

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024
SENIOR CENTER AND VIA ZOOM

Present: Chairperson Eric Rosenberg, Vice Chairperson Cindy Craig, Commission Members Kim Crabbe, Mariann Mankowski, Bonnie Berkovich, Shelley Grendzinski and Beth Angel
Alternate Members: Kathy Megan and Mark Cunningham

Also in attendance: Town Council member Jack Solomon, Interim Senior Center Coordinator, Kecia Hemphill

Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

Dr. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Kathy Megan was seated as a regular member for Mariann Mankowski during her absence.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made to move the Health & Wellness report to New Business, due to Ms. Mankowski's delayed arrival time, 2nd by Ms. Craig (Voted 7-0).

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the March 14, 2024, minutes was made by Ms. Craig, 2nd by Ms. Berkovich (Voted 7-0).

Public Comment

Molly Price, 35 Spice Hill Drive expressed her interest in volunteering her time to the Commission on Aging.

Announcements from the Chair

Dr. Rosenberg introduced Mr. Cunningham, who has been appointed as Alternate Member to the Commission by the Town Council. Dr. Rosenberg also reminded members, next month's meeting has been rescheduled for May 16, 2024. He also read aloud Jo Ann Ewing's thank you note to the Commission.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Hemphill highlighted some of the recent events and programs the Senior Center recently held. She also thanked the Commission on Aging for sending volunteers to help with answering phone calls, while they are short staffed. In May, the Center will feature "Powered by Connection" themed events and programs.

Old Business

EHCC Update: Dr. Rosenberg reported there are now twenty-five (25) volunteers and twenty-seven (27) members with a total of fifty-six (56) deeds completed January through March. Dr. Rosenberg informed members that he submitted an article the Rivereast News Bulletin on behalf of the Commission, thanking EHCC volunteers for their efforts. He also announced Ms. Berkovich will be in charge of planning the participant and donor appreciation luncheon to be hosted by Lakeside Restaurant. Ms. Craig announced the collaborative fundraising effort for East Hampton Community Cares with Po's Rice & Spice raised a total

of \$777.00. Ms. Mankowski arrived at 4:19 pm. Ms. Megan was unseated as a regular member and seated as an alternate member.

Reports from Housing, Transportation and Health & Wellness Groups

Housing: Ms. Craig informed members that she has scheduled a meeting with East Hampton Housing Authority Director Schumacher, to gather information of any obstacles the Authority may be experiencing.

Transportation: Ms. Berkovich and Ms. Angel presented information they have been gathering on the recently launched Xtra Mile Program to assist older residents in East Hampton on how to take advantage of the program and suggest any changes that may be needed to improve the program.

Housing Authority: Ms. Grendzinski announced that all apartments are rented. She also reported an issue with the front apartment doors that are being installed with a keyless entry system. She expressed her concerns that residents will lose or forget their key fobs and lock themselves out.

Budget: Dr. Rosenberg reported the total available budget is \$2,027.56. Dr. Rosenberg suggested to use a majority of the remaining balance to purchase an item for the Senior Center. Ms. Hemphill will present a list of needed items to the Commission for consideration. Dr. Rosenberg also announced the Board of Finance has approved the 2025 Commission on Aging budget request.

New Business

Dr. Rosenberg and Ms. Crabbe met with Alison Dvorak, Executive Director of Sr. Resources Agency on Aging to learn more about services, referrals and advocacy for older adults that the agency offers. A motion by Ms. Mankowski was made to organize a Special Meeting of the Commission on Aging with Senior Resources leadership before the end of the fiscal year, 2nd by Ms. Crabbe (Voted 7-0). An invitation to attend the meeting will be extended to the Town Manager, Town Council, Senior Center and Social Services. Ms. Mankowski suggested to designate all front and limited time parking spots for Older Adults to provide easier access the Center during times of operation. Ms. Megan suggested parents with small children to be included. All other patrons would park in the back-parking lot. The Commission confirmed satisfaction with the current meeting format and asked the Chair to research a possible tweak to the “New Business” standing item.

Reports from Health & Wellness Group:

Ms. Mankowski reported Town Manager Cox, has conditionally approved the Commission on Aging to apply for a \$34,000.00 two-year grant to help fund the Adult Enrichment program.

Public Comment

No Comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Maynard
Recording Clerk