

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

VERNON SENIOR CENTER  
135 BOLTON ROAD  
VERNON, CONNECTICUT 06066

AUGUST 24, 2021  
10:00 A.M.

RECEIVED  
VERNON TOWN CLERK  
24 AUG 27 PM 12:34

Chairwoman Carole Slattery called the meeting to order at 9:57 a.m. and called the roll: The following members were present: Janet DiTarando, Maryann Hopowiec, Ronald Kane, Roxann Lannan, Patricia Noblet, Wesley Shorts, Edward Slattery, William Tyler, William Campbell, Town Council Liaison and Susan Ward, Senior Center Program Coordinator. Absent: Patricia Iamonaco.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No public present.

**APPROVED MINUTES**

It was requested that the July 27, 2021 minutes be amended with a correction made to the Treasurer's Report stating that the balance of all accounts should read June 1, 2021 not July 1, 2021. A motion was made by Patricia Noblet and seconded by Maryann Hopowiec to approve the July 27, 2021 minutes with the noted amendment. The motion was passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was given by: Wesley Shorts

On July 14, 2021, the funds were moved out of the Bank of America Checking Account and back into the Connecticut Short-Term Investment Fund as the rate was increased from 0.00% to 0.10%. Banks continue to offer low rates and require a lock up, so this fund remains a more attractive option at this time.

Senior Center Endowment

Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2021	\$41,494.75
Monthly Interest	<u>\$2.04</u>
Balance as of July 30, 2021	\$41,496.79

Susan Ward reviewed the balance of the current budget and reported that there was limited spending during the month of July. A budget tracking report was provided to Board members for their review. There were no questions regarding expenditures.

A motion was made by Maryann Hopowiec and seconded by Roxann Lannan to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No reports.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's report was given by Susan Ward, Senior Center Program Coordinator.

There were several new activities added in August which included two very successful Pickleball presentations. Approximately 60 members attended. Chief Kelley, from the Vernon Police Department, hosted a presentation on his vision as Chief of Police. He answered many questions. He will be back in October with a possible K9 presentation. Last Friday was the Root Beer Floats event. This event was moved inside due to rain. There were over 60 people registered to attend and everyone had a great time. The Eastern CT Health Network hosted a presentation on "Fall Prevention." The Alzheimer's Support Group and the Dementia Caregiver Support Group continue to meet on a monthly basis. Several fitness and wellness programs opened in-house this month. The Chair Yoga class started up again and is also available on Facebook Live. Tai Chi was also held in-house and the Mindfulness class was in-house and on Facebook Live. The Tuesday games continue to be offered and are very popular. A TED Talk and Conversation group and a new Poetry Corner group also met this month. There were several craft programs offered in August. We had a Crafty Creations class, a "Make It & Take It" paint class and a Zentangle art class.

Four trips are being offered this fall. The only trip available at this time, is the December trip to the Aqua Turf for lunch and a show with The Edwards Twins, all other trips are sold out. We will be offering larger trips with Collette Vacations next year.

Next week we will host a Barbeque for the "End of Summer Bash." This program is full. In September, we will be bringing back our Regular & Beginner Line Dancing classes. We also added a five-week Shakespearian series on "Hamlet" and we will also be introducing an "Ask the Lawyer" series of lectures. The first lecture will be on Estate Planning. On September 21, 2021, we will have an evening presentation on the Appalachian Trail. We will also be starting a Parkinson's Support Group. A new program, "React Neuro – The Future of Brain Health" will be introduced in September. This program uses a virtual reality game to track brain activity.

After Susan's review of activities, she took questions from Board members.

Edward Slattery requested an update on drivers for the Medical Ride program and Bus programs.

*The jobs were posted and interviews will soon be scheduled.*

Carole Slattery requested information on procedures for closure of the Senior Center.

*In the fall, we will follow the Vernon school system in regards to closure of programs. In the event of special circumstances, such as, the hurricane this week, phones calls will be made to members who were registered for a particular program.*

Roxann Lannan requested information on the status of the pavilion picnic tables.

*Tables have been ordered but delivery is still delayed.*

Maryann Hopowiec requested information on the status of card playing and tile games. Patricia Noblet questioned if we are falling behind other Senior Centers with regards to opening these programs.

*These programs are still on hold due to the increase in COVID-19 cases, especially the Delta variant. It is difficult to follow social distancing guidelines while playing cards and tile games. Director, Maureen Gabriele and Program Coordinator, Susan Ward are members of the CT Association of Senior Center Personnel (CASCSP) and have found that there is no consistency among Senior Centers in opening of these types of programs. Some Centers are offering these programs, some are not.*

*There are continual discussions between Maureen Gabriele and Town Administrator, Michael Purcaro regarding the opening of programs.*

Maryann Hopowiec commented that the September newsletter is available online.

*We are still waiting for the printed copies to be delivered to the Senior Center. Hopefully, we will have them available next week.*

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Carole Slattery reminded members that the next meeting is September 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Wesley Shorts to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Roxanne Lannan at 10:18 a.m. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia M. Maheu  
Administrative Assistant  
Vernon Senior Center

