

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023
SENIOR CENTER AND ZOOM

Minutes

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

Also in attendance: Town Council member Alison Walck, Senior Services Coordinator Jo Ann Ewing, Cindy Craig and Beth Angel (via Zoom)

Call To Order

Dr. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Cosford Parker, seconded by Ms. Berkovich to adopt the agenda. Approved (5-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 11, 2023 by Ms. Grendzinski, seconded by Ms. Berkovich. Approved (5-0)

Public Comment

No Comment.

Announcements from Chair

Dr. Rosenberg reported that the Town Council has not yet contacted, interviewed, or approved the four applicants for the regular and alternate member vacancies on the commission. Town Council member Alison Walck said that she would contact the appropriate subcommittee.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Ewing stated that she has had to cut back on events at the Senior Center, due to shortage in staffing. She reported that Meals on Wheels has been running efficiently and is now serving 12 people. Ms. Ewing highlighted past and future events that focus on helping older citizens to stay active. She has invited CRT to attend a "Lunch and Learn" program in September to talk to participants about the services they offer.

Old Business

Budget advocacy: Dr. Rosenberg will be attending the next Town Council meeting on behalf of the Commission, to continue to advocate for the Senior Center budget requests now that the Ambulance Association request has been granted.

Connecting volunteers and those needing services: Ms. Ewing offered to donate \$2,000.00 of Senior Center funds to UR Community Cares program, as she feels it will be a valuable asset to older adults who need assistance with household tasks, local transportation, yard work and companionship. Dr. Rosenberg has begun to network with the East Hampton Rotary and Lions Club to promote the program. He requested members to assist in reaching out to local businesses or sharing ideas to kickstart community outreach.

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

Housing: Ms. Ewing expressed the need for affordable housing including apartments, especially for older adults.

Transportation: Ms. Ewing submitted a request to the River Valley Transit to provide transportation to the Senior Center on Fridays for those individuals who need rides.

Health & Wellness: Dr. Rosenberg and Ms. Ewing reported the Town departments and Chatham Health District are continuing to coordinate promotion of activities and programs to older adults.

Housing Authority Report: Ms. Grendzinski reported that there is only one vacancy in the town's senior housing, which will be filled shortly. She expressed the need for not only senior housing but also affordable housing to accommodate the need (most EHHA units are not subsidized). The Housing Authority is currently working on a new emergency system. Small repairs have been made in both housing complexes.

Budget: Dr. Rosenberg reported there is a balance of \$370.07 left in the annual budget. As directed at the May meeting, \$100 will be donated to UCC and the remaining funds will be spent on pens for community outreach.

Mailing and Contact List: Dr. Rosenberg informed members the meeting with Jeff Jylkka, Finance Director to generate a complete contact list, has been postponed.

Alternative membership of COA: see Announcements from Chair, above

New Business

No Comment.

Public Comment

No Comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Maynard
Recording Clerk