

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023
SENIOR CENTER AND ZOOM

Minutes

Present: Chairperson Dr. Eric Rosenberg, Vice Chairperson Sue Greeno, Commission members Jean Sundstrom, Sali Cosford Parker, Shelly Grendzinski, Carol McLaughlin and Bonnie Berkovich

Call To Order

Dr. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Sundstrom, seconded by Ms. Berkovich to adopt the agenda. Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 9, 2023 with a change that Ms. Sundstrom will be working with Ms. Berkovich on the Transportation Sub-Committee, by Ms. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Cosford Parker. Voted (7-0)

A motion was also made to approve the Strategic Planning meeting on February 21, 2023 by Ms. Greeno, seconded by Ms. McLaughlin as presented. Voted (7-0).

Public Comment

None

Announcements from Chair

Dr. Rosenberg announced that the public presentation on Accessory Dwelling Units and renovations needed for home safety will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 1 p.m. at the town hall.

Dr. Rosenberg asked members to attend the finance budget hearing to support the proposed budget for Commission on Aging. The meeting will be held at the town hall and via zoom on March 23, 2023, starting 6:30 p.m..

He also announced that the first Round Table meeting will be hosted by Marlborough sometime in late April. The second meeting will be tentatively be hosted by East Hampton.

Dr. Rosenberg commended Ms. Cosford Parker for her work on the 2023-2024 Strategic Plan.

Senior Services Report

Dr. Rosenberg asked members to continue to show support for the Senior Center's budget to increase staffing from a part-time position to a full-time position, on the behalf of Ms. Ewing.

Old Business

Strategic Planning process: Ms. Greeno summarized the strategic planning workshop deliberations from the 2/21/2023 special meeting, and plan documents that she and Ms. Cosford Parker had produced. Ms. Cosford Parker proposed to table discussions until all members have had a chance to read all of the documents presented. Ms. McLaughlin 2nd the motion.

Reports from Housing, Transportation and Health & Wellness Sub-Committees.

Housing: Dr. Rosenberg is creating advertising for the ADU and home renovation presentation on April 15, 2023. Ms. McLaughlin and Ms. Grendzinski will take care of creating a poster with the Commission on Aging's logo and meeting information, that can be posted and used for newspaper and social media platforms advertising. He has asked a representative from the United States Department of Agriculture to inform the public of grants and loans that are available to help lower income older citizens renovate their homes for safety.

Transportation: Ms. Sundstrom presented an announcement to inform the public of the local transportation that is provided by the Center, to be submitted to the Riverast News Bulletin. Ms. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the announcement with a few minor changes. Ms. Grendzinski 2nd the motion. Voted (7-0)

Ms. Berkovich expressed there is a need for an additional van that would be used strictly for the use of medical needs outside of town.

Health & Wellness: Ms. Greeno has been continuing to meet with several other town departments that are working to improve citizens' health and wellness, including increasing activities for local seniors.

Housing Authority Report

Ms. Grendzinski reported that David Schumacher has been appointed as the new director of Housing Authority. They are currently looking to fill one vacancy on the board. Four of the six empty apartments in senior housing have been filled. They have been reviewing applications for the other two vacancies, which are not rent-subsidized.

Budget

Dr. Rosenberg will be defending the Commission on Aging budget request at the Finance Committee public hearing on March 23. The budget includes an increase to fund a mailing to create a contact database of older adults, to keep them informed of Commission activities, plus other town departments' relevant activities.

New Business

Dr. Rosenberg will meet Town Manager David Cox, partly to explore appointing two alternates to the Commission to serve as temporary full members when a regular member cannot attend a meeting.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Maynard
Recording Clerk