

**WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING, INC.**  
**March 15, 2024**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Steve Allinson, Karen Anderson, Anne Bernick, Tom Daly, Rosemary DeAngelis, Rocco DiGenova, Tom Finn, Jane Fisher, Alberta Flynn, Susan Gomes, Ronald Graziani, Audrey Grove, Glenn Havumaki, Tara Knapp and Bill Viola

**EXCUSED:** George Duffy and Evangeline Bourgeois

**ABSENT:**

President Tom Daly called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

President Tom Daly asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 16, 2024 Secretary's Report.

**Tara Knapp made a motion to accept the February Secretary's Report. Rosemary DeAngelis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**February 2024 Operating Account Report**

Executive Director Bill Viola reported on the eight months ending February 29, 2024. Receipts are \$657,458.10 which is \$8,488.78 above the budgeted amount of \$648,969.32. Expenditures are \$665,473.43 which is \$16,504.11 above the budgeted amount. There was also a double charge for the pension account last month which was then credited. All of this results in a net negative of \$5,674.88. Again, with four months still to go in this budget year, it should even out.

**Ron Graziani made a motion to accept the February Operating Account Report. Audrey Grove seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**February 2024 Program Account Report**

Program Director Karen Anderson reported that things are healthy. Now have over 300 members for Club 60+. SilverSneakers and Renew Active had 1,162 swipes for \$2,511. Trips have a good revenue right now but still have to pay out for the trips. Lake View made \$2,839 after expenses.

**Alberta Flynn made a motion to accept the February Program Account Report. Susan Gomes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

President Tom Daly asked that the Consent Agenda be accepted.

**Anne Bernick made a motion to accept the February Consent Agenda. Glenn Havumaki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**



## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Executive Director**

Executive Director Bill Viola wanted to thank Ron Graziani for filling in for George Duffy with signing WCOA checks. Also, would like to thank the board members who attended the FOIA and Ethics training on February 29<sup>th</sup>; it was a good showing by the board. Thanked Tom Daly for his service to the board for nine years and hopes he will return some day. ED always felt supported by Tom and really appreciated him. Will purchase a brick from Wallingford Center, Inc. for downtown. Thanks to a nomination by Jane Fisher, our Memory Lane Coordinator Debbie Markiewicz is being recognized by the Hamden Regional Chamber of Commerce as a Healthcare Warrior in social services. There will be a recognition ceremony at Cascade's in Hamden on April 11<sup>th</sup>. A couple staff members will attend and tickets are available on line. Karen Anderson is being inducted into the CT Volleyball Hall of Fame in the fall. She has been officiating for close to 40 years. May have noticed that the heat has been blasting in some places in the building. Reliable Refrigeration is still working on it. Hopefully, it will be completed soon. ED had some struggles with the custodial company – dumpster not being picked up, no gloves, and custodian was not getting paid. Was making a lot of calls and finally called Public Works. Has been resolved and will keep on top of it. Another thing we've been struggling with is bus drivers. Put an ad on Facebook and got a lot of responses. Have interviewed four people but unfortunately, they don't have a passenger endorsement. But continuing to work on it. Happy with new bus, and got the new radios which have more capabilities and coverage is great. ED attended a housing advocacy group meeting with Joann. They are advocating for more affordable housing, which is a real need. Steve Allison spoke on the current legislative and how it does not help with affordable housing the way it is written. It needs to change. Town electrician was in and repaired the light post outside in front. Our new sign is coming; received an email from the company letting us know it is on its way. Will be meeting with the new library director in the coming week and hope to build a relationship.

### **Program Director**

Program Director Karen Anderson reported that AARP tax appointments are still going on, although fewer appointments than in the past. But have not had any issues. Received a thank you letter from Meriden Police Department for holiday giving, as well as one from American Heart Association for a donation from grocery bingo. Had students in recently for a couple programs – art students from Choate and physical therapy students from Quinnipiac University. Today is the St. Patrick's Day party with Ashley Cruz. The pickleball program has really grown and will start in April. T-shirts were ordered for the members. The golf program will start in May. We recently lost a dear member, Emil Krol, who was 91 and loved by all. Planning a dance program in May in his honor. Reviewed other programs coming up, including the Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Also, have scheduled The Eagles Experience on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 (no dinner that evening). Announced her retirement from the Senior Center the end of June or the middle of July. Does not have a definite date at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **FY 24-25 Budget Update**

Met with the Mayor and the comptroller, along with Tom and Rocco on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Explained the reason I was asking for an increase this year and he was complimentary and supportive of the senior center. However, he did say everyone in town is asking for more money and he will have tough choices to make. He suggested making the Facilities Coordinator position part-time at first. ED has not heard anything yet.

### **Grants Review**

AASCC ARPA grant received a check for \$1,800 and billed them for last month. Remaining balance is \$3,250. Also spent another \$1,040 from the town ARPA grant, leaving us with a balance of \$20,230.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Volunteer Appreciation**

The Volunteer Appreciation luncheon is scheduled for Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Testa's in Southington. ED handed out an invitation to the Board and asked that they respond to the front desk. Hopes to see everyone there, schedule permitting.

**WCOA Board Elections**

Anne Bernick presented the proposed slate of WCOA officers, six members for re-election and one new member:

- President            Jane Fisher            (1<sup>st</sup> one-year term)
- Vice President     Rocco DiGenova     (1<sup>st</sup> one-year term)
- Treasurer           George Duffy         (2<sup>nd</sup> one-year term)
- Secretary           Susan Gomes          (2<sup>nd</sup> one-year term)

- George Duffy        (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)
- Susan Gomes        (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)
- Ronald Graziani    (3<sup>rd</sup> three-year term)
- Audrey Grove        (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)
- Glenn Havumaki    (3<sup>rd</sup> three-year term)
- Tara Knapp          (2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term)
- Karen Pyskaty      (1<sup>st</sup> three-year term)

**Audrey Grove made a motion to accept the slate of WCOA officers, six members for re-election and one new member to the WCO Board of Directors as presented. Rosemary DeAngelis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Susan Gomes made the motion to adjourn. Alberta Flynn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:010 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth H. Johnson  
Administrative Assistant