

**Senior Commission Meeting  
February 1, 2022  
Minutes**

The Senior Commission met on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 in the Senior Center. Chairman Carole Lowery called the meeting to order at 9:10am. Those present were Ann Alfano, Roberta Britton, La Fondria Brown, Jerry Chancey, Jan Daming, Debbie Doering, Dennise Lafferre, Carole Lowery, Hector Nunez, Gene Royce, Carol Wagner and Tom Wilkinson. Those excused were Margaret Buchholz, Pat Helfrich and John Jaworski.

Peggy Hogan introduced two guests that were invited to attend the meeting to observe our meeting and see if they were interested in joining the Commission: Carolyn Conner and Brenda Stokes.

Carole Lowery read correspondence for the Commission: Notes from Peggy Hogan, Carol Henke and Kathy Biondo thanking the Commission for the Christmas Gifts.

Peggy also made reference to the hand-out of the News Release by Mayor Lowery advertising the First St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival in Florissant on March 13, 2022. Peggy also announced that the Parade Marshall was Carole Lowery.

**MINUTES**

The minutes to the December meeting were read by Carole Lowery. They were approved by Jan Daming and seconded by Dennise Lafferre.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Commission Christmas Party Recap:** Peggy asked how the Commission liked holding the Commission Christmas Party here at the Senior Center. In years past the party was held at Commission Member Bill Boschert's home. Members agreed it was nice and CATERING TO YOU did a great job. They agreed to continue having it at the center.

**New Year's Eve Recap:** Peggy passed out a recap of the New Year's Eve Party. The Commission discussed:

- *Centerpieces and decorations:* Everyone agreed the gym looked beautiful. Peggy thanked Kathy Biondo for borrowing the chargers and feathers from Sacred Heart. This enabled the commission to save a lot of money on purchasing centerpieces.
- *Menu:* It was agreed Tornatores did a great job on the menu. The serving also went well with all of the Commission, Senior Office and Parks Staff and Council helping out.
- *Appetizers:* Peggy started this conversation with apologizing for the poor ordering job. She stated she and office staff added it all up and divided it out and THOUGHT they had a good plan. As stated on the recap, we had too much cheese and grapes and not enough sausage. We recorded all numbers so that if we do this in the future, we could learn from mistakes! A suggestion was given: If we do prepare our own appetizers in the future, maybe we could use individual closed containers and prepare them the day before at set up. This way will be much easier than doing it right before the doors open. Using the closed containers would also be an added precaution for COVID concerns.
- *Entertainment:* It was agreed St. Charles Big Band did a great job, even accommodating the line dancers!
- *Alcoholic drinks & soda:* Peggy made reference to the leftover alcoholic drinks & soda. Peggy reminded the Commission the beer was FREE from Grey Eagle. We had White Zinfandel, some beer and some soda left. The Commission decided to try to sell this at the 50's event and if need be at the St. Patrick's Party.

- *Financial recap:* Peggy went over the Financial Recap for the New Year's Eve Party. She reported that the Senior Office received a donation check from Johnny Londoff just last week. It was sent out the first week of DECEMBER but had the wrong address on it and it just now got delivered to us. It was a donation check for \$150.00. With that check, the Commission made \$902.59 on the New Year's Party. Peggy reported this was the very first time to actually make money on this event. The reason we made money was the decorations purchased from Shindigz ended up being free and the centerpieces were free.

**Christmas Trip Recap:** Peggy asked for the Commission members who went on the Christmas Trip to see the Tilles Park lights and the Savoy Banquet Center to give their opinion of the trip. It was agreed it was a good trip and fun. The only complaint was the Savoy had a variety of desserts but ran out of the popular choices too fast!

**COVID update:** St. Louis County's stance on COVID hasn't changed much. The Senior Office will continue to require masks and social distancing at our events to try to ensure Senior Citizen safety.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer, Jerry Chancey read the Treasurer's Report for December AND January since there was no meeting in January. Both months balanced as far as our checkbook and the bank. The Treasurer's Report was approved by La Fondria Brown and seconded by Debbie Doering.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Member Update:** Going into this meeting, we have 15 members. We have asked 2 guests today. If they accept our invitation to be on the Commission, we will have one opening. Peggy asked a lady that Robert Parson suggested and she was supposed to let her know this week. Peggy will check back with her and if she is NOT interested, we have 2 other possible candidates to ask.

**Trips 2022:** Peggy reported what the next few trips were: Kimmswick and St. Louis Arch Riverboat Trip. One of the new members asked how the Senior Commission was involved in the Senior Citizen Trips. Peggy stated the Commission has no involvement as far as working on the trip or trip sign-ups. The Commission's job is to advise on WHAT trips to offer and HOW the trips turned out (if they chose to go).

**Catering 2022:** The Commission made the following decisions on what company to have cater each event:

- 50's Event: Catering to You
- St. Patrick's Party: Tornatores
- Memorial Day Party: Catering to you
- Carnival Days: This event will be handles totally different- no regular caterer
- Breakfast Bingo: Kris Kakes to have pancakes & sausage
- Summer Party: Catering to You
- Halloween: Tornatores
- New Year's Eve: Tornatores

**Fabulous 50's:** The Commission decided at the December meeting to ask Catering to You to cater this event. Since we had the Christmas Party after that meeting, we decided to discuss the rest of the party preparations at the January Meeting. The January Meeting was cancelled due to COVID concerns. Consequently, the Senior Office made a lot of the decisions for this party. Listed here are the preparations for this event:

- Party agenda is: 12:00 doors open. 12:30 lunch is served, 1:30 – 3:30 Lamar sings
- Menu from Catering to You: Hamburgers, tater tots and salad
- Dessert: Doozles: we decided to serve the ice cream in the intermission at 2:30
- Tablecloths: The fuzzy dice are red, pink, white and black. So the tablecloths should be that color also. We had black & white. Peggy bought red & pink ones on-line.

- Snacks on the tables: The Commission decided we didn't need snacks on the table since we'll have lunch at the beginning and ice cream at the break.
- Leftover liquor and soda: The Commission decided to offer this at this party and the St. Pat's Party for \$1.00 a piece – alcohol AND soda
- Gift Cards: The Commission voted to have only 5 gift cards \$10.00 each for attendance prizes. Jan Daming offered to get them.
- Set up: The set up for this event will be on Wednesday, February 9 at 2:00pm

**St. Patrick's Party & Bingo:** We have the entertainment secured for this party – The St. Louis Strutters. We just decided on the caterer. Peggy asked what kind of dessert. Tornatores usually offers cupcakes or cookies & ice cream. The Commission voted on cupcakes. We have the centerpieces. We have the 36 round tablecloths and 8 rectangle tablecloths. WE need to check on GREEN napkins to put on the white tablecloths. We will discuss last minute decisions for this party at the next meeting like snacks, drinks, etc.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Carnival, June 30:** This was not on the agenda but Peggy wanted to start the discussion on how to hold a CARNIVAL in the gym. This is the first time we are having this so it's all NEW. This is what was discussed:

- Set Up: Peggy said the setup is still debatable. She said she envisioned setting up the games around the gym, maybe the carnival acts in the corners and the food by the kitchen. We could set up round tables in the middle of the gym for the guests.
- Games: Peggy talked about possibly having 5 carnival games set up around the gym. She suggested we could find sponsors for these games and the sponsor would have the prizes. The Commission like that idea. Peggy will go ahead and find sponsors.
- Food: Suggestions for food included: hot dogs & chips, popcorn, funnel cakes, ice cream and cracker jacks.
- Carnival acts: Peggy said she checked a few companies and there are a lot of acts that you can hire including jugglers, magicians, clowns, etc. They range around \$200 an hour. What may save us on this expense is that the food may be less expensive and allow a bit more money for entertainment. Peggy said something about the carnival acts just "being" there in the corners performing. The Commission like the idea of having each act at a particular time and stating that on the ticket so no one misses the acts. We could still have the acts on a small stage. Having this type of entertainment would change the juggling & magician act for sure instead of roaming around the gym. Peggy will check on both ways. Peggy knows a Shriner Clown that she will check to see if he or a group of Shriner Clowns would be interested in coming. Peggy stated this gentleman just lost his wife to Covid on December 26 so she wanted to wait a while to ask.
- Tickets: Peggy said she'd like to sell tickets to the event in the office – one ticket for admission and include everything in that ticket. It was suggested that we sell a ticket in the office and have a "pack" of tickets at the door. When they give you their ticket, we can hand them this pack of tickets which will include – game tickets, food tickets and drink tickets.

**New Year's Eve 2022!** Peggy asked everyone to be thinking of a theme for our next New Year's Eve and bring those suggestions to our March Meeting! Also La Fondria mentioned that Sam's had the musical clock on sale that we purchased this year - for almost half off now. She asked if she should purchase one for next year. The Commission voted yes so La Fondria will get that if they still have it.

**The meeting was moved to adjourn by Hector Nunez and seconded by Tom Wilkinson**  
**Minutes taken by Peggy Hogan**