

Sherman Commission on Aging

Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 22, 2016
Mallory Town Hall, 6:00 PM

APR 26 2016
FINAL 4:34 PM

Present: J. Wey, A. Jellen, J. McRoberts, and S. McMahon

Absent: J. Garcia and E. Hayes

Public & Invited: H. Bray, J. O'Connor, Carol Faure, Social Services Suzette Berger, and Commission Clerk C. Branson

Call to Order: Chair, J. Wey Called the Meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m.

Introductions: Chair, J. Wey recognized H. Bray and J. O'Connor from the audience, who have expressed interest in joining the Commission.

Senior Center Report:

Social Services, Suzette Berger, informed the Commission that the next scheduled Senior Potluck Luncheon will be March 14th any Commissioners attending are encouraged to arrive at 11:30am to assist with set up. There will be free blood pressure screening available that morning also. The February luncheon was cancelled due to inclement weather. February was an active month, the Flower Show outing was a success, the bus was full and with several new faces. March 16th will be the annual St. Patrick's day celebration at the Hearth. The lunch will cost \$ 20.00 per person and is all inclusive except for alcohol. The Interns have been busy with activities, this week the offering was Bingo which was lots of fun. In honor of the Julia's Wings foundation, the Seniors assembled red ribbons for the Community to display showing support for Aplastic Anemia awareness. Coming up will be Matthew's Hearts for Hope, which is an event to promote awareness of Heart Disease. This is a joint effort which brings Seniors and Elementary School students together. The Computer workshop was well attended and very successful. The next workshop is scheduled for next Thursday. This also brings Elementary students and Seniors together. The Commission discussed holding a smart phone workshop in the future. The interns have been working on bringing awareness to discounts that are available for Seniors such as prescriptions and local restaurants. Upcoming events include Elder Abuse & Scam Awareness and a Probate Workshop. The Town purchased two laptops for the Center out of Town funds. The Friends of the Center funding was not used as previously discussed. The Commission discussed the next "need" for the Center. A. Jellen visited the Center and assessed the air conditioner needs for Suzette's office. They will submit a request for approval to the BoS for an air conditioning unit.

Approval of Minutes of January 25, 2016:

Commissioner J. McRoberts Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of January 25, 2016 with Amendment to the Senior Center Report, to correct the spelling of Dr. Varano and rephrase the second to the last sentence to read " Tax Assistance referrals are available at the Center."

Seconded by: S. McMahon

Vote: For: Unanimous

Old Business

FY 2016-17 Budget Proposal Submittal

The 2016-17 Budget request was submitted, but kicked back. The numbers were inaccurate. Changes this coming year include 3.8 additional hours to the transportation line to allow a monthly trip to the Library. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of adding a request for \$ 600.00 Activities line which would allow for a broader selection of activities offered to the Seniors. New Fairfield has a \$ 30,000.00 Activities Budget. There was discussion regarding moving a line out of Public Works' budget which is for the Maintenance of the Senior Transportation vehicles. This is not an additional line it is just being removed from the Public Works Department and added to the Senior Center. The Commission discussed the future needs for the coming year.

New Business

Correspondence:

A letter was read onto record from the New Fairfield Commission on Aging inviting Chairs of area Commissions on Aging to attend a Tri-Yearly Collaborative Meeting. Ms. Wey replied that Sherman would be interested to attend. Discussion followed regarding choosing a Board representative.

Discussion with interested parties J. O'Connor and H. Bray:

Chair, J. Wey thanked Ms. Bray and Mr. O'Connor for their interest in joining the Commission. She asked if either party leaves Sherman for the Winter, both replied no. She informed them if there is inclement weather, the meetings are cancelled. Chair, Wey will review the By-Laws of the Commission to see how many members make up a Quorum. No Action took place.

Discussion of dates for a "Did you know" campaign Workshop:

The Commission discussed dates to work on concepts for the campaign, J. O'Connor expressed his desire to be involved with the campaign. The idea is to create a flyer which will be mailed and included in the newspaper distribution and available on the Town Website. The intent of the flyer is to bring awareness of local programming and other points of interest that are directed toward the aging community of Sherman. The print will be larger format to fit the needs of the readers. J. McRoberts, S. McMahon and J. O'Connor agreed to meet at the Senior Center March 1st at 1:30 pm to work on the concept.

Items to be added to the Agenda for next month:

S. McMahon would like to discuss recommending to Charter Communications a cable rate discount for Seniors.

Adjournment

Commissioner J. McRoberts Adjourned the Meeting at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:


Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

March 21, 2016

*APPROVED AS FINAL AT THE MARCH 21, 2016 RMM