

Senior Citizen Tax Relief Committee
Durham, CT

Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2006

The Senior Citizen Tax Relief Committee met at the Durham Public Library at 7:30pm on Monday, November 13, 2006.

Committee members present were: Charles Bogen, Ron Capozzi, Liz Conroy, Martin French, Lainy Melvin, Charles Mik and Carolyn Wallach.

Members absent were: Howard Kelley and Rosemarie Naples.

Also present: Dan Lehet.

The meeting was called to order by Ron Capozzi at 7:35pm. The agenda for the night's meeting was amended to include a discussion of our future meeting schedule. Agenda was then unanimously approved as amended.

The minutes were amended to correct the spelling Bill Bloss' name and approved unanimously as corrected.

Public Comment Jan Muraca had received a letter from a concerned citizen that was read to the group suggesting an income-based tax as opposed to a property based tax. Another letter was presented to the group regarding a tax deferral program.

Meeting Schedule Meeting dates are set as follows:

11/27/2006	2/12/2006
12/11/2006	2/26/2006 (if needed)
12/13/2006	3/12/2006 (if needed)
1/08/2006	3/26/2006 (if needed)
1/22/2006	

Liz Conroy will book these dates with the Library. Meeting time remains at 7:30 pm.

Committee Reports

Discussion of a possible survey of senior citizens (probably mailed) ensued. The group talked about what types of information could be gathered from this type of survey and what a feasible timeline would be. We agreed to look into a similar survey done by

Guilford and Ron is looking into the possibility of getting help with this from students at Yale. No decision made. Subject still under consideration.

Martin French to look into bonding possibilities with regard to a tax deferral program.

Carolyn Wallach will search for studies on senior citizen behavior with regard to taxation.

The group discussed various census data that is available and how to use that to try to quantify the impact of various tax relief options. There are currently 431 of approximately 2200 households in Durham that are headed by senior citizens. We will attempt to use this and federal census demographics to get a picture of how various programs would play out.

State Senator Ed Meyer will attend our meeting on 11/27/2006 to provide what insight he can. Bill Bloss of Guilford will attend our 12/13/2006 meeting.

Discussions followed regarding various programs or combinations thereof.

The agenda was set for the next meeting. See attached.

Meeting ended by unanimous vote at 9:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Conroy
Secretary

