



TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD
COUNCIL ON AGING
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April 18, 2018
Senior Center
Minutes

Members present: Chair Judith Hoag, Sharon Barry, Noreen Suriner, and Priscilla Suriner.

Administrative Staff: Director Lois Leonardo-Bell

Guest: Pat Jones

Regrets: Crystal Main and Laurie Lafreniere.

Meeting opened at 1:30

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve 2018-03-07 minutes as is. Passed unanimously

Director's Report: After withdrawal by Tolland, Granville and Russell and the resignation of a recently hired Outreach Worker; Emmett Schmarsow, EOE, recommended that SHCOAC disband and join the Northern Hilltown COA's Consortium, and reduced the SIG grant by half. To show incentive to remain a consortium and establish a store-front location, the Consortium appointed Sue Kucharski as Interim Director & Outreach Worker. Office space was rented @ \$350 per month. Payment for Sue will be 20 hours weekly @ \$15 per hour. The towns were asked to decide by May to support the consortium. Transportation (FRTA) has been the main focus. FRTA is not utilized in Middlefield but is held as a placeholder. Leasing costs were not considered wise, and outreach should be actively pursued. Middlefield is willing to help promote the consortium and contribute the regular annual dues of \$250.

Purple Heart Recipient: Tim Pease stated that the replica of the log cabin rumored to have been built by Cornelius Vreeland cannot be brought upstairs to the museum. He will check with John Savery, before moving it up to the Fair with help from family and friends. A COA booth was suggested and the origins of Elijah Churchill discussed.

Fall Prevention Workshop: A fall prevention workshop seed grant for \$1,000 plus equipment was applied for several times. Stipulations include twice weekly classes, attendance fees and continued programming with a certified therapist. A twice weekly program is difficult to maintain, and we want the seniors upright with their money intact. We'll see if we qualify for the equipment grant and hire our own therapist. A motion was made and seconded to purchase resistance bands for up to \$100. Motion passed unanimously.

TV and Internet: Noreen found a 65" Vizio at \$589.99, a 58" Samsung for \$519, and a 65" Samsung for \$800. Purchasing internet and Fire TV Stick was discussed. Lois will talk to Verizon at BJs.

Food pantry: Creating a food pantry was discussed. Sharon Barry, food pantry volunteer, stated the restrictions for having foods donated by the USDA. This will be further discussed after locks are keyed.

Foot Clinic: June 21st.

Dump Run: Lois is hosting the 22nd, Suzanne the 29 and ask Laurie to do the 6th.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 3:15. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne C. Lemieux