

TOWN OF PUTNAM

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 1, 2016

TOPIC		DISCUSSION		ACTION/ RESOLUTION
PRESENT:		Chairman Dignam, Vice Chairman Coderre, Members Brodeur (6:10), Cassio, Desautels, Jarmolowicz, Lamoreaux, Russo, ExOfficio Spagnuolo, Putnam Facilities Study Group Chairman Rawson		
ABSENT:		Selectman Liaison Lasko		
1.	CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman Dignam		
2.	PUBLIC COMMENT	None		
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	A.	<p><u>October 4, 2016 Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes:</u></p> <p><i>Member Russo made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Member Desautels seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.</i></p>	
4.	PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS	A.	<p><u>Email dated October 24, 2016 from Janet Johnson regarding potential involvement with the Commission on Aging:</u></p> <p>As Janet is not an elector of Putnam, she cannot be appointed to the Commission</p>	
5.	MUNICIPAL AGENT TO THE ELDERLY REPORT	A.	<p>See attachment "A"</p> <p>Municipal Agent Spagnuolo has tried a newsletter in the past; however, the mailing labels he receives from the Assessor do not encompass the entire senior population. Member Lamoureux advised that Senator Flexer's office should be able to provide names and addresses of all seniors in Putnam</p>	Denise to email Senator Flexer's office to see if the name and address list can be obtained. Once obtained, do a cost analysis of a newsletter mailed to seniors
6.	UNFINISHED BUSINESS	A.	<p><u>Senior Fair:</u></p> <p>All agreed the Senior Fair was a success. Member</p>	

			Lamoureux prepared an evaluation of the event, see attachment "B."	
		B.	<p><u>Senior Center:</u></p> <p>A tour of the Armory is necessary to get an idea of the space and to make recommendations to the architects as to the needs of the Senior Center. Pictures/video should be offered so others can take a "virtual tour"</p> <p><i>Member Desautels made a motion to set a Special Meeting on Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 9:00am at the Putnam Armory for a tour with the architects and to reconvene back at the Putnam Town Hall to discuss space-programing options for the Senior Center. Member Brodeur seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.</i></p>	<p>Denise to warn the meeting</p> <p>Member Desautels to bring his camera to take photos</p>
		C.	<p><u>Use of St. Mary Church Hall for Senior Activities:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. November 2, 2016 1:00-3:00 Smart Phone Training by Verizon Staff 2. December 6, 2016 Fall Prevention/Blood Pressure Screening event sponsored by NDDH 1:00-3:30pm. Placement of flyers should include local bingo games 3. Brain Training Games – The Commission decided that this would be worth researching to see what is available for potential future programming 4. Use of Town of Putnam Recreation Bus – Need to have a discussion with Mayor Falzarano and Recreation Director Bousquet regarding the cost and process by which the COA can reserve the bus to transport seniors to events and programming 	<p>(C2) Denise to place a ½-page ad in the Shoppers' Guide for 11/30 edition promoting the December event. Member Brodeur to email WINY to see if the COA can go on the radio to talk about the event</p> <p>(C3) Chairman Dignam to research what is available for "Brain Training"</p> <p>(C4) Chairman Dignam to meet with Mayor Falzarano and Recreation Director Bousquet to discuss</p>
7.	NEW BUSINESS	A.	<p><u>Presentation – Putnam Senior Group:</u></p> <p>The Putnam Seniors is in search of a new president. Once one is elected, a presentation will be made to the COA. Member Russo expects that one will be elected</p>	<p>Member Russo to try and confirm attendance for the December meeting</p>

			this month	
		B.	<p><u>Next Meeting Location:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December meeting will be held at Ella Grasso Gardens 	<p>Denise to send letter of request to Lynn Bergeron at Dana Court requesting permission to use the meeting room on December 6th.</p> <p>Denise to send email to Angelica Fadrowski updating her as to the location change of the December meeting</p>
		C.	<p><u>Future Planning:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member Brodeur brought up the issue of scheduling events during the months of January and February Need to come up with programing that reaches the full breath of seniors (50+); may need to adjust the time of the programming so working seniors can attend Potential for future medical discussion such as a round-table Senator Flexer and Representative Rovero will be attending the January Meeting of the COA 	
7.	PUBLIC COMMENT	A.	<p><u>Cathy Grant – 400 Deerfield Road Pomfret Center</u> Had a conversation about senior commissions getting together and work together. The Pomfret Senior Commission was originally tasked with running the Senior Center in Pomfret. For the past two years, TEEG has been running the Senior Center. They need to speak with First Selectman Baldwin to restate their charge. There may be opportunities to co-sponsor events and programming</p> <p><u>Gail McElroy – Blossom Drive Pomfret Center</u> President of the Pomfret Senior Group. Their meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month at</p>	

		<p>6:00pm in the Pomfret Senior Center. Gail invited the COA to come to a meeting. She stressed the most important thing is to ask the seniors to give their ideas on programming and what they would like to see at a Senior Center</p> <p><u>Member Brodeur</u> Would like to know what type of free resources are available as the COA does not have a budget for this fiscal year</p> <p><u>Allan Rawson – Chase Road</u> Putnam Facilities Study Group Chairman Rawson explained to the group the decision behind moving the Senior Center to the Armory and the thought behind the whole project. The Town Hall, Library, and Aspinock will be located at Tarr Field; a new athletic complex will be built on Sabin Street, Veterans’ Affairs, Registrars of Voters, Recreation Department, and the Senior Center being located at the Armory. This project reaches across all Putnam residents as it has something for everyone. It will be proposed as a whole project, not three individual projects (Municipal Complex, Athletic Complex, and Senior Center/Armory Renovation Project). The Senior Center being located at the Armory instead of the Municipal Complex will allow for much more space and well as the ability to grow if necessary. Chairman Rawson spoke about the importance of getting out to vote in favor of the whole project with an anticipated referendum late spring of 2017</p>	
8.	ADJOURNMENT	<p><i>Member Russo made a motion to adjourn the Commission on Aging Meeting at 6:48PM. Member Cassio seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.</i></p>	

Respectfully submitted,

Denise S. Roireau, Secretary
 Commission on Aging

October 28, 2016

TO: Commission on Aging
FROM: R. Spagnuolo
Municipal Agent for the Elderly
RE: Monthly Report

Below are statistics for current fiscal year 7/1/16 to 10/27/16

Farmers Food Vouchers	43
Transportation Request	2
Legal aide	1
Insurance assistance	2
Residential housing	1
Medicaid assistance	2
Energy Assistance	4* Referred to Access Community Agency as required.

My understanding of my position as it relates to the Commission is one of information and that I would be the one to contact concerning elderly needs.

My attempts to reach the elderly have included;

- A newsletter (example included)
- Visits to the residential facilities
- Visit to the Senior Center at the VFW
- Monthly visits to the public library

Future plans for public access TV would help in reaching the elderly.

Putnam Commission on Aging
 Evaluation Results from Senior Information Fair – October 18, 2016

<i>Business Name:</i>	<i>Improvement Ideas:</i>
Putnam Home Medical	Everything was great!
Center for Medicare Advocacy	Coffee for vendors. Shorter time frame 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Work with senior centers to bus people in. Well done!
Pierce Care	More advertising, WINY and signs out front for drive-by's. Set up is good. Shorter time preferred.
Senior Resources	No comments.
Matulaitis Rehabilitation & Skilled Care	Nice job! Would like to be involved in any community event.
Toenail Trimming	Full page ad in Shopper's Guide, WINY, PSA's. Flyers at local Bingo's on every table. Church announcements. Thanks!
Seely-Brown Village	You did a great job. Advertising was very good. Heard Scott Promote it on WFSB TV this morning. Location good. Suggest all area commissions meet together periodically to discuss concerns and share ideas.
Amplisound	Outside signage for direction and parking. Need more trash cans. WINY on-site broadcast.
Westcott-Wilcox Housing	Road signage arrows for parking. WINY for ads.
Flexer, Rovero & Commission	Refreshments, earlier start time, 3 hours maximum.
Generations	Ok turnout – takes time to get established/gain trust. Great number of vendors.
Bob Wester	Offer food, get support from DKH, provide transportation, use senior services to contact seniors at home.
CT Community Care	Provide bags at the door. Great job!
YMCA	Everything was set up very nice and organized.
Center Bone & Joint	Everything great. Looking forward to expansion next year. Use Transit, have blood pressure screenings, no early departures!
TVCCA (RSVP & Meals)	Shorter time frame, well run.
Koinonia	Great turn out of vendors – seniors not enough. Thank you!

Where did you hear about the fair?

Shopper's Guide: 7
Turnpike Buyer: 2
Church Bulletin: 2
Norwich Bulletin: 2
Midtown Fitness: 1 (flyer)
Flyers: 1
Channel 3: 1
VFW Flyers: 2
Villager: 1
Town Crier: 1

Other Suggestions/Ideas/Observations

Bags needed with the Commission Name
Coffee/cookies for everyone
Invite Davis Place
Referral's from Doctors to come to fair
Invite funeral homes
Have a raffle
Tri-State and Center for Bone & Joint want two tables together
Putnam Home Medical gets the stage
Get bank sponsorships
Refreshments
Parking signs – designated accessible spaces
Invite all nursing homes
Advertise at the Woodstock Congregational Church
Get a massage person as a vendor