

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
SENIOR CENTER

Minutes

Present: Chairperson Eric Rosenberg, Commission members, Mariann Mankowski, Cindy Craig, Carol McLaughlin, Bonnie Berkovich, Shelley Grendzinski, Kim Crabbe, Alternate members, Beth Angel and Kathy Megan

Also in attendance: Town Council member Alison Walck, Senior Services Director JoAnn Ewing, Clean Energy Task Force Commission Members, Russ Kaplan and Jack Solomon

Call to Order

Dr. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 4:03pm. Due to a meeting notice filing error, no voting was possible at this meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

No action to adopt the agenda due to a meeting notice filing error.

Approval of Minutes

Vote to approve the minutes postponed until October due to a meeting notice filing error.

Public Comment

Mr. Kaplan, Chairperson and Mr. Solomon, member of the Clean Energy Task Force attended the meeting to invite the COA to collaborate together on programs and events they feel could be beneficial to older adults in the community, including their Clean Energy Fair, Heat Smart audits, and solar programs.

Announcements from the Chair

Dr. Rosenberg thanked members, staff, and Ms. Ewing for their efforts in making the East Hampton Community Cares launch a success. Ms. Angel also expressed her appreciation.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Ewing updated the Commission on River Valley Transit's changes that will directly improve the accessibility of bus service for the Town's older residents, plus some future grant-funded programs they are currently working on. Focus has begun on energy assistance, to aid residents who will need help with heating costs. She reported that one of the Center's transportation vans had broken down but is now repaired. Ms. Ewing also shared that the Senior Center received 30 bags of chocolate chip cookies from the East Hampton Ambulance Association in celebration of Senior Citizen Month.

Old Business

EHCC launch

Presentation evaluations from people who attended the East Hampton Community Cares Launch were reviewed by members. Fifty-eight non-commission people attended the meetings. A list of attendee's email addresses will be compiled and used for future contacts. Ms. Berkovich expressed her appreciation to all of the Town Officials who

supported the COA by attending the meetings. Members considered the idea of interviewing some of the attendees and sharing what inspired them to volunteer and submitting the stories to the Rivereast News Bulletin. Dr Rosenberg presented an updated plan of follow-up and longer-term steps to promote EHCC. A consensus developed that the strong showing of community support for EHCC necessitated an immediate new focus on fundraising to expand the numbers of volunteers and recipients who could participate in the program. Contacting faith groups and high school clubs were discussed by members. Three core focus groups were discussed to promote the program: Volunteer, Fundraising and Outreach.

Reports from Housing, Transportation and Health & Wellness Subcommittees

Housing: Ms. Grendzinski reported that applications will be reviewed for three current vacancies in Senior Housing and two others that will be opening in the near future. The Housing Authority is working on a grant that could fund improvements in the units to help replace old heating and air-conditioning units, windows and locks, as well as installing solar panels with the help from the Clean Energy Task Force.

Transportation: No Update

Heath and Wellness: No Update

Budget: Dr. Rosenberg announced that \$166.62 expenditures have been made year to date.

New Business

Vice-Chair nomination and election will be postponed until October due to a meeting notice filing error.

Public Comment

Mr. Kaplan, Chairperson of the Clean Energy Task Force invited members to reach out with any ideas they would like to share.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Maynard
Recording Clerk