

Columbia Commission on Aging

July 22, 2015

Minutes

Attended: Paula Cahalan, Edith Prague, Maggie Ewald, Jill Livingston and Cathie Rowe

Guest: Chris Ramm

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Edith Prague and seconded by Jill Livingston. The motion passed.

New Buisness:

Chris Ramm gave an introduction of himself and his plan to build rental apartments for 55 and older on what was known as the Middleman property. Chris and his brother Dave own the property and are planning a rental community that will contain approximately 48-50 units. One bedroom apartments will comprise 70% of the rentals, with the remaining 30% being two bedroom. Each apartment will have basement storage and each will have a one car garage with more parking available on an open lot on the property. Datum Engineering is designing the project along with Chris and Dave. Scott Keegan will be the builder for the project. Chris and Dave also own 12.9 acres of what was the Szegda Farm which abuts the property. There is a 2 ½ acre pond on that property that will be part of the senior community design as well. The current Szegda farm buildings are being rehabbed and will house equipment associated with the Senior housing development. Chris stated that he has worked extensively with the Columbia Town Planner, Paula Stahl, Carmen Vance and the Zoning Board. The town zoning regulations were amended and they hope to break ground on this project in the late fall of this year. More test holes are being dug to insure that they will be able to proceed with this building project.

The actual design for the units is still being worked on and financial backing with The Savings Institute is currently under discussion.

There are plans to have a club house for residents use along with solar panels to help defray electrical costs. Propane is what is being planned for heating.

Chris invited members of the Commission on Aging to send ideas design or amenities to him directly, or via Cathie Rowe.

Currently they are planning on rental costs being somewhere between \$1,200.- \$1,800.00 per month...depending on market prices.

Old Business:

The iPads are currently available for loan and will be advertised in the Gem. We are starting with offering them to seniors that "shut ins" first. Cathie Rowe will deliver and instruct people on their use. There is also a loan agreement that must be signed prior to the loan. They are being housed at the Beckish Senior Center. Matt, from the town hall was very helpful in instructing how to "clean" off information in between loans.

Jill Livingston was going to contact the sub group on Transportation and set up a meeting time.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05am

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Rowe

Next meeting : August 26th 9:00 am

Received: July 29, 2015
At 9:19 AM
Attest: Maria M. Blath
Town Clerk/Assistant Town Clerk ASSISTANT TC