

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019
SENIOR CENTER

Minutes

Present: Chairperson Robert Atherton, Vice Chairman Sue Greeno, Commission members Bonnie Berkovich, Linda Brogan, Mariann Mankowski, Deborah McDonald (arrived at 4:07pm) and Eric Rosenberg (arrived at 4:12pm) and Senior Center Director JoAnn Ewing.

Call to Order

Chairperson Atherton called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Brogan, seconded by Ms. Mankowski to accept the agenda as written. Voted (5-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Greeno, seconded by Ms. Berkovich, to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2019 Regular Meeting as written. Voted (5-0)

Public Comment

Mr. Atherton read a thank you card from Ann McLaughlin.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Ewing reviewed the on-going programs and activities. Brad Fowler presented a stroke prevention seminar. The Interact Club came in on February vacation for activities. Free tax assistance has started. May is Older Americans Month. Joe Courtney will be stopping in on March 21st after a visit to the Library.

Old Business

Update from Advocacy Group

The Advocacy Group is focusing on transportation. Ms. Greeno spoke about a proposed asset test for the Medicare Savings Plan and recommended the commission and individuals write letters to Senator Norm Needleman and Representative Irene Haines.

A motion was made by Ms. Greeno, seconded by Ms. Mankowski, for Ms. Greeno to draft a concern letter to the legislators about the proposed asset test for the CT Medicare Saving Program and its effects on the Federal low-income subsidy. Voted (7-0)

Update on Thriving in Place Workshop

Each member spoke about their portion of the Thriving in Place Workshop.

Ms. McDonald provided handouts about transportation and emergency preparedness.

Dr. Rosenberg provided handouts on fall prevention and noted he can speak on geriatrics and medications.

Mr. Atherton is working on technology related fall prevention.

Ms. Brogan spoke about the CT Coalition on end of life. Mr. Atherton or Ms. Greeno could speak on Choices Medicare and home health.

Ms. Greeno spoke about property tax relief. She also spoke about an NCOA handout regarding home modification.

Ms. Mankowski will look into social media related to safety concerns.

Ms. Berkovich noted her part of the workshop will be interactive with a yoga instructor including instructions on how to fall/how to get up, nutrition and more.

Discussion of Lion's Club Health Fair

The Lion's Club Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th from 8:30am to 11:30am at the High School. Mr. Atherton spoke about purchasing reusable grocery bags as part of the handout.

New Business

The Tax Assessor provided a revised brochure with the new veteran's exemption.

Mr. Atherton is finalizing the letter to the Town Council regarding appointments to boards and commissions.

Budget Update

The budget presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th at the Middle School between 6pm and 8:30pm.

Housing Authority Report

Ms. Brogan reported that the Housing Authority is working with a consultant on a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant for updates to Bellwood Court. There is a waiting list for apartments of approximately 25 to 30 people.

It was noted the Housing Authority would be invited to a future meeting.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Rosenberg, seconded by Ms. McDonald, to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 pm. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk