

# Commission on Aging

## Minutes of the October 11, 2011 Meeting

Present: Will Bigl, Marilyn Gerling, April Holinko, Bev Korba, Laurie McMorrow, Carol Pellegrine, Emile Poirier, Joan Quarto, Jan Scottron, Joan Terry, Kevin Grunwald (staff)

The meeting was called to order by A. Holinko at 9:33 a.m. The minutes of the September meeting were approved with one correction: L. McMorrow has 20 years experience, not 30.

Correspondence – A. Holinko read an invitation from the local League of Women Voters inviting the public to a Candidates Night on October 18<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the Commission members to attend.

New Business – K. Grunwald has contacted the Mansfield representatives who are on the McSweeney Regional Senior Center Board and they will attend our next meeting to update us on the status of the Center. It is possible that the Board chair, Marge Roach, will also be able to attend.

J. Terry brought up the need for a sign to identify the Senior Center that would be posted near the Maple Road entrance. K. Grunwald circulated an illustration of a proposed sign that would match the ones at other Town buildings. That sign would cost \$4,500. C. Pellegrine questioned the durability of a wooden sign.

Health Care Services – Barbara Lavoie does not work on Tuesdays so she was not present at our meeting. K. Grunwald circulated draft copies of a revised At Your Fingertips booklet. We are asked to review the booklet and to offer comments/corrections.

Senior Center – Cindy Dainton is out on sick leave and was not at our meeting. K. Grunwald said he is helping to cover at the Senior Center while she is out. He reported that the Sparks (Senior Center newsletter) was

mailed in September to all registered voters over age 55. The new tai chi balance classes are very popular. Two additional classes were added and there is still a waiting list. Palates was cancelled due to low registration.

Senior Center Association – President M. Gerling reported that she has held several “Coffee and Ideas” meetings and some positive thinking has resulted. She is in contact with the Jorgensen staff in hopes that BOGO tickets can be available again. Drivers are needed for the new van.

Housing Communities – E. Poirier said there is a new pool at Jensen’s and they recently held a flu shot clinic. J. Scottron reported that the bocce court at Glen Ridge is ready for use. Representatives from Juniper Hill and Wrights Way were not in attendance.

Town Advisory Committees – K. Grunwald told us that the Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities needs additional members. He would be happy to receive names of potential members.

Old Business – The list of annual goals (enclosed) will be reviewed at the next meeting. In the meantime, please review At Your Fingertips as its distribution is one of our goals for this year.

Triad – W. Bigl said a successful yellow dot registration session was held at the Baptist Church. An Identity Theft meeting at the Senior Center was well attended and many questions were raised.

**Next Meeting – Our next Commission meeting will be held at Juniper Hill in the Four Seasons Room on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Terry, Secretary

Proposed Goals for the  
Commission on Aging, 2011-2012

1. Continue to ensure that the needs of seniors are represented in the Town's strategic planning initiative.
2. Promote the development of a new Senior Center as a future initiative for the Town Council to consider.
3. Monitor Mansfield's Long-Range Plan for Seniors, with a continued focus on priority issues of senior safety, information dissemination, senior center space needs and health care needs including changing federal benefits programs.
4. Continue to advocate for the installation of a bus shelter at the Route 275/Community Center bus stop.