

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023  
SENIOR CENTER

Minutes

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

Also in attendance: Senior Services Director JoAnn Ewing and Michelle Puzzo, Co-Founder and President of UR Community Cares

Call to Order and Seating of Alternates

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

Kathy Megan was seated as a regular member in the absence of Kim Crabbe.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as written by Ms. Mankowski, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Craig Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting was made by Ms. Craig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Grendzinski. (Voted 7-0)

Public Comment

No Comment

Announcements from the Chair

Dr. Rosenberg spoke about a new agenda format to help streamline meetings to run more efficiently. It will begin in January, as he will not be able to attend the COA meeting in December. He will be delegating more responsibilities to members.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Ewing reported the Center has begun assisting people in processing applications for Energy Assistance. Out of the twenty-nine that have applied, thirteen have been approved and one was denied. She also stated she is still working to resolve some of the issues that she believes are stemming from poor communication and staffing issues with The Estuary food service. There is still a high demand for more transportation. One hundred eighty-five rides were requested by eighteen people. Many of those, were for medical appointments which are at very specific times. This swamps available staffing and vehicles. Ms. Ewing informed members that she has interviewed a fitness instructor to offer a stretch and balance class and possible “chair” exercise program in the future. Ms. Ewing was happy to announce that the Center’s Veteran’s event was well attended. Some of the highlights were a color guard service, music by the fife and drum organization and Veterans who shared personal experiences and memorabilia.

### Old Business

#### EHCC launch

Members discussed possible solutions to increase the number of members and “deed requests” which included the distribution of information tear off pads, future presentations at faith organizations, a smaller scaled presentation at the Senior Center, articles and letter to the editor in the Rivereast newspaper and better signage at the Senior Center.

Ms. Craig, Ms. Crabbe, and Dr. Rosenberg have been focusing on recruiting donors. Ms. Craig presented packets that were created by the Fundraising Subcommittee to present to prospective business donors. Dr. Rosenberg announced St. Clements Castle has offered a \$3,000 Leadership donation to EH Community Cares. Ms. Craig reported that Ms. Crabbe has taken on the responsibility of recording the sub-committee’s progress, as well as, thanking individuals and business who have made donations.

### Reports from Housing, Transportation and Health & Wellness Subcommittees

Housing: Ms. Grendzinski will be working with Ms. Angel to help residents sign up for URCC.

Transportation: No Update

Health and Wellness: Ms. Mankowski has been focusing on integrating enrichment opportunities for older adults to teach classes within the community. She is planning to collaborate with the Superintendent of Schools and other town departments to identify who would be interested in teaching, and where potential space would be provided. Target date is set for January 2025 or September 2025.

Budget: Dr. Rosenberg reported total expenditures year to date is \$462.52 with a balance of \$2,159.48 that remains.

### New Business

Dr. Rosenberg presented the proposed regular meeting dates for 2024 to be included on Decembers Agenda.

### Public Comment

None

### Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34pm

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Maynard  
Recording Clerk