



Commission on Aging Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
10:01 a.m. – 10:51 a.m.

Attendance: Carl Glad, Dale McClanan, Diane Puterski, George Hangos, Geraldine Gemza, Gus Csuka, Kathy Faggella, Linda Fernandes-Johnson, Patricia Shaham, Maryann Seminatore and Guest – Kathy Beardsworth.

Excused: Bernice Bova and Justin Rompre

Call to Order: 10:01 a.m.

Minutes: June and September Minutes approved unanimously.

Updates:

- Director Puterski spoke about the Wellness Park – there will be a meeting in November about a new block grant for possible funding and they would like to start work in Spring 2016.
- Director Puterski spoke about the Area Agency Grants - \$20,000 received for caregiver and \$18,000 for the outreach coordinator; three new educational programs are being planned for November 2015, Spring 2016 & September 2016
- The CARES program has low participation & Director Puterski has placed advertisements in the Stratford Star to bring up attendance.
- Patricia Shaham suggested that Director Puterski look into placing an article in the Patch about the CARES program – Director Puterski mentioned she would have Maureen look into this.
- Director Puterski is working on new Policy and Procedure Manual for the Baldwin Center which should be completed by December 2015 – this will be for all program areas, members and staff.
- In regards to the 501c3 – Director Puterski mentioned that this has been placed on the back burner – they are waiting on the Stratford Rotary.
- Director Puterski spoke with the CAO regarding the registration money – this is currently on hold until after the November election.
- With the new nutrition program, CW Resources will provide a soup or salad and will reduce the portion size to help keep cost down – they will be asking for a \$3 donation in the future – at the end of the month Director Puterski will receive a bill for how many meals have been ordered and the donation money will be applied to this.
- CW Resources currently has a contract through December – at the end, the program will be evaluated based on donations received and the number of meals consumed.
- Dale McClanan asked how many people participate – Director Puterski mentioned that on a Monday there could be 50 and then 30-40 for the rest of the week.
- Chairman Faggella asked if there was a way to have people pre-pay to avoid ordering extra meals – Director Puterski stated that they could not because it was donation based and Gus Csuka mentioned that because it has federal funding it has to be anonymous.
- Geraldine Gemza asked if there could be an article in the newsletter about the program – Director Puterski is working on this as well as a letter for the Stratford Star as well as reaching out to people at The Lord's Kitchen.
- Carl Glad asked what the age breakdown for the meal program was – Director Puterski responded that the majority is 78 and older. She also mentioned that this is a very old program dating back to the 1960's and it may need to be more modernized.
- Director Puterski spoke about the Bereavement Program – The Sterling House, Community Services, Library and Board of Education met to discuss community needs.
- Galello-Luchansky Funeral Home will be creating a resource center for those in need and will be hosting a memorial around the holidays – they are also talking about setting up a program at the Baldwin Center to discuss how to handle the holidays after a loved one has passed.
- Director Puterski asked the Commission to think about a program called Senior Wishes – the program is similar to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Director Puterski will ask the Rotary Club to assist as an ongoing project - Kathy Beardsworth suggested they look into the United Way, Chairman Faggella suggested asking the Men's Club and Patricia Shaham suggested speaking to local technical schools for assistance.
- **Motion to adjourn by Linda Fernandes-Johnson and seconded by Geraldine Gemza.**

Meeting concluded at 10:51a.m.

Next Meeting – November 10, 2015

Respectfully submitted by,


Catherine Hausmann

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