

**City of Chicopee
Council of Aging
April 9, 2019**

Members Present: C. Gemme, S. Michalik, S. Tawrel, K. Rousseau, M. Rider, S. Gelinas, L. Houle, K. LaBreck, H. Lenhart, J. Lukasik, E. LaFlamme,

Staff: S. Manyak

Excused:

I. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order at 4:45pm. There was no request to record the meeting.

II. Public input

- There was no input offered.

III. Announcements

- The Budget committee met 2/9/18 to discuss the 2018/19 budget proposal. K. LaBreck, C. Gemme, H. Lenart, S. Tawrel H. and S. Manyak participated in the meeting.

IV. Review of minutes

- Minutes were reviewed from March 2019. It was noted that the Volunteer Dinner is scheduled at the Moose Club, not the Elks. Minutes were approved with this correction.

V. Business Reports

A. March Fiscal Report

- The fiscal report for March was distributed to all members. The report was accepted as submitted. The center is right on target financially.
 - The Fiscal report was accepted as circulated.

B. Executive Director's Report

- The Executive director's report for March was distributed to the group.

- Once again, the HVAC continues to be an issue in the building. The system has been balanced and set but now that the spring weather has arrived, it will be hard to determine long-term resolution.
- There has been patches to the roof and there are supposed to be an inspection of the roof in spring and fall to insure maintenance. This results in a \$400 charge for each inspection. This is done at other city buildings as part of routine maintenance.
 - There was a concern that there have been leaks in a roof that is only 4 years old. This roof is supposed to be guaranteed and there was concern as to why this is happening.
 - The leaks appear to have been a result of ice jams. One of the leaks was near the skylight and one was near the hatchway.
 - The kids running on the roof may have contributed to the problem.
 - It was confirmed there is a \$25000 deductible for insurance claims.
 -
- Fencing companies have come out to provide a price to put up some kind of fencing to prevent any kids climbing onto the roof.
 - One price was nearly double the other. However, the lower cost did not cover the minimum that was needed.
 - The roof will be checked to be sure there is no damage due to the installation of the fencing.
- There was a crack in the Garden Room that was repaired.
-

C. S.A.L.T. Report

- The last meeting was 3/8 and S. Michalik is the current chairman of the group. The next meeting is May 10th. The poster contest is on distracted driving. Judging of the contest is May 3rd and the winners will be announced at the Chicopee Chamber on June 15th. There will be a pop up pantry every month at RiverMills.
- Smoke detectors are available through the Lions Club for a nominal fee. The Fire Department continues to be available for installation.

D. Friends of the Senior Center Meeting

- The next meeting is Friday April 12. There was a meeting for the Stepping out for Seniors, which will be Saturday May 17th, with the walk starting around 10am. Stan Walczak is leading this effort.
- Lee Pouliot will present the landscaping proposal along with pricing and drawings. The hope is to get this moving forward this spring.
 - Sherry has some people training to be master gardeners that have volunteered to help with this effort.
- Sarah the Fiddler is holding a concert at Collegian Court. Tickets are available at the desk for \$20. As of now, 64 tickets have been sold.
 - It was noted that a similar concert is being held in West Springfield for the same price and it included the meal.
- It was suggested that the food donations that go to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen should be discontinued because it is contradictory in relation to hosting a pop-up pantry. This was recommended as an agenda item at the Friends meeting
- A new BINGO wheel was purchased for the center.

E. Café Report

- The café is very successful and it runs out of food all the time. It was noted that the construction workers for the building next door are coming for meals as well. There is never any extra food left.
- Sherry was told by purchasing we have \$10,000 year to spend on food. She has asked for a list of people who are on the bid list.
 - She has consulted with another department and learned she can use any of the people on the list for purchasing.
 - They are using Performance Food and Costco for most of the items.

F. City Budget

- The mayor has not scheduled budget meetings yet, so it is not finalized for the next fiscal year.

- Some long range capital improvements are included as requests
- There is a request for a new full time position for the café. Someone who could track inventory would really improve efficiency.

G. Title 3 Grant

- This grant is expiring and the funding has currently been directed towards transportation. It was the recommendation that this will be the focus for the next funding request. RiverMills averages 70 -80 trips just for shopping. The cancellation rate has vastly improved since last year.

F. Volunteer Dinner

- Planning is continuing for the dinner. Invitations were sent out on 4/8/19. They will be checking to ensure that there will be servers available. The City Council will be asked to assist if there are not enough servers.

G. Age Friendly Community

- A meeting was held last week, with Lee Pouliot leading the group. There is a meeting planned for next month at RiverMills about this project.
 - There was a small survey sent out for feedback about the Age Friendly Community. There were less than 150 respondents so the meeting at RiverMills is hoped to gain more public input.
 - This meeting is Wednesday May 15th 4 – 6pm. It is intended to be a listening forum about the future of Chicopee related to becoming an Age Friendly City.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 5:35

- **Next meeting May 14, 2019 4:45pm**

Submitted by



Karen S. Rousseau