

Milford Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes, May 9, 2011

Members Present: Cynthia DeLuca, Dick Dowin, Joyce Elwell, Connie Jagodzinski, Mike Petrucelli, and Shirley Serrano.

Absent: Phil Caporusso, Lillian Holmes and Terri Amann.

Aldermanic Liaisons: Phil Vetro was present. Pam Staneski was absent.

Also in attendance were Janice Jackson and other staff members of the Senior Center.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Cynthia DeLuca, Vice Chairman, who conducted the meeting in the Chairman's absence. The Vice Chairman called for a motion for acceptance and approval of the April 11, 2011 meeting Minutes. A Motion was heard, seconded, a vote for approval taken and the Motion prevailed.

Chairman's Report and Correspondence:

Cynthia mentioned there was no report due to the absence of the Chairman. Janice Jackson shared a thank you letter from the family of a client who participates in the Ahrens Program.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Mike Petrucelli, discussed the Treasurer's Report. Cynthia DeLuca entertained a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and refer the report to the Finance Committee. Dick Dowin so moved. seconded by Connie Jagodzinski. A vote was taken and the motion prevailed.

Committee Reports:

Cynthia DeLuca stated that there were no meetings of the Personnel or Finance Committees and therefore no Committee Reports were presented.

Executive Director's Report:

Janice Jackson reported that she attended the AARP Income Tax luncheon. Bill Soisson reported that the AARP Volunteers completed approximately 600 Income Tax returns. Janice also reported that she and Mary Allen Heerema also attended the budget hearing for the City Budget.

Janice also reported that the Senior Center staff gave a farewell party and gift card to Anne Marie Ventimiglia due to the fact Anne Marie and her family moved to North Carolina. She also discussed that the HR Manager is still accepting applications for a full-time transportation supervisor and two part-time drivers. The full-time position was recently posted on the Center's website. Janice also mentioned that the social work student intern's last day was April 28th and that she attended a Breakfast for Supervisors/Field Instructors at Sacred Heart University. Mike Petrucelli commented there is a good relationship with Sacred Heart regarding social work student interns.

Shirley Serrano inquired regarding the \$1500.00 grant from Shop Rite. There was a discussion regarding donations from Shop-Rite and other stores. Cynthia DeLuca asked if there were any further questions and having heard none the Board progressed to a discussion of New Business.

New Business:

There was a general discussion of the Senior Citizen Bill of Rights. Janice stated that she received an email from the Executive Director of the Milford Housing Authority inquiring about the Board of Director's position on the Bill of Rights for Senior Citizens. Cynthia DeLuca commented that we already have Rules of Behavior for our senior citizen members that integrates much information found in the Bill of Rights. Janice Jackson stated that she and the HR Manager will consult the City Attorney's office regarding the Bill of Rights effective October 1, 2011.

The Mini-Lunch Program Manager, Wendy Ferraro, discussed changes in the menu due to cost increases of certain items. Wendy distributed notes on the reasoning behind the changes with comparison information as to the cost of comparable meals at other sources. She discussed the cost increase in coffee, bread, and other food items and stated she believes an increase of 50 cents for lunch is justified. Wendy stated that a \$3.00 cost for dinner is reasonable. Janice Jackson discussed lettuce and tomato elimination and fuel charges as they affect food prices. Connie Jagodzinski questioned why there is the need to increase the cost of food for seniors when there is savings. In response there was a general discussion regarding the need to respect the different uses for funds. Joyce Elwell commented that food has always been paid for by members item that was self sustaining or a break even situation. Shirley Serrano commented it's not fair to compare local prices of delis to what is supplied at the Center. Connie Jagodzinski commented that there are only certain members that struggle to be able to pay for lunches. Wendy commented that there are certain people that are helped routinely. There was a general discussion regarding limiting the increase to 25 cents only.

Cynthia DeLuca requested a motion to approve the increase. Mike Petrucelli moved to limit the increase to \$2.75 for full meals and \$1.25 for a sandwich. Shirley Serrano and Joyce Elwell both suggested requesting donations from food companies. Mike Petrucelli moved to increase the sandwich meal cost to \$1.75 and the cost of the full meal to \$2.75. Shirley Serrano seconded. There was discussion and agreement that the cost increases would be effective as of June 1, 2011. A vote was taken and the Motion prevailed.

Cynthia DeLuca asked for any further new items for discussion and having heard no additional items for review she then requested a motion for adjournment. A Motion was made, seconded, a vote was taken and the Motion prevailed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Elwell, Secretary
Milford Council on Aging