

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL ROSE ROOM
JULY 17, 2019
MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Christine Goupil, Selectmen Jack Scherban, Tim Guerra, Carol Walter and Phillip Sengle

Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

VISITORS

No visitors wished to speak at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 10, 2019

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Walter to approve the minutes from July 10, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Scherban to reappoint Regina Wohlke (U) to the Housing Authority for a term until June 30, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved.

SENIOR TASK FORCE SURVEY RESULTS/REPORT

Elizabeth Goldstein and Phyllis McGrath reviewed the survey results with the board. A copy of the results will be attached to the minutes.

CME CONTRACT EXTENSION JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020

The board received a contract extension request from CME with an extension date until June 30, 2020. The contract extension has not been approved by Planning & Zoning. It is customary for Planning & Zoning to make their recommendations prior to the Board of Selectmen approval. No action was taken by the board. Walter made a motion, seconded by Scherban to table. The motion was unanimously approved.

TOWN MANAGER

Below is a summary of events from last week with Doug Thomas from SGR.

- 20 individual interviews of 45 minutes or more.
- 1 meeting with the full search committee
- 3 public meetings all lasting 1.5 hours+. The meetings were well attended. There were no negative comments on changing to a town manager form of government.
- 1 complete tour of Clinton, 1.5 Hours+ hosted by Tim Guerra and Phil Sengle.
- 1 Additional meeting with the First Selectman
- 1 conference call prior to arrival.
- 1 community celebration on the new Green/Blue Way

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SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Reported by Walter

- Walter asked for the Board of Selectmen to receive the same financial reports that are distributed to the Board of Finance. Walter made a motion, seconded by Sengle that the Board of Selectmen be added to the Board of Finance distribution list for finance reports. The motion was unanimously approved. Goupil recommended that the Board of Selectmen attend the Board of Finance meetings.

Reported by Guerra

- Guerra discussed last week's visit with Doug Thomas from SGR.

Reported by Goupil

- The Pierson Study for Future Use Committee had their first meeting on June 27, 2019. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2019. At that time the committee will have a discussion on setting a budget and future timeline.
- Kevin Bielmeier with CERC will be at town hall every Tuesday to meet with developers. His office is located next to the Land Use office.
- Train Station upgrades – discussion on beautification of train trestle
- There was a soft launch on new town logo. The new town signs will have the new logo on them.
- Unilever property will be transitioning with a new property owner.
- Goupil has been meeting with developers on a potential sports complex on RT 145.
- Greylock Property Group has put up new tenant signs in front of the Old Morgan School. The next step is approval from Planning & Zoning.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PENDING LITIGATION

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Guerra to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation and invite Attorney John Bennet. The motion was unanimously approved. Walter left the meeting at 9:40 am. The board came out of executive session at 9:50 am. No action was taken by the board.

ADJOURN

Sengle made a motion, seconded by Scherban and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:51 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino

Clinton Senior Task Force Survey - Final Tally								# surveys: 164	6.3.19
1	What is your age:								
No Answer	<60	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90+	# people
3	6	21	40	47	15	21	11		164
2	What is your gender:								
No Answer	Male	Female							
3	35	126							164
3	Do you use/participate in the programs and services currently available in Clinton and if so please specify which service or program within each category:								
HCH Library's programs									
Yes		97							
Movies			21						
Exercise: Tai Chi, Yoga, Meditation			16						
Speakers/Lectures/Ted Talks			14						
Books/ebooks/on tape			12						
Arts/Crafts: Quilters, Knitting, Itch & Stitch			11						
Adult Events/Programs: Lupone History			7						
Reading Area			3						
Computer			3						
Atlantic Monthly			2						
Kids/Grandkids Activities			2						
Workshops: Social Security etc			2						
CDs			1						
Book Clubs			1						
Donate books			1						
Conference Room Res			1						
Newspapers/magazines			1						
Music			1						
Scrabble			1						
Bingo at the Clinton Firehouse									
Yes		13							
VFW or American Legion activities									
Yes		11							
Dinners			2						
Member Amer Leg Aux			2						
Craft Fair/Christmas Fair			2						
Quilts of Valor			1						
Breakfasts			1						
Programs sponsored by Clinton's Park and Rec Dept									
Yes		27							
Jazzercise			5						
Exercise at Town Hall			3						
Beach pass			3						
Zumba			2						
Sports			2						
Attend grandchildren ballgames			1						
Soccer Program Volunteer			1						
Walk			1						
Kayak racks			1						
Bocce			1						
Music in the Park			1						
Walk, jog or bicycle on the trails or fields in town									
Yes		67							
Walk/walk track at Peters Complex			4						
Beach			3						
Joel			1						
Peters woods			1						
Clinton Land Trust Trails			1						
Trail behind Town Hall			1						
Picnics at the town dock			1						

Madison Greentrail	1			
Run	1			
Hike CLCT trails	1			
Programs offered by the Clinton Police Department				
Yes	12			
	Citizens Police Academy			
Programs/services offered by the Estuary Council of Seniors				
Yes	51			
	Exercise/Tai Chi/Chair Yoga	8		
	Cards	3		
	Donate/purchase clothing	3		
	Meals	3		
	VNA blood pressure/health checks	3		
	AARP Safe Driver Class	2		
	Haircuts	2		
	Art Classes	2		
	Programs in Saybrook	1		
	Mahjongg	1		
	Hearing tests	1		
	Christmas Fair	1		
	Health Screenings	1		
	Lectures	1		
Home meal delivery program				
Yes	7			
	I help pack meals, I am a driver for MOW	2		
Thursday Lunch Café at the Clinton Town Hall Annex				
Yes	8			
Shoreline Soup Kitchen meal on Wed at The United Methodist Church				
Yes	2			
	volunteers	2		
Shoreline Soup Kitchen Pantries				
Yes	6			
	volunteers	3		
	donations	1		
Tuesday Shopping Bus for grocery shopping				
Yes	2			
	I will	1		
	shouldn't have to pay	1		
Transportation services for doctor's appointments				
Yes	9			
	Need Info	1		
	Rely on friends	1		
Services provided by Clinton Social Services				
Yes	12			
Federal and state property tax relief programs				
Yes	26			
	Local Vet Exemption	4		
Senior programs/services in nearby towns				
Yes	60			
	Madison	13	charge annual fee & surcharge for out of towners	
	Estuary Old Saybrook	7		
	YMCA (exercise)	6		
	Westbrook	5		
	Lunch at the Estuary	4		
	SSILL	4		
	Exercise	3		

Guilford	3
Hammonassett for walking	2
Pickleball in Old Saybrook	2
Tai Chi Westbrook	1
Women Re-inventing Retirement: Guilford	1
Estuary Thrift Shop	1
American Legion Old Saybrook	1
Shorline Men Over Sixty (SMOS)	1 at Madison Congregational Church monthly - lunch & program
Walk on town beaches, lakes, sidewalks	1
Day trips	1
Plays	1
Nine Town Transit	1
CT Mobile Food Truck	1 volunteer Old Saybrook & Clinton
Elks Club	1
Killingworth Sr exercises	1 St Lawrence Church

Other Programs not already listed

Families Helping Families: December soup contest/Christmas activites
George Flynn Concerts
Clinton Fire Department Activities
Kidz Connections
Boxes for Soldiers
Clinton Historical Society
Birch Burn Tools (?)
Friends of Hammo
free music events, art exhibits, outdoor markets

4 Do you receive information from these organizations via email, website, snail mail, social media, hard copy or not at all?

HCH Library

Yes	108
Emails	16
Website	10
Hard copy at the Library	6
Snail Mail	5
Social media	4

The Estuary Council of Seniors

Yes	60
Newsletter/Gazette	7
Snail Mail	6
Email	3
Hard copy	2
Calendar of Events monthly	1

Other Organizations:

Guilford community center	4
Madison Senior Center	3
St Marys Social Club	1
George Flynn Concerts	1
Kidz Connections	1
Christmas Tree Lighting	1
Families Helping Families	1
American Legion	1
All Things Clinton	1
Clinton Patch	1
Clinton Police Dept	1
Clinton Fire Dept	1
Politicians	1
SSILL	1
Westbrook Senior Center	1
Clinton Art Society	1
Historical Society	1
Clinton Land Trust	1

5 What obstacles may prevent you from participating in programs/services for Clinton seniors:

I don't know about any programs	67
I'm too busy with other things	42
The activities don't interest me	26
I'm still working	23
I have certain health problems	19
The hours are not convenient	18
The programs/services cost too much	15
I don't have transportation	12
They are for "old" people	11
It is difficult to engage in new activities alone	11
The locations are not convenient	10
Other:	
Caregiving responsibilities - very little free time	4
There are no on-going activities like in Westbrook, Madison, Saybrook	2
Not much interest	2
Driving at night	2
Financial	1
Tend to socialize with group of friends who live in Guilford/Branford	1
Lack of programs	1
Lazy	1
Tai Chi at Annex is unsatisfactory space-kitchen staff too loud	1
6 If you want to remain in Clinton as you age, what services/programs would you would like to see offered to Clinton residents:	
Day Trips	95
Performances and the Arts	87
Physical activities	80
Volunteer Activities	61
Discussion Groups	59
Hobbies, games	59
Other:	
Physical senior Center/Club house with activities & food	12
Groups: Book, Mahjongg, Bridge, creative writing, walking	8
Classes: painting, cooking/nutrition, arts & crafts, music	5
Affordable housing/senior communities	4
Central location for Seniors to get program/service information	2
Transportation	2
Safety Check network	2
Computers - tech support	2
Intergenerational teaching opportunities re life skills	2
Exercise: yoga, meditation, arthritis, pickleball courts	2
Free access to the town beach	2
Movie nights	2
Directory of service providers for yard/house upkeep/shopping hel	1
Daycare for adults	1
Classes: retirement/taxes issues, foreign languages, town history	1
Bocce League at the Town beach	1
Music	1
7 Do you prefer daytime or evening services/programs offered in Clinton?	
Daytime	118
Evening	58
evenings seasonally - not in winter	1
late afternoon 4-6 best, 7 pm is pj time	1
Weekend	1
8 Do you need/would you use transportation services to these Clinton based services/programs?	
Yes	17
No	93
I don't need them now but as time goes on	38
9 How do you generally learn or receive information about programs/services:	
Harbor News	120
Email	81
Flyers at local establishments, Town Hall, Library	69
Social Media	54
Snail mail	36
Patch	28
Phone Calls	8

Other:	
Word of Mouth	9
Friends	6
Never receive any information	2
St Marys Social Club	1
Town Website	1
Wish there was one source of information	1
Newsletters from other senior centers	1
10 What barriers might prevent you from maintaining independent living in your home?	
Home Maintenance and physical upkeep - indoor & outdoor	20
Financial - cost of living too high	18
Taxes	15
Poor health	14
Stairs	12
Aging	7
Transportation when I can no longer drive	5
Distance From Town	2
Need a bedroom on the first floor	2
Lack of handicap facilities/home not wheelchair friendly	2
Need to downsize	1
Cost of home care	1
Currently selling big house	1
Have spouse with Alzheimers & I cannot care for us both	1
Trustworthy assistance from handyman	1
Rents not allowing pets	1
Cost of making home handicap accessible	1
Paying off mortgage	1
Regular loss of power for heat/water - generator too expensive	1
Mental impairment	1
11 What senior housing alternatives would you like to see developed in Clinton?	
Affordable/low income housing/town houses - handicap accessible	29
One floor ranch style condos	8
Senior community built - rental or owned with clubhouse, pool etc	4
Make Pierson School into senior housing	4
Options that allow pets	2
Housing options in town	1
Mixed development affordable housing	1
Guaranteed levels of needs from minimum to maximum income	1
Hi Rise elevator building with community room & gardens	1
More housing like Glenhaven complex	1
Apts/condos accessible by foot to:	1
9 Town Transit, Library, Town Hall, Post Office, Pharmacy	
12 What needs of Clinton Seniors are not currently being addressed by the Town or local organizations?	
Senior Center/meeting place	33
Taxes/Tax Relief/tax credits for seniors	8
Affordable & low income senior housing	8
Independent living complex with continuing care options	3
Safety needs of those living alone/get Chief of Police involved	3
Cost of living in CT	2
Senior housing that is affordable for seniors that do not qualify for extra help	1
Financial needs ... taxes are very high ... very few rental properties	1
One on One help for the general purpose of daily living as a single senior	1
Pool for various elderly needs	1
Physical therapy for seniors	1
A telephone line for advice and professional assistance	1
Property, rent and energy relief programs and dates	1
Medical transportation	1
Daily meals	1
Programs that help with budgeting needs of seniors - more retail discounts	1
Health and exercise programs for seniors	1

13 Is there anything not yet addressed that you believe would be important for the Task Force to know and consider in planning future programs & services?

Have a senior information meeting with a guest speaker once a month - could be the selectman, state rep, park & rec... most towns have a senior center or have Clinton join with Madison to share the costs - address the town planner that is needed to compete in this business environment especially with all the closed business properties that need an expert's attention

Places such as Guilford have combined their Park and Rec dept with Senior Activities, which worked out very well

Issues of living alone especially if no family in area - issues of maintaining home/property

We have a large senior population in Clinton and there should be more opportunities for them. Open the town refuse center more days. It is not adequate for the town. We have to rely on private companies. Consider Pierson school for affordable housing and Senior Center. Henry Carter Hull Library is an incredible resource for our town. The Clinton Fire Department budget should be increased.

Senior affordable housing

Transportation is the single most issue for seniors. They just can't drive at night. Implementing a service for getting seniors around town on a timely basis would help. The bus cannot do that

Better involve the towns people. The politics are taking over and it's not for the better of the town. It's very sad to say but seems like it's only changing to better the town hall high chain of command. Need to change in house too.

Take a look how Madison, Guilford or Old Saybrook offer services... there is no meeting building with activities planned through out the day

We need a senior center in town

Getting information out/have regular communication going out one central source for all available programs for seniors and vets for free

Would like a handout brochure listing all available resources with contact information

An advocate for seniors, all services to keep seniors in their home

It's nice that the town has a dog park (which costs plenty) but no senior center. That speaks volumes about how seniors rate in this community

I think the Clinton Town Annex is a perfect place for seniors - easy access in and out and it's a very pleasant place - it should be open a couple of days a week for those who like to play cards or for knitting

Games, craft classes at the Annex

Be cognizant of seniors - we are people too

Keep costs down

The Elder Orphans program

Shoreline Village Ct which brings together people who need help staying in their home

We live south of Rte 1 now and would love to be able to sell and stay in this area but feel we don't have options. It would be great to turn Pierson School into senior housing. Many towns have converted former schools for this purpose. There are numerous properties along East Main Street and West Main Street that would be great for housing options. Ponds building is another option. It could be for all ages with different configurations for different populations.

Annual tax increases should never exceed COLA increases for those on social security

Wish the town would pick up leaves once a month

The town could use the Pierson school downstairs for a senior center. It has a kitchen, bathrooms, and a gym. The second floor could be used for Adult education and this would generate income to use for covering utilities. The third floor classrooms could be used for offices and rented out to small companies and that rent would pay for any repairs and upkeep of the building. This way, it preserves our important school building without costing the town. I don't see that this use of the building would call for much of any improvements from the way it is now. This should be considered seriously.

Pickleball - there should be a senior league

Senior Tax Program lacks clarity and direction

Seniors need a place they can go for personal concerns and get advice when they are in need

92 Evergreen Park ?

A mobile library

Griefshare.org

I don't want to see a divide between seniors and the rest of the community - many of us are not "old" and would like to be involved in community events

The director of Glenhaven on Glenwood Road: biggest problem residents have is lack of transportation, I also receive calls daily from residents looking for low income housing - Clinton needs more housing like Glenhaven

**Presentation to The Clinton Board of Selectmen
by
The Clinton Senior Task Force**

**July 17, 2019
8:00 am**

Mission Statement:

To make Clinton a more active, healthy and involved community for and with its senior residents

Step One:

- Identify information on existing programs and services
- Identify needs not currently addressed in the Clinton community
- Identify potential venues for senior activities
- Identify best way to disseminate information to seniors
- Identify best way to motivate seniors to use the available programs/resources

Step Two:

- Speak to knowledgeable individuals in Clinton
- Develop and disseminate a survey to seniors
- Tally the results
- Present next steps and recommendations to the BOS

For reference based on 2016 census numbers:

- Clinton total population: 12,957
- Clinton population aged 65+: 18.3% or 2,371
- Clinton population aged 55-64: 15.1% or 1,957
- Clinton population aged 55 and older: 4,328

Survey Results:

- # surveys returned: 164 of which 84 were on line, 80 were hard copy
- Recipient ages ranged from <60 to 89 with 70-74 being the sweet spot

- Places/services/opportunities Clinton seniors use most often:
 - HCH Library (97)
 - Walk-Jog-Bike trails (67)
 - Senior programs/services in nearby towns (60)
 - Estuary sponsored activities (51)
 - Park & Rec activities (27)
 - Firehouse Bingo (13)
 - Police Dept Citizens Police Academy (12)
 - VFW/American Legion (11)
- Seniors receive most of their information from the Harbor News, Library and Estuary via email, web, flyers, social media
- Seniors would like to see more offerings in day trips, the arts, exercise
- Obstacles that prevent Seniors from participating in programs/services:
 - Don't know about programs (67)
 - Too busy (42)
 - Still working (23)
 - Cost (15)
 - Don't have transportation (12)
 - Difficult to engage in new activities alone (11)
- Barriers preventing seniors from maintaining independent living at home:
 - Physical maintenance and upkeep – indoor and outdoor (20)
 - Cost of living too high (18)
 - Taxes (15)
 - Poor health (14)
 - Stairs (12)
- Senior housing alternatives you would like to see developed in Clinton:
 - Affordable, low income, handicap accessible housing (29)
 - Make Pierson School into senior housing (4)
 - Housing options in town (2)
 - More complexes like Glenhaven (1)
- Needs of Clinton Seniors not currently being addressed:
 - Senior Center (33)
 - Tax relief (8)
 - Affordable senior housing (8)
 - Safety needs for those living alone (a network) (3)
 - Health and Exercise Programs (1)
- Issues not addressed the Task Force should know/consider for future planning:
 - A senior center in town
 - Regular communication from one central source
 - A town director of senior services who also advocates for seniors

Next Steps & Recommendations:

Short Term Goal: create a master schedule that includes all existing programs in which seniors currently participate that is easy to access and is widely and effectively communicated to the senior community and beyond

- Allocate, assign or hire a person dedicated just to seniors who would act as part advocate and part program coordinator with the following responsibilities, among others:
 - Develop relationships with all Clinton organizations that touch seniors including but not limited to the Library, The Estuary, Park and Rec, Churches, Housing authority, Social Services, Nine Town Transit and others.
 - Work with each organization to highlight/develop programs specifically for seniors that are within that organization's purview
 - Collect and curate information about all existing programs and services relevant to seniors organized by program category and by organization for ease of search.
 - In the short term, establish the Annex Sr Lunch room as a place for seniors to gather and socialize on Thursdays, and as needed, throughout the week
 - Post all schedules and information on the Town website, in The Harbor News and distribute hard copy at The Library, the Annex, the Estuary etc....
 - Respond in person, via email or phone to inquiries and requests by seniors – inquiries would range from those regarding food insecurity, senior housing, transportation and taxes to exercise programs, walking trails and day trips among many others

Longer Term Goals: Create formal town committees to take responsibility for following issues (or add to existing committees' responsibilities):

- Develop a plan to create a physical town senior center:
 - Stand-alone center,
 - Part of a larger community center or
 - Part of the HCH Library (in some expanded form)
- Develop a plan to build more senior housing communities similar to:
 - Glenhaven
 - Liberty Plaza
- Explore additional transportation options for seniors:
 - Grants to cover costs of senior buses
 - Targeted and effective communication of existing programs
- Explore and implement options to address safety needs of seniors:
 - Wellness checks, buddy network system

