

ELDERLY COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR MEETING: October 25, 2010 at 5:30pm
East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes of October 25, 2010:

- I. Chairman Badstubner called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

- II. Attendance:
Present Members: Claire Badstubner (Chairman), Elizabeth Burns (Municipal Agent), Deb Donovan, Catherine Drouin (Co-Chairman), Trevor Bray, Madeleine Thompson
Guest: Selectman Gil Hayes

- III. Previous Minutes:
Regular Meeting 9/27/10: **MOTION** made by Ms. Donovan to accept the minutes, as presented. **SECONDED** by Ms. Thompson. Ms. **ALL THOSE VOTING: IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

- IV. Added Agenda Items:
None

- V. Continuing Business:
 - A. CTriad - Ms. Donovan updated the commission with regards to her conversation with Marie at CTriad. Ms. Donovan had explained to Marie what East Windsor has done so far. CTriad focuses on having the police/fire/ems/senior center/municipal agent/selectman work together - however, the key proponents are the police/fire/senior center. CTriad is still coming out with better and new programs to present (i.e. "true blue programs"). Marie stated that she would come out for a meeting (day) to further explain their program as well as training that is available and other material. The main objective is safety.

Commission members reviewed the CTriad brochure again. Commission members discussed setting up a meeting with Marie from CTriad and to include a representative from the police and fire department(s). Discussion continued on where the presentation should be held, time of day and who should attend. It was agreed that the initial meeting would be after the first of the year (possibly a Thursday lunch time meeting) and should include the Police Chief (or representative), Fire Chief(s), Ambulance representative, Senior Center staff member and the Elderly Commission. The meeting location will be at either the Town Hall Meeting Room or the Warehouse Point Library Community Room.

Mr. Bray expressed concern that CTriad would be for towns that are not able to provide safety components for their seniors - Mr.

Bray stressed that EW and the commission can do this. Ms. Donovan responded that CTriad is to enhance what is already in place and with their experience and tools EW can make their program even better. Mr. Bray continued to expressed concern and hesitancy to get involved with a state program.

Members discussed the benefits with utilizing CTriad and discussion continued with how the Elderly Commission can take action. Ms. Thompson asked if the fire and police departments come to the senior center now. Ms. Burns replied that due to staffing issues, they no longer visit the senior center. Ms. Burns added that in September CTriad had a conference at Fairfield University of which attorneys presented issues regarding elderly abuse (financial, physical). Ms. Burns reiterated that CTriad's purpose is to provide senior safety, bring awareness to senior abuse, exploitation and neglect, provide technical assistance to communities (including law, public safety, social, business, aging professionals and volunteers). Ms. Burns also added that there is funding available - the town can apply for a grant through the US Department of Health and Human Services and that CTriad is focusing on North Central CT at the moment.

Mr. Bray asked if there is a public safety officer in town or a police officer who is assigned with that duty. Mr. Hayes explained that the SRO at the schools is one aspect of that. Mr. Bray stated that this person would be responsible for the public safety program for the town which could include addressing/educating issues on scams, id theft, civil preparedness, etc. Brief discussion followed as to whether the duties could fall upon Mr. Simpkins as expanded duties and potentially make him a "public safety liaison". Mr. Hayes expressed concern about the position being a "new hire". The "liaison" could be a part time position delegated from the selectmen. As an example, it was mentioned that with expanded duties, Mr. Simpkins could be "Fire Marshall/Emergency Management Director" for fire and safety.

B. Meeting Dates 2011 - All agreed to submit to Town Clerk as presented today.

VI. New Business

A. Senior Center Events & Activities Calendar, November 2010 - Ms. Burns handed the calendar out to all commission members.

VII. General Discussion

Mr. Bray expressed concern over some of the activities scheduled at the senior center. He does not feel that certain activities listed will draw people to the center, but in fact turn them off. Specifically, he expressed concern that some of the "sit and create" activities

may make some senior feels that they are juvenile in mind and incapable of other advanced things. Ms. Burns replied that the activities are scheduled based on interest and the people have a choice if they want to participate or not. Ms. Burns stated that she will get feedback on some of those types of programs.

Mr. Bray further mentioned that he is disappointed that he majority of the trips planned from the senior center are based around food. He stated that it would be nice to plan a trip with more of a purpose to see something or to visit a place. Mr. Bray stated that the trip to Gillette Castle was nice – people brought their own lunches and didn't have to pay for food. Ms. Badstubner added that the recent CT Science Center trip did not involve food. Ms. Badstubner suggested that the senior center have a suggestion box out. Brief discussion followed.

Ms. Donovan asked Ms. Burns if there is an informational session scheduled for Medicare Part D. Ms. Burns replied that there is not, however anyone with questions can come to the office for a meeting. Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Hayes mentioned that he reiterated to the Selectmen that the Elderly Commission is looking for a project. He had mentioned the senior/citizen police academy and that it had been done in the past. He will inform the Selectmen of the CTriad program and also the idea of a public safety officer, at some level.

VIII. Public Input – comments only (5 minute maximum)
None

IX. Adjournment

MOTION made by Ms. Donovan to adjourn meeting at 6:30pm. **SECONDED BY** Ms. Drouin.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Pellegrini
Recording Secretary – Elderly Commission