



## Senior Citizens Commission Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

In attendance: Jim Millerick, Lori Vallee, Art Murelli, Don Provost, Maryelen Wielock, Laura Chandler and Tricia Twomey.

The minutes from the November meeting were read and approved.

Don was introduced and welcomed on board. He has a life long commitment to service as he is a Navy Veteran, has been with the Fire Department 42 years and is a Dial-A-Ride driver.

**Public Comment:** None

**Financial Report:** Tricia reported that we are right at 50% of the budget which is right on track. We discussed again using some money for curtains for the mirror.

Jim asked if there were any maintenance expenses coming up for the vehicles. Ideally Trisha would like to have a car, a small van and the handicapped-accessible van but there are no immediate plans for changes or purchases. Newer vehicles would be sought after for their upgraded safety features.

For next year's budget Tricia has proposed a flat increase budget with no increase in the drivers' salaries.

**Programs:** The Ring in the New Year luncheon was attended by 34 people.

The band from the high school will perform at the Valentine's Day luncheon.

The Senior Prom is run by the school so Tricia is not involved in organizing it.

The Senior Club has experienced a lot of loss lately. Christine Griswold, who started the club died recently. Maryelen said there was a time when the center was packed with people.

**New Business:** Jim reopened the topic of the Burlington Bell grant application. He said they want durable ideas, not something like programs.

A discussion followed about upgrading our technology capabilities. Having an interactive white board would enable us to have a variety of programs, classes such as brain games or friendly competitions. If the price of a Smartboard is prohibitive maybe a screen and projector would suffice. Don will get some prices for us.

While some information based programs have not proven popular in the past some would be extremely beneficial like a Medicare information program, a safe driving course or tax help.

We don't want to overlook smaller needs though like a badly needed new Bingo machine or new card table.

Jim asked what we thought would attract younger seniors. It was agreed that updating our technology capabilities is a good start.

Tricia announced that the Bristol/Burlington has earmarked some money for a walking trail. Malerbo is a good spot because it is flat and there is plenty of parking. Art suggested money could be used for placing benches on the path or adding a water fountain.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15. The next meeting will be February 21st.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Chandler