

**ELDERLY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**REGULAR MEETING: September 26, 2011 at 5:30pm**  
**East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room**

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*Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011:*

- I. Chairman Badstubner called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.
  
- II. Attendance:  
Present Members: Elizabeth Burns (Municipal Agent), Claire Badstubner (Chairman), Catherine Drouin (Co-Chairman), Trevor Bray, Madeleine Thompson  
Absent Members: Deb Donovan  
Guests: Judith Rajala
  
- III. Previous Minutes:  
Regular Meeting 5/23/11: **MOTION** made by Ms. Drouin to accept the minutes as presented. **SECONDED** by Mr. Bray. **ABSTAIN FROM VOTING:** Ms. Thompson (absent 5/23/11). **ALL THOSE VOTING: VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**
  
- IV. Added Agenda Items:  
Ms. Burns requested adding two items to the agenda:
  1. New Senior Center
  2. CTriad
  
- V. New Business:
  1. New Senior Center (discussion was at the end of the meeting)  
Ms. Burns informed the commission that there could be a potential for money towards a new senior center (not immediate, but in years). Money could be available from the state as well as a foundation. Ms. Burns explained that funding could be available if the senior center is part of a “ring” where other agencies are like “arms” off the ring. Other agencies could include parks and recreation department, human services, five corners cupboard and emergency management.
  
  2. CTriad  
Commission began discussion by stating that they felt Officer Forish’s presentation (May meeting) was excellent and the idea of an “Are You Okay” program is a good idea. Chairman Badstubner commented that the program is time consuming – requiring volunteers – and the town may not be able to handle that program at this time.  
Mr. Bray asked if the Triad was a “charge” that the commission was given. Ms. Drouin responded that no, it was not, but a program we were looking into to see if we can incorporate it into some other aspects of our town.  
Ms. Burns asked the commission if they would want to host (at the senior center) a couple of senior programs – Yellow Dot Program and Driving with Dementia Program. The programs would be held during the day and incorporate some food to draw people to the programs.

Mr. Bray expressed concern about the Yellow Dot Program – that it allows seniors to be recognized by others (non safety personnel) and make the seniors vulnerable to crime. Ms. Drouin explained that the yellow dot is placed in the corner of the dashboard for police or EMS personnel to see. Chairman Badstubner reiterated that this program is not mandatory. Ms. Thompson recommended putting the dot on the glove box.

After discussing the best time to do the programs, it was decided that the yellow dot program will be presented first. The group decided a late morning (10:30-11:30) may be best and to serve coffee and muffins. Handouts will be presented. Commission decided to try to schedule the program in November or early December. Each program is about 1 hour. Ms. Burns to check with the presenters to see which dates fit their schedule. Looking at Tuesdays or Thursdays (Nov 1,3,10,15,22,29 or Dec 1,6,8,13,20). Ms. Drouin recommended keeping both programs on a “Tuesday” (for example) to keep the advertising for these types of programs consistent. Ms. Drouin recommended naming the overall program: “East Windsor Senior Safety Initiative”.

Ms. Burns added that the programs are open to care givers and family members as well. There is no charge for these programs.

## VI. Continuing Business:

### 1. Budget 2011/2012:

Budget was approved for \$600.00 total. There is no line item for postage expense, therefore, meeting reminder postcards will no longer be sent out monthly. Reminders will be done by email or phone calls. Recording secretarial fee of \$85/meeting means there can be six meetings scheduled for the year.

Ms. Thompson expressed concern about funding for pamphlets or other items to possibly use at events, such as Community Day. Commission briefly discussed, with Ms. Burns, requesting a transfer of funds (BOF) to other line items. Ms. Burns commented that if it is under \$100, it will be more work than it is worth.

### 2. 2011/2012 Meeting Dates:

Members of the commission discussed when to schedule the six meetings for the year. Looking at past years, Ms. Burns suggested Sept, Oct, Jan, Mar, Apr and June. Ms. Thompson suggested scheduling four meetings for the year and potentially having some funds to transfer for other items. Commission agreed that each meeting’s agenda needs to be a “good” agenda in that it needs to be a productive meeting to discuss specific items. All commission members did agree to meet in October, as scheduled.

## VII. General Discussion

Commission members requested an update with regards to the position of Senior Center Director from Ms. Burns. Ms. Burns explained that there is currently no money for a director – previous director is being paid through February, 2012. They have hired a part-time person who started last week to help in the center and with programs.

Commission members discussed “Friendly Visitor Program” and how it worked in the past. Again, the fact that it would take committed volunteers and is a time commitment may hinder re-starting such a program.

Ms. Burns handed out a flyer “Conversations with the Candidates” scheduled for Wednesday, October 5 at the high school.

VIII. Public Input – comments only (5 minute maximum)

Ms. Judith Rajala commented that, as guardian to her father who has dementia, she would be very glad to see a program like “Driving with Dementia” come to the senior center for family members and caregivers. She expressed her support of such a program and would have liked to have information like this when she was going through this with her father. She expressed that it would be good to have a program for families to understand the legal side and dealings with the law and care. Ms. Rajala added that she would like to be involved with this program.

IX. Adjournment

**MOTION** made by Ms. Drouin to adjourn meeting at 6:33pm. **SECONDED BY** Mr. Bray.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christine Pellegrini  
Recording Secretary – East Windsor Elderly Commission