



WATERTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**WATERTOWN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
61 ECHO LAKE ROAD, WATERTOWN, CT
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**

I. Call Meeting to order:

Chair Melanie Flaherty called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

PRESENT : Melanie Flaherty, Chair
 Loretta Lambert, Vice Chair
 Heather Chace
 Debra Desena
 Sally Kuslis
 Kathy Goulet
 Al Mickel
 Carol Stepanek

ABSENT: Mary Ida Colangelo

OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Carew, Parks & Recreation Director, Laura Garay, Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Agent

III Correspondence:

- a. Letter of Resignation from COA member Ms. Kathy Goulet.
- b. Commission appointment letter from the Town Council, dated January 18, 2023 for Ms. Krista Palomba, term to expire January 2025. Appointment to fill expired appointment of Mary Ida Colangelo.

IV. Public Participation:

None

V. Approval of Minutes:

A. November 17, 2022 – Regular Meeting

Motion: Loretta Lambert seconded by Kathy Goulet to approve the Regular Meeting of November 17, 2022.

Motion approved

B. December 15, 2022 Meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum

VI. Reports:

A. Chair

Melanie Flaherty reported:

- Thank you to Kathy Goulet for her years of volunteer work to the Town.

B. Parks & Recreation Director

Lisa Carew reported:

- Thanked Kathy Goulet for her service
- We had our 1st budget review this am
- New Bus grant cycle for CTDOT Section 5310 is supposed to be released in March 2023. Looking at possibly writing the grant for two vehicles due to an uptick in need due to the population aging.

C. Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Services

Laura Garay reported:

- Trip to Mark Twain Museum
- Tree decoration party about 25 people helped decorate the Senior Center.
- Crafty Tuesday – quilling & stamping gift tags, 20 people attended
- Holiday lunch held at the Sunset Grille, sponsored by the Watertown Police Benevolent
- Art Goblief – historian on the Christmas of 1914
- England vs. Germany held a great turnout
- Joe Polletta, State Representative gave legislative update, well attended
- Christmas Party at FASC Santa showed up.
Held Secret Santa grab bag.
- Christmas Tree Store Field Trip, held 3 days before holiday
- Book Club – held a creative Cookbook Swap
- Karaoke – Edwin the DJ played holiday music, 30 people attended
- January 2023 – Laura stated only one major activity would be held due to:
 1. Launching of the **myseniorcenter.com**
 2. January weather & weather cancellations.

Laura reported there are over 400 registered at the FASC, so far 60+ have signed-up for the **myseniorcenter.com**

Al Mickel had questions about the myseniorcenter.com

Kathy Goulet had a question regarding the Energy Assistant & Operation Fuel and other Social Services opportunities.

January – newsletter – A huge THANK YOU to the Grand Oak Villa for donating almost all of the food for the Christmas Party for the seniors.

VII. Old Business:

- a. Community/Senior Center Update – Lisa Carew reported the Town Manager had told her the Town Council will resume discussion on the proposal in the spring.

VIII. New Business:

None.

X. Adjournment:

Motion: Al Mickel seconded by Heather Chace to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Motion approved

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Flaherty, Chair
Watertown Commission on Aging

Approved: _____
Susan King, Clerk