

# South Windsor Senior Advisory Council Meeting

## December 12, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM by Daria Plummer, Chair. In attendance: Dave Bakulski, Tom Bartomeli, Rob and Barbara Betteker, Andrea Cofrancesco, Tom Field, Alva Fitch, Estelle Fournier, Sgt. Ronald Littell, Kathy Longo, Liz O'Brien and Elaine Smith.

A tribute was made by Daria in memory of Al Lussier, for his efforts and contributions to the Senior Center.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the November meeting (Betteker/Field).

**Staff Comments: Center updates:** The Craft Fair was a big success and the vendors were happy. The bake sale raised \$1,300 and the raffle raised an additional \$1,300, for the Community Service Group. Eric Chen will be here with his Community Orchestra Saturday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> for two shows at 1:00 and 3:00 PM. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Food and Fuel Bank. Our new non-resident policy will go into effect 2024; non-residents will pay a \$30 annual fee to be a member. The Adopt a Child Christmas program is going well, and currently the Food and Fuel Bank is fully stocked due to community generosity. The new dishwasher remains unhooked; electricians still working on the electrical components. A plan for adding four handicap parking spots in the first lane next to the flagpole was discussed. This will help make up the loss of the six spots lost when the parking lot was repaved. Adding more than four would be too far from the entrance for those with handicap parking needs.

**Community Resource Information:** Stuff-a-Truck was held at Stop and Shop and Geissler's on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Triad will be hosting a pasta dinner fundraiser January 10<sup>th</sup>. Sgt. Ron Littell announced that the State of Connecticut has a new missing persons program. This database will include a description and photograph of the person at risk, preregistered by family members, and allow the police response to be faster in the event someone is missing.

**Old Business:** The next Reading in the Schools will be at Orchard Hill School on Dec. 21; we still need three readers. Andrea looked into adding a button to open the door in the Banquet Hall. The button would have to be too far away from the door to be helpful. Members asked to remind programmers to use the portable microphone during programs.

**New Business:** The 5<sup>th</sup> grade Invention Convention is looking for judges, Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00 AM to noon. On January 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00PM at TEMS, an ideas event will be held where volunteers sit down with students to hear their ideas and give feedback for the Invention Convention in March. Dr. Carter will be attending the Jan. meeting.

**Representative Reports:** Dave Bakulski is concerned that the Duplicate Bridge program will fold because many players come from other towns and the non-resident fee (\$30 annual) and the weekly fee (\$1) is causing concern. Dave asked if the Center would pay the referee fee so the players don't have to pay weekly OR waive the \$30 annual fee for the duplicate bridge players. Andrea indicates that it would be hard to start making exceptions. After much discussion, the group felt the Center should not be responsible for waiving any fees or paying for one group over another. This issue will be revisited in February.

Wreaths across America will be December 16<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Memorial Park 12:00PM.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10AM (Fournier/Betteker)

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2024 at 10:00AM.

Respectfully Submitted: By Liz O'Brien, Recording Secretary