive up to another \$150 from the Stimulus package. (For married couples you could receive \$500 and an additional \$300.)

Senior Center Coordinator Report: (Copies attached.): May 28th is the Senior to Senior Dance. Hanging of Art for the Art Show is April 28th and the actual Show is April 30th. The Volunteer Recognition event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th.

Old Business: Helen Miller did not get an update from Ted Cutsumpus on the progress of the Senior Discount Program. Andrea Gartner of City Center is very interested in the progress of this program since she has helped on this matter. Movies in our area: The Bethel Cinema is now \$7.50 for a senior matinee and we were informed that the Lowes Cinema complex is \$6.00 before noon for designated shows and is \$6.00 all day Tuesday. The Danbury Library has free movies on Sunday afternoons and a series of Trial movies is being shown. Call the Danbury Library for scheduling.

New Business: At the March 10th mayor's meeting it was mentioned that the old police station will be given to the Danbury Housing Partnership and ^{will} could be used for Senior Housing after the new police station is opened. The noted author Stuart Woods is planning a book signing at the Danbury Library. He has written the new best seller, "Mounting Fears" and 38 other novels. The Commission is interested in pursuing a new major project and is open for suggestions.

Motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm by Sharon

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald A. Haberman, substituting for Jay R. Geib

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DANBURY SENIOR CENTER
2009 APR 21 P 3:39
BY: [Signature]

CITY OF DANBURY

Senior Center

Statement of Condition

Expenditures - General Fund

As of 02/28/09

Description	Budget As Adopted	Budget As Amended	Current Month	YTD Actuals	Encumbrances Outstanding	Balance	% Balance
5002 Commission On Aging							
5020 Salaries Regular	198,807.00	198,807.00	13,561.81	118,142.60		80,664.40	40.57
5030 Overtime Salaries		53.00		52.50		.50	.94
5040 Part-Time Salaries	72,625.00	72,572.00	4,487.88	36,721.04		35,850.96	49.40
5243 Worker's Comp Insurance	2,055.00	2,055.00		2,055.00			
5311 Professional Services	11,280.00	11,280.00	625.00	5,570.00	3,570.00	2,140.00	18.97
5315 Communication Services	660.00	660.00		345.71		314.29	47.62
5318 Postage	8,645.00	8,645.00	126.00	5,821.00		2,824.00	32.67
5319 Travel/Mileage	1,515.00	1,515.00	114.40	300.73		1,214.27	80.15
5323 Subscriptions-Memberships	520.00	520.00		310.00		210.00	40.38
5324 Printing & Binding	8,700.00	8,700.00	2,517.50	3,337.50	2,500.00	2,862.50	32.90
5325 Legal & Public Notices	200.00	200.00				200.00	100.00
5334 Outside Services	500.00	500.00				500.00	100.00
5507 Maintain Office Eq-Frntur	1,520.00	1,520.00		203.51	446.49	870.00	57.24
5601 Office Supplies	5,000.00	5,000.00		1,268.35	110.10	3,621.55	72.43
5002 Commission On Aging	312,027.00	312,027.00	21,432.59	174,127.94	6,626.59	131,272.47	42.07



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810
DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY SERVICES
COMMISSION ON AGING

Danbury Senior Center
Elmwood Hall
10 Elmwood Place
(203) 797-4686

Municipal Agent
80 Main Street
(203) 796-1513

Susan M. Tomanio, LCSW
Report for Common Council/Commission on Aging
March 2009

Department of Elderly Services

900 incoming information calls handled

Elmwood Hall Senior Center

187 program offerings

Highlights: AARP Tax Assistance, AARP Safe Driving Course, Wii Bowling League and Banquet, St. Patrick's Day Party, Home Health Care Insurance, Blood Pressure Screening, Medicare Seminar, Zumba Gold

Municipal Agent

251 office/phone appointments

Monthly Concerns: SAVE - City's Seniors Add Value Experience Program, CT. Prescription Program (ConnPACE), Low Income Subsidy Program for Medicare Part D, Elderly & Disabled Benefits information, area senior and disabled housing options, Medicare, Medicare Advantage Programs, Medicaid, Home Care Options, Respite Care Options, Medicare Rx Plans, Medicare Savings Plans, CT Rent Rebate Program, Stimulus Payment Money

SeniorNet

Spring Semester Offerings: Computer Fundamentals, Introduction to PC, Email Made Easy, Using Word 2007, Digital Wizardry, File Management, Exploring Vista

Van Transportation Program

333 one way trips

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BY:

Commission on Aging Report, Apr. 14th, 2009 Municipal Agent Report by Margaret Emerito

HAND OUT UPDATES:

HomeCare = new information about Individual shopping being offered through Ability Beyond Ability.

RENT REBATE:

Information gathering has begun. We mailed out an application and instruction sheet to all 600+ applicants from last year that handle their own paperwork. For others with agency assistance, we mailed out the forms and instructions to nine different contacts in various agencies. So far, the return signed forms and accompanying documentation has been arriving steadily.

HOME HEALTH INSURANCE

Wednesday March 11, I attended a presentation offered from representatives of Bankers Life and Casualty at Elmwood. The policy is new to me, but has been around for some time. I was interested in learning more so I invited the representative to meet with Marlene and me to get an idea of what would be involved. I am very impressed that this insurance could be a real plus to anyone interested in staying at home. Many package options are available. The younger and healthier one is the cheaper the costs. Once a contract is signed, the company's history shows that the costs will likely stay the same.

How Would you like to be in this Situation? Case History

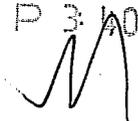
This woman is disabled under Social Security but she is not yet qualified for Medicare Health Insurance. It will be another year before she is eligible. As of April 1st, she is on a Medicaid (Title 19) spenddown of over \$2,000 every six months (large deductible) until she is covered in full. One good thing is that I assisted her in applying for ConnPACE. This will help her with medications. The actual cost of each prescription can be used toward the spenddown amount. A major problem for her is that she is on oxygen and is very worried about payment for the oxygen. She needs this and can't function without it. Imagine being in this predicament!

Options that are being looked into:

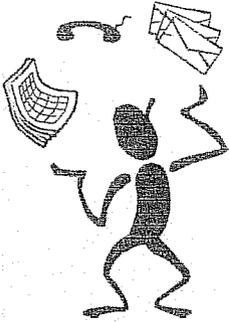
Hardship or indigent drug and medical equipment programs
WCAAA respite programs for caregivers - grants can be used for
a variety of options and services

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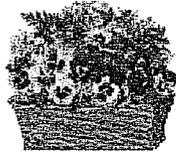
BY:



Commission on Aging Report



Danbury Senior Center Coordinators Report



April 14, 2009

"Sweet April showers do spring May flowers."

- Thomas Tusser, *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry*, 1557

***** WRAP UP *****

- March 3 ~ 1:30 p.m. ~ Welcome Spring Tea at The Village at Brookfield Common ~**
Our participation in this event was cancelled. We will do this again at a later time.
- March 11 ~ 1 p.m. ~ Home Health Care Insurance with Mary Tedesco of Bankers Life and Lana Wong.** There was a small but very interested group of people for this talk. Mary was pleased at the results.
- March 17 ~ St Patrick's Party with the Cellmates and the Iris Gray Irish Dancers.**
This was a wonderfully exciting party. Lots of singing along and a spectacular performance by 15 of Iris Gray's Irish Dancers!!! Nice refreshments, Irish jokes and blarney topped by good cheer made for a joyous time.
- March 17 ~ 1 p.m. ~ Aetna Medicare Seminar with Alena Schofield of Aetna.** Again, a small but very interested group attended this talk.
- March 24 ~ Elmwood Red Hatters "Morning Movie ~ Mamma Mia."** This is free. We supplied the popcorn and lemonade and participants brought their own bag lunch. Several new members were present along with some others who just wanted to see the movie. It was very funny with great music and song.
- April 2 ~ The Cellmates 25th Anniversary Party and Open House - 1 - 3 p.m. at Elmwood Hall.** After a horrific week of not being able to do anything with the over 200 photos of the band's history that I had taken home and scanned - I was able to complete my project with the help of Art Gilbert, Coordinator of our SeniorNet program and another friend who came to my house to help. I took three days as vacation days to work on this project. When it finally came together it was amazing.

2009 APR 21 P 3:40

BY:

***** TOMORROW *****

"Addressing Climate Change in CT," 1 p.m. ~ environmental protection talk with Laura McMillan, of CT fund for the Environment CSE.

***** COMING UP *****

Spring Art Show Reception "Re-Creating Ourselves" ~ Thursday evening, April 30 ~ 5 - 7 p.m. featuring artwork by students of Adele Moros and crafted wood pieces from the Hat City Carvers Woodcarving group. - Show remains up through May for Older Americans month. Reception is free and open to the public. Refreshments available.

"Afternoon Tea" Ballroom Dance ~ Sunday, May 2 ~ to benefit The Prime Timers, Inc. from 2 - 5:30 p.m. Many contributions from area businesses in the form of money or gift baskets to raffle. This is a major event!!

"SweetHART Bus.Learn all about it" ~ Wednesday, May 13 ~ 10 a.m. with Rick Schreiner.

"Medication Safety ~ No Matter Where You Go," Wednesday, May 13, 1 p.m. with Patrick Corbett, RPH, with Norwalk Hospital.

The AARP Safe Drivers Class

Dates for the new year are awaiting confirmation.

** April 15 & 16 ~ Wednesday and Thursdays ~ 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

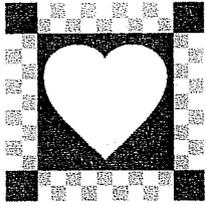
** May 20 & 21 ~ " " " " "

NOTICE: The cost is now \$12.00 for a two-session class for AARP members and \$14.00 for non-members. Completion may give the participant a discount on their insurance. Checks are payable to AARP Safe Drivers.

***** TRIPS *****

March 25 ~ Wednesday ~ Mohegan Sun Casino ~ \$29.00 per person includes PERKS in food coupon and bets - This trip was CANCELLED due to lack of interest. Only 17 signed up to go!

NO other trips are planned at this time.



QUILTING & QUILTS OF VALOR UPDATES

Quilter Eileen Bailey delivered another bundle of quilts to Praxair Cancer Dept for patients receiving chemotherapy. Our new employee, Steve Ackerman, hung a variety of quilts on the walls in the craft quad to the cheers and directions of the class (down on the right, no - up a little, etc)

These will be for sale and the proceeds go to The Prime Timers, Inc., Friends of Danbury Seniors for programs and materials for the senior center.

Re; QOV's - we have the required six quilts for me to take to Mary Eddy in Newtown to learn how to do the long-arm machine quilting as I described in a past COA report.

The Spring Raffle Quilt tickets will go on sale May 4, and be drawn on July 2. This also will benefit The Prime Timers, Inc.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Hendrickson, Senior Center Coordinator, Elmwood Hall