

**Town of East Greenwich
Community and Senior Center Advisory Committee
Swift Community Center
121 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818
March 26, 2019**

Members Present: Virginia Arnold, Suzanne Bertrand, Mary (Terry) Grausgruber, Kathleen Healey, Patricia Pollock, Deborah Neubler, Mary Rossetti, Adele Hosmer, Aurelia Dicecco, Gail Mickelson, Adele Hosmer

Absent: Jenny Miller

Staff: Charlotte Markey, Rachel Longo

The meeting began at 2:01pm.

The meeting was called to order by Charlotte M. and seconded by Mary (Terry) G.

The minutes from February 26, 2019 were reviewed. Kathleen H. made a motion to accept the minutes. Mary (Terry) G. seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charlotte M. welcomed Gail Mickelson to the committee. Charlotte M. announced that Jenny Miller cannot make it to the meeting due to the time.

Charlotte M. stated that she had not heard from Adele H. or Mary R. about attendance for the meeting. Mary R. arrived to the meeting.

Charlotte M. began discussion regarding next month's meeting that she will not be able to attend. All are in favor to hold the meeting with Rachel L. to serve as the chair in Charlotte's absence.

Charlotte M. stated that she brought in her Roku to see if it would work on our TV and it did. She said that she would discuss with her supervisor or tech about the possibility of streaming new Friday movies.

Charlotte M. provided an update on the St. Patrick's Day luncheon. Discussion ensued about the meal size as well as the music. Concern was raised regarding the acoustics. Charlotte M. stated that the acoustics had been tested prior to the event. Pat P. suggested the performer use a microphone next time. Virginia A. remarked that she enjoyed the new performer and it was nice to be able to talk and have the music playing in the background.

Discussion ensued about the EG Community Health fair. Virginia A. remarked that she was very happy to have the senior center transportation to take her to the fair.

Charlotte M. provided an update on transportation and noted she is hosting a "Transportation Talk" on 4/3/19 at 1:00pm. Charlotte M. provided updates for the upcoming programs and special trips for April, volunteer appreciation, and the senior picnic.

Mary R. asked how much membership costs to belong to the center. Charlotte M. explained it is \$5.00 for the year.

Discussion ensued about the Mother's day special luncheon. Deborah N. asked if the leisure learners have to purchase tickets. Charlotte M. stated that they do need to purchase tickets. Virginia A. asked if individuals from out of town pay more for lunch. Charlotte M. explicated that

the cost is the same for everyone whether they are residents or nonresidents.

Mary R. and Kathy H. remarked excitement about the upcoming French group. Gail M. added that there is a woman who participates in scrabble at the center who is a retired Spanish teacher and may be interested in teaching Spanish but may require compensation. Gail M. to follow up with this woman and potentially connect her to Charlotte M. There was discussion amongst members that Rachel L. and Charlotte are providing the enrichment they are asking for.

Mary R. discussed the \$15,000 donation to the senior center. Charlotte M. noted it is \$10,000 not \$15,000. Mary R. provided information to the committee about programs offered by the Hamilton House. Mary R. noted that Hamilton house has a much higher membership fee and is not a senior center, but would like the senior advisory committee to explore the programs and asked if the cost could be defrayed by the \$10,000 donation. Mary R. offered to reach out to the director to find out the true cost of their enrichment activities. Gail M. asked if the seniors would be going off site for activities. Mary R. stated the activities would be on site at the center.

Charlotte M. read aloud the letter Kathy H. provided to her written for Director of Community Services and Parks, Cathy Bradley, regarding the \$10,000 donation. Charlotte M. will provide the letter to Cathy B. Charlotte M. noted that leisure learning is an enrichment program held right at St. Luke's church and does not want to replicate a local program already in place. Charlotte M. provided information to the committee about her experience at the URI brain science fair. Charlotte M. would like to connect with some of the professionals to bring them to the center. Charlotte M. noted the largest turnout for a presentation at the center was for the Audubon and 33 people attended.

Mary (Terry) G. provided Charlotte M. with a \$1270 estimate for a BINGO machine noting that there are lower cost options. Charlotte M. explained that the high cost originates not from the software for BINGO, but from the screen equipment. Mary R. stated equipment is the burden of the Town, not the seniors. Mary R. noted that if a screen is going to be used for other town departments and not just the seniors, it should not be funded by the Town budget, and not a donation meant just for the seniors.

Patricia P. read aloud a newspaper advertisement for Theatre by the Sea. Charlotte M. remarked that the senior center is planning the Theatre by the Sea trip already.

Patricia P. stated she would like the speed bump outside the center re-installed. Charlotte M. explained they are waiting for the lot to be swept and will follow up with the DPW/Highway department. Patricia P. stated she wants a comment in the newsletter about low lunch attendance. Patricia P. also stated she wants a wooden mailbox installed at the center for USPS to pick up mail daily. Mary R. remarked there may be laws about or against that. Charlotte M. noted there is a USPS mailbox right outside of Town Hall.

Mary R. asked how Jenny Miller is still on the committee if she is missing the meetings. Mary R. asked the committee to consider whether or not Jenny M. should continue to be on the committee. Kathy H. agreed and stated Jenny has held a seat for four (4) years and she has not seen her actively attend the meetings. Kathy H. seconded Mary R.'s request that the committee re-consider whether Jenny should remain on the committee. Charlotte M. stated she will reach out to Jenny to touch base with her regarding her attendance.

Adele H. motioned to adjourn the meeting. Aurelia D. seconded.

The meeting ended at 3:06pm.