

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023  
SENIOR CENTER AND ZOOM

Minutes

Present: Chairperson Dr. Eric Rosenberg, Vice Chairperson Sue Greeno, Commission members Carol McLaughlin, Jean Sundstrom, Sali Cosford Parker, Shelley Grendzinski and Bonnie Berkovich (Zoom)

Also in attendance: Town Council member Alison Walck, Jo Ann Ewing and Ann McLaughlin (Zoom)

Call to Order

Dr. Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Greeno, to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ms. McLaughlin.

Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Sundstrom, seconded by Ms. Cosford Parker, to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2022 special meeting with minor changes listed below. Voted (6-0)

- a. Ms. Greeno welcomed three newest members, Ms. Sundstrom, Ms. Cosford Parker and Shelley Grendzinski.
- b. Old Business: Dr. Rosenberg attended the new monthly collaboration with Ms. Greeno
- c. Strategic Planning Workshop: The meeting date will be February 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 with a snow date of February 21<sup>st</sup> 2023.

Senior Services Report

Ms. Ewing reported that she is advocating for a full-time Senior Center position. She has been relying on volunteers to fulfill the center's needs in programs, activities, and transportation and needs more administrative help.

Old Business

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

Housing: Dr. Rosenberg will meet next Tuesday with Jeremy DeCarli, Planning and Zoning Official, to work on the presentation for the public on temporary health care and accessory dwelling units, and home remodeling for safety.

Transportation: No Update

Health and Wellness: Ms. Greeno attended the second meeting with the town department heads. The group is working to improve communication amongst each other to better serve the community's needs.

Ms. Greeno also stated that there is a need to fill a representative vacancy on both the Transportation and Health and Wellness Committees.

Housing Authority Report: Ms. Grendzinski announced that a new Resident Services Coordinator has been hired. Residents are happy to have someone to go to for concerns or questions. She is scheduled to work eight hours a week at both Chatham Acres and Bellwood Court. They have also placed an ad in the Rivereast News Bulletin to announce they are now accepting applications for two apartment vacancies at each location.

Dr. Rosenberg shared that he presented Mr. Atherton a tribute resolution from the Commission on Aging and the nomination letter that he had written on Mr. Atherton's behalf for the East Hampton's Lions Club Humanitarian Award.

Ms. Greeno reported that the Strategic Planning Retreat will be held on February 21, 2023, at the library community room. The key purpose of the meeting would be to gather members ideas and prioritize them by importance to address the needs and concerns of the senior survey. Ms. Greeno has lined up Mairead Painter, the CT Ombudsman for Nursing Home, Long Term Care and Home Care as the facilitator.

#### New Business

Ms. Greeno made a motion for the committee to endorse a letter that Dr. Rosenberg composed to Irene Haines, State Representative and Norm Needleman, State Senator to address the urgent need for energy assistance of senior citizens and take the following actions:

- a. Submit an article to the local newspaper regarding the letter.
- b. Share the letter with past COA round table members and ask them to do the same.

Ms. Sundstrom second the motion. Voted (6-0) A copy of the letter will be included with the minutes filed in the town clerk's office.

#### Public Comment

Ms. McLaughlin recommended that the commission prioritize and focus on one specific goal to be able to achieve their initiatives and publish them in the local paper to keep the public informed of their achievements, as discussed by the committee. She commended the committee's actions.

#### Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Rosenberg, seconded by Ms. McLaughlin, to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 pm. Voted (6-0)