

**DURHAM SENIOR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 26, 2005**

PRESENT were members L. Melvin, M. DiMella, J. Hogarth, H. Kelley, A. Parmelee, H. Coe, and S. Bielefield.

Also present were G. Colgrove, S. Hill, J. Muraca and E. Murphy.

Not present were H. Robinson and G. Zeeb.

CHAIRPERSON L. MELVIN called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M.

NO MINUTES TO APPROVE

L. Melvin introduced G. Colgrove and invited him to speak regarding the offer of the Durham Rod and Gun Club to be used as a senior center. G. Colgrove wants to see soil testing be done for a septic system before anything can be decided and to make sure that there is enough well water to support the centers needs. If the soil cannot hold a new system, then there is no point in pursuing this property. It was noted that the builders were willing to pay for the test. G. Colgrove would like to see Town Sanitarian W. Milardo present when this was being done so that all tests could be completed at the same time.

The outcome of these tests will determine if this property can be used for a senior center or if a new site should be pursued.

A. Parmelee asked if the builders would give the land without the building.

First Selectwoman M.P. Boord entered the meeting at 2:10 P.M.

M.P. Boord suggested that DECD might help out with the cost of the testing for water and septic. She also suggested that they setup a site visit with the Senior Board, BOS, W. Milardo and the owners.

H. Coe would like the BOF there as well.

A site visit will be planned in June for all to attend and finalize the setting up of the tests. All will be notified as to the date and time.

L. Melvin thanked G. Colgrove for coming and for his advice.

REPORTS

L. Melvin asked S. Hill to report. S. Hill said that the senior programs are going great. The yoga classes are mostly full with any openings going to Durham residents. There is a \$3.00 fee per class for non-seniors, which goes towards paying for a second class for seniors.

H. Kelley would like to see a policy that states these classes are for seniors first with any openings for residents second. S. Hill would be comfortable with being able to show non-seniors this rule in writing. H. Coe would like the Recreation Director to draft a policy for all programs stating that programs are open to seniors only.

J. Hogarth wondered if they should wait until Durham had a senior center and to establish the rules then. S. Bielefield thought that it could get worse. L. Melvin wants the policy written now.

H. Kelley left the meeting at 2:24 P.M.

S. Hill stated that she has a wish list for the June meeting. S. Hill would also like to see a community garden in Durham.

L. Melvin then called upon J. Muraca. J. Muraca read of a complaint regarding no heat during the exercise classes at the firehouse and said that this was taken care of. She had attended a Medicare Part D seminar in Norwich, CT. This program will become effective on January 1, 2006. Since there will be many questions, an open meeting with a Medicare Representative has been setup for July 19, 2005 from 10:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. at the Durham Public Library.

MISCELLEANOUS

M. DiMella read in the paper that Middlefield approved a tax relief for its seniors that are equal to the State levels.

J. Muraca stated that Durham has a tax relief also, but Durham has higher qualifying income levels than Middlefield.

S. Bielefield brought up the need to utilize the bus programs more.

J. Muraca reported a scam against seniors that involves chimney cleaning. RST Digioia wants any senior who is approached to call him immediately.

It was reported that G. Clark received a license to show movies at the library. The schedule is in the Town Times.

No new business was brought before the Board.

M. DIMELLA MOTIONED TO ADJOIN SECONDED BY S. BIELEFIELD.

ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Murphy
Recording Secretary