

COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES January 20, 2015, Approved on March 24, 2015

Draft unapproved: January 20, 2015, Approved: March 24, 2015

To: All Commission on Aging Members

Re: January 20, 2015 Meeting

Members Present: Claudia Giulietti, Joseph P. Villano, Katherine Lofquist,
Frank Contento, Sr, Alan Fontana, Donna Levine

Members Absent: Rodger Salman

Guests: First Selectman, Michael Freda, Deacon Ronnie Bicknell and Richard LoPresti

Staff Present: Judith Amarone, Director, North Haven Senior Center

- Ellen McDonald, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, on a motion by Claudia Giulietti and a second by Frank Contento, Sr. The minutes of our last meeting on November 18, 2014 were approved on a motion by Joseph P. Villano and a second by Frank Contento, Sr.

January 20, 2015
Commission on Aging

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Directors Report

Senior Center

Senior to Senior Breakfast – Tuesday, December 2, this is an annual event where high school seniors invite senior citizens in Town to a continental breakfast sponsored by the senior class. All in attendance were entertained by the jazz band, choral group along with holiday songs sung by preschool students. Whereas this event is in its fifteenth year it continues to remain a favorite by all involved.

Decorating the Center – Tuesday, December 2, In keeping with the spirit of Christmas the Center held a sing a long lead by the Senior Songsters while decorating the tree. It was a great afternoon where many reminisced while enjoying cookies and hot cocoa.

Annual Christmas Party – Friday, December 5, was held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Zandri's Stillwood Inn. Menu consisted of antipasto, family style ziti with meat sauce, choice of Chicken Francais, Stuffed Filet of Sole or Prime Rib, vegetable medley, roasted potatoes, dessert, coffee and diet soda. There was a 50/25/25 door prize and entertainment by The Boogie Boys. This continues to be a well-attended event where one hundred seventy North Haven seniors gathered together for food, dance, and fun.

Purple Red Hatters Annual Christmas Party – Wednesday, December 10, held at Dino's Restaurant. Whereas the group has lost many of their members due to illness they continue to gather together for

monthly outings and look forward to their annual holiday gathering dressed in their Red Hats and Purple Dresses.

Holiday Craft, Chocolate Houses – Friday, December 12, seniors had the fun of making chocolate houses. Debbie Volain and Ruth Bryant led the activity as well as Debbie donating the chocolate for the houses. All in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the project and look forward to the next chocolate project which will be in the Spring.

Hanukkah Breakfast - Tuesday, December 16, seniors enjoyed cheese blintz, potato pancakes and challah bread. Members of the Jewish faith gave a brief narrative of the meaning of the foods that were served and explained the meaning of the candles of the Menorah.

National Fruit Cake Day – Thursday, December 18, seniors had the opportunity to join in for a fruit cake making demonstration. For those that were in the audience left with a small fruit cake and because it was so tasty staff had to bake additional cakes. After all what is Christmas without fruitcake!

Bring In the New Year was held on Wednesday, December 31, 11:30 a.m. There was a 50/25/25 door prize, entertainment by Sal Anastasio and catered lunch by Zandri's Stillwood Inn that included ziti, Yankee Pot Roast, green beans and carrots, mashed potatoes, rolls and butter, assorted soda and dessert at a cost of \$13 First Selectman Michael Freda visited as we welcomed in 2015 at 12 noon.

Bingo-a-thon and Reuben Sandwiches – BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND –was held on January 2, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. began the first round of bingo; lunch was served at 12:00 noon and then afternoon bingo continued at 1pm Lunch will consist of: corned beef Reuben sandwiches, pickle, potato chips, a drink and cream puffs for National Cream Puff Day. A great way to get out in the winter and welcome in the new year.

Special Lunch with The Traveling Chef – was held on Friday, January 16, 11:45 a.m. Cost: \$4.00 Lunch consisted of pumpkin apple soup, twice baked potato, and a choice of a hot panini: chicken or vegetarian and lemon cake.

Christmas Present Re Gifting Auction was also held on January 16, immediately following the luncheon. Seniors donated gently used trinkets along with holiday gifts that were nice to receive but took up space in their home. It was a good way to donate that gift that no one needed. The auction realized \$197 in a two hour period. It was a great fund raiser but most of all an afternoon of fun and laughter for all in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Amarone

Old Business:

Nine commission members are needed for this Commission, to include one Clergy member. Frank Contento, Sr. suggested Deacon Ron Bicknell of St. Barnabus Church, as a possible candidate. Claudia Giulietti invited him to join the Commission, and is a guest tonight.

Judy brought up that the Church Food Bank is still asking for donations, specific items needed: Coffee, Mayonnaise, Peanut Butter and Jelly (for the children).

Judy visited a homeless shelter in Wallingford which, though does not accept North Haven residents, is a good model and a worthy place to donate. The Wallingford Shelter is in need of twin bed linens and belts, to be used with bathrobes.

Two part-time bus drivers are still needed at the Senior Center.

New Business:

First Selectman Michael Freda was tonight's guest, and introduced Richard LoPresti, Town of North Haven Chair for the Economic Development to discuss two potential projects for 1) Senior Housing at 555 Pool Road, North Haven on property adjacent to Temple Pines and 2) Assisted Living Facility at the property formerly known as Clintonville Manor on Clintonville Road.

A project is under way to increase Senior Housing at a two acre property adjacent to Temple Pines. The project developer will be the Housing Authority. The housing will mirror the existing 30 units, or potentially add up to 40 additional units. Parking should not present a problem with space available and type of housing. Based on the time it will require to file for a pre-development loan, submit an application for CHAMP funds and construction to be completed, the project could potentially be completed by late 2017.

There is a public meeting to be held Monday, January 26, 6:30 pm at the Recreation Center offered to Clintonville Road residents, and commission members are invited to attend to learn more about an assisted living facility being proposed at the site. The new owner would be Maplewood of Orange, CT. It will include 80-90 units; have a medical component, meals/dining room. The proposed building will be one story with an addition in back, or two stories. Judy and other Commission members expressed a positive interest in this project and will try to attend Monday night's information session.

Deacon Ronnie Bicknell sat in on tonight's Commission meeting to see if the Commission will be a good fit and a manageable commitment. Before adjourning, Deacon Bicknell agreed to join the Commission, representing the clergy.

Housing:

Wait lists for Parkside and Temple Pines are closed.

Public Comment: None

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Alan Fontana and a second by Joseph Villano. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Joyce C. Budrow Senior Center, 189 Pool Road, North Haven. If you are unable to attend the next meeting, please contact the Senior Center at 203-239-5432.