

Haddam Committee on Aging Minutes (Unapproved)
April 15, 2024
Town Hall

Chairman Mary Lou Heger opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 10:00 am.

Attendance : Bob McGarry, Mary Lou Heger, Kim Gionfriddo, JoAnn Woickelman, Kaye Burgess, Marge DeBold, Gloria Maynard, Beth Hartke, Mary Lou Pierce, Thurston Clark, Wayne Ruddy, Ron Pellerin, Mike Farina, Mark Lundgren, Doreen Staskelunas, Jen Favalora, Sherry Carlson, Neal Perrin

Minutes From our last meeting were approved by the Committee with objection by Thurston Clark.

First Selectman's Report The swing bridge in Tylerville 63-Hour Bridge Closures continue this next week. Roundabouts construction are in progress off exit 7. Rossi property in Higganum center is still open for planning and developing (six months to find a new developer). Budgets were approved. Thurston Clark questioned whether the cell tower in Haddam Neck is moving forward. Bob M. said it is.

Mike F. stated the importance of our Committee to support Senior Housing at the HES site. Bob M. said the town has a decision to make about HES property which will ultimately go to a referendum.

Discussion of Town garage location ensued as well as mention of cleaning up existing location.

Discussions with question and answers from the Committee occurred.

Senior Center Doreen shared The Haddam Senior Center was open 12 days for the month of March. Serving 116 Estuary Meals with 258 attendees at the Senior Center. In growing attendance for activities: (14) Tax Relief Program for the Elderly; (6) Spring Craft; (17) Club 60 program with RSD 17 superintendent Jeff Wihbey; (18) seniors attended Pizza and a Movie. 8 days where 20+ seniors; 2 days had 26 seniors in attendance; 1 day had 29 seniors in attendance.

She was happy to share the first Senior Center Newsletter in quite some time was launched in April, committee members thanked her and complimented on it's launch. She thanked again her intern Jill Henry on it being released so soon. She also shared her intent of changes she would like to implement moving forward.

Social Services Haddam Emergency Food Bank serviced a total of 67 adults and 19 children, serviced 2 families with gift cards to local restaurants and/ or grocery stores in town. Haddam Emergency Food Bank provided 27 families with Easter Baskets. The Haddam Emergency Fuel Bank serviced a total of 4 families with fuel assistance: 0- Oil, 0- Electricity, 0- Pellets, 0- Propane. Haddam Social Services/ Clothing Bank serviced 3 individuals with paperwork assistance. Haddam Social Services/ Clothing Bank serviced 222 people with clothing. Haddam Social Services had 1 wellness checks for February 2024. The Senior Van serviced 13 medical appointments for March, transported 8 seniors to/ from Senior Center, and 15 seniors in total attended the weekly shopping trip for March 2024. Reported by Doreen.

Youth and Family Services Jen Favalora reported this Thursday, HKYFS is hosting a community event focusing on youth substance use and mental health. They will dive into recent survey data and hear insights from HK High School students. They will host Narcan Training on April 24th at the Haddam Firehouse to gain vital skills for responding to opioid-related emergencies effectively. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is on April 27th, from 10 am to 2 pm, at Nutmeg Pharmacy and Killingworth Family Pharmacy. They will host our QPR Suicide Prevention Training online on May 2nd on Zoom. Finally, HKYFS is working with Haddam Senior Center and Killingworth Committee on Aging to connect neighbors to help seniors with yard work this Spring. Compliments from the Committee.

CRAHD Sherry Carlson spoke about tick season please beware and there is a scheduled Tick Talk April 22nd at 12:30 at Haddam Senior Center to discuss tick born diseases. Discussion occurred with questions and answers in the uptake in tuberculosis and measles throughout our state.

Club 60 Mary Lou Pierce said there will be a meeting of Haddam's Club 60 today at the Senior Center with an Art and Craft Show of Club 60 members talent at 1 pm please stop by to enjoy.

High Meadows JoAnn reported Nancy Myers is coming to entertain Tuesday April 23rd.

COA picnic JoAnn has entertainment scheduled, food and finalized the dessert for the picnic 6/24/24 at St. Peters. Flyers are updated and available for distribution.

New Business

- Vote taken by the committee to elect New Officers this June for a period of 6 months to align the new vote for period of 1 year to December to coincide with town election.
- Tri-Fold passed out

Old Business items continued to next month

- The first item of business is the Bylaws are still under review.
- Update continues on the telephone and contact list for all new members, Bob W in the lead.

Goals/Projects for 2023/24

Adjournment Motion made 11:22 and accepted by attendees.

Kaye Burgess, Secretary

Next meeting Monday May 20, 2024 Haddam Neck Fair Grounds