DRAFT

East Haddam Commission on Aging
COA Meeting Minutes
JULY 22, 2021 Senior Center

Present: Brad Parker, Joe Sina, Jo Golec, Mary Ellen Klinck, Barbara Davis, Jovita Cozean, Maureen Gillis, June Guertin, Elaine Flaherty, Rob Smith
Absent: Sue Bostelman

Meeting called to order at 10:31 AM by J. Sina.

Welcome to the COA Board to Elaine Flaherty.

Minutes: The May Minutes were accepted with a few corrections.

Treasurer's Report: $5,397.33. No change in account as reported by B. Parker.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- Covid Discussion: East Haddam continues to do very well – as of last week there was only one new COVID case.

Coordinator's Report:

- There was a soft opening of the Senior Center in May with a few activities, and a full opening in June. Activity started off slowly, but numbers are picking up.
- The 'Welcome Back Picnic' in June was a great success with 108 people attending. All food and drink were donated by Nutmeg Pharmacy. The Corn Hole and Ladder Ball games were made by an Eagle Scout.
- Senior Meals: Congregate lunches will resume on August 2. B. Parker is not sure how many will show up for lunch. The numbers for brown bag lunches have dropped significantly from 1 year ago. The charge for congregate lunch will be $3. CRT will provide meals on MWF and 2 Wrasslin' Cats will provide meals on Tuesday & Thursday. Brown Bag lunches will continue probably until August 1. Today there will be 28 meals. It is usually between 21-30 meals per day.
- M. Gillis will continue to pick up meals from 2 Wrasslin' Cats on Tuesdays & Thursdays.
- From 7/1/20 to 6/30/21 6,431 brown bag meals have been given out. There was no charge, but some people did make a donation.
- Almost $11,000 was donated to the Senior Center in memory of Dot Parker.
- Consumer Union made a $10,000 donation.
- Donations are still needed.
- Pizza and Bingo will be held tonight, 49 people have signed up. The cost is $5 for Bingo. The food will be purchased by Nutmeg Pharmacy.
- Senior Center use has dropped over the past year due to COVID, but people signing in for activities, meeting, lunch, etc. from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 is 12,135.
  Most activities were cancelled for 10 months, but the majority is the Brown Bag Lunch program and Meals on Wheels. Also included is the Medical Car/Foot MD.

New Business

- The Board of Selectmen voted to add Elaine Flaherty to the EH COA Board as an Alternate.
- A motion was made by J. Golec to nominate J. Sina as Chair, J. Guertin as Vice-chair, J. Cozean as Treasurer and B. Davis as Secretary. The motion was seconded and carried.

Selectman's Report

- R. Smith spoke about the upcoming referendum and reported that the Town Budget shows a zero mil increase. There is an increase in salaries for several town employees.
- R. Smith is encouraging everyone to vote for the budget in Tuesday's referendum. The pay raise issue is a small fraction of the entire budget. There was a discussion about the misinformation about the budget and taxes and how to get the correct information out to the public. More 'vote yes' signs will be put up today.
- R. Smith reported that Finance Director Cindy V. and the Board of Finance won an award for the E.H. 2020 Budget from a national organization that evaluates city/town accounting practices.
- The tennis and pickleball courts will be ready for use in several weeks. There are 2 pickleball courts outside and 2 inside. Route 149 roadwork is causing some travel issues, but detour signs will be relocated to help with the traffic flow.
- All roads leading to the Elementary School will be chip-sealed.

Upcoming

- Farmer's Market Vouchers for Seniors: pick up vouchers at Senior Center on August 5.
- Elder Justice Hotline: 860-808-5555. For victims of abuse, scams, fraud, neglect and more.
- 'Middle of Know Where Diner': August 17.
- Ivoryton Playhouse: August 12.
- Lions Chicken BBQ: August 29. Tickets available at the Senior Center.
- Late September: annual Senior Center cook-out.

The next COA Meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2021 at 10:30 AM at the Senior Center.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Golec, seconded by J. Cozean and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Davis, Secretary