

**WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING, INC.**  
**September 15, 2023**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Karen Anderson, Anne Bernick, Evangeline Bourgeois, Tom Daly, Rosemary DeAngelis, Rocco DiGenova, George Duffy, Tom Finn, Jane Fisher, Alberta Flynn, Susan Gomes, Ronald Graziani, Audrey Grove, Glenn Havumaki and Bill Viola

**EXCUSED:** Tara Knapp

**ABSENT:** Steve Allinson

President Tom Daly called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

President Tom Daly asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June 16, 2023 Secretary's Report.

**Alberta Flynn made a motion to accept the June Secretary's Report. Rosemary DeAngelis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**June, July and August 2023 Operating Account Report**

Treasurer George Duffy first reported for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Receipts were \$1,077,095 and expenditures were \$1,074,104. This resulted in a positive carryover of \$2,991 which will be applied to the 2024-2025 budget. Next, Treasurer Duffy reported on the two months of the new budget year ending August 31, 2023. Receipts are \$164,449 which is \$2,207 above the Budgeted amount of \$162,242. Expenditures are \$175,312 which is \$13,070 above the budgeted amount. This is the result of insurance premiums going up, paying for a caterer in the kitchen to cover for a medical leave and paying for group therapy up front and reimbursed afterward from the grant.

**Ron Graziani made a motion to accept the June, July and August Operating Account Report. Audrey Grove seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**June, July, and August 2023 Program Account Report**

Program Director Karen Anderson reported that Club 60+ is doing well with 263 members, of which 241 have SilverSneakers or Renew Active. July checks for both netted \$3,018. The Tag Sale was last week with 27 vendors, 7 of which were ours. It was outside and the rain held off but not the oppressive heat. Netted about \$900. Lake View Café is doing well with revenue last month of \$5,500. Two overnight trips (one to Saratoga, NY and another to Catskills, NY) for a commission of \$1,600.

**Anne Bernick made a motion to accept the June, July and August Program Account Report. Glenn Havumaki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

President Tom Daly asked that the Consent Agenda be accepted.

**Evangeline Bourgeois made a motion to accept the June, July and August Consent Agenda. Jane Fisher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Executive Director**

Executive Director Bill Viola reported that some good things have happened since we met last and some not so good things. Back in June, I believe I mentioned an incident on one of buses where a women's wheelchair fell over on the bus. It is now being handled through the town's auto insurance and our liability. It's disconcerting. Our General Liability, Property, Crime, Professional Liability, Auto, Abuse & Molestation insurance package, as well as our umbrella policy insurance increased by \$5,000 for the year. ED distributed copies of the coverage summary from the Risk Strategies of the Gowrie Group. Another unfortunate incident with one of our busses with the same driver. Apparently, there was a mishap with the lift on the bus and the driver was hurt. Has since filed a worker's compensation claim which is the first one in ten years. The cost for the annual audit from Carney, Roy & Gerrol has also increased by \$1,800 this year. They were here on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and it went well thanks to all the hard work in preparing by our Office Manager Carmela DiCesare. There were no surprises. Tom Roy will be here next month to present a brief audit report. Public Works installed steps and handrails for the bocce courts and they're happy. Membership is booming. Over 50 members joined last month and the overall membership is almost up to 4,100. Staff had first aid training from Anne Bernick prior to the regular staff meeting last month. The next staff meeting will have Donna Santamario from Workers Comp Trust to conduct a Safety Committee training to begin September 28<sup>th</sup>. Political season begins again but so far, we only have one candidate, Riley O'Connell who is running for Mayor. He will be here Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> and will talk before the entertainment that evening. There have been a lot with evening and week-end events and we couldn't have done it without volunteers and I'm very grateful to Karen and Erin for all their work. Celebrate Wallingford is coming up and ED is looking for volunteers to help on October 7 & 8. Had a walkthrough from the town building committee on September 1<sup>st</sup>. They noticed some of our roof leak damage but otherwise said the building was in great shape compared to other town buildings. Received a phone call yesterday afternoon from Beverly Kidder, Director of AASCC. We are being recognized on October 25<sup>th</sup> at their annual meeting for the comprehensive programs we offered both during and after covid. Very humbling and appreciate the recognition. ED will be away on vacation from September 20 – 27.

### **Program Director**

Karen Anderson reported that it was a busy summer and reviewed the events held. R Band was here for the month of July and there was over 100 people for every Thursday. Masonic is sponsoring our monthly birthday party and they provided a nice sheet cake. Next week is the End of Summer party with Cheshire Senior Center and there are 80 people signed up and an additional 25 people from Cheshire. The YMCA is having a health fair and offered us a table. It is on Saturday, October 28th and Erin and Debbie have volunteered to main a table for the Senior Center. A Broadway show that was scheduled changed to another show but we still have a full bus. The Wallingford Library is sponsoring a tech connect program with free technical help to anyone. Two gentlemen come in two days a week and are doing a great job. There will be flu vaccine clinic on October 17<sup>th</sup> provided by East shore District Health Department. November 4<sup>th</sup> is the holiday fair and there is a waiting list for vendors. July, we lost two very good volunteers and impacts all of us.

## **Memory Lane**

Debbie Markiewicz stated she was glad to be there and wanted to thank the Board for the generous bonuses. Memory Lane went on a couple out trips this summer – a fashion show in North Haven; a pizza luncheon at Gouveia Winery and a cook out at a volunteer's house. Next week we are to Norton Farm in Cheshire for apple picking. Lost four members in the last month due to some health issues and moving to an assisted living facility. But we did gain a new person. The Alzheimer walk is this month and we have been collecting money with a quarter table throughout the year and have raised over \$500. Hoping to raise at least \$1000 for the walk. Met with a professor from Quinnipiac College and they want to do a legacy program with Memory Lane and the Center. Sounds like an exciting program to help seniors remember their past. The information will be put into book form at the end of the process and will be presented to them at a ceremony. Spread the word about our program. Have been trying to do a lot of networking. Thanked the Board for having her.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Grant Update**

ED played a voice mail he received on August 28<sup>th</sup> from Claire Cote, Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Liaison, State Unit on Aging. She was calling to congratulate him for having the first AARP grant awarded due to his diligence and quick responses throughout the process. Will be using this to repair the a/c which is \$131,492. First approved senior center in the state. The AASCC ARPA grant for the weekly support groups is running remarkably well and the people are very appreciative. Just working through all the paperwork they are asking for. We have spent \$7,980 of the \$19,500 grant through June. Glad to be providing the services.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Program Budget**

Distributed a copy of the program budget for this year. The program account is very healthy, thanks to Lake View and the Silver Sneakers and Renew Active programs.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Anne Bernick distributed a flyer for the Health Department's assessment, asking people to participate. Audrey Grove mentioned a show called The Blue Zones which she highly recommended. It has made her rethink a lot of things. There are four episodes on Netflix. On that note, George Duffy recommended a book called *Outlive*, which is on the best seller list.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Rosemary DeAngelis made the motion to adjourn. Anne Bernick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth H. Johnson  
Administrative Assistant