

**COMMISSION ON AGING  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 17, 2018**

Attending: Patricia Burns, Presiding; Francis Burgweger; Carol Burns; James Dougherty; Ann Marie Hynes; Steven Katz; Ellen Wolfson.  
Staff: Lori Contadino; Laurette Helmrich.  
Guest: Christine Edwards

Call To  
Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes: Minutes of the November 15, 2017 meeting were distributed. A Motion was made to approve the Minutes. Seconded and Carried.

Chairman's  
Report: The Commission On Aging Strategic Plan was reviewed. The Plan as presented is an effort to streamline the Mission and Vision while keeping both broad based enough to reflect the dynamic and changing issues affecting older adult residents and the role of the Commission and its Director in addressing such issues. The following changes were proposed:

- change all date range references from "2017 - 19" to 2018 - 2021";
- under the bullet points under Vision, add the words "as a class" after "older adults".

MOTION: To adopt the Commission On Aging Strategic Plan with the above changes. Seconded. All in favor.

Age Friendly  
Greenwich: Steve Katz will be the Commission point person for the Age Friendly Greenwich initiative. The survey committee has developed a survey and it has been put into Survey Monkey format. The survey will be shared with AARP for feedback. Meetings are being held with potential advisory board people. Columbia University has advised us that Lee Hirsch will be the faculty advisor for the consulting team this semester. Lori will be meeting with the clergy fellowship group. It was suggested that they could be helpful in getting the survey out to the faith based communities.

Nathaniel  
Witherell: Ellen Wolfson agreed to be the COA representative to the Nathaniel Witherell board.

Transportation:  
We have a March deadline to advise TAG on our decision of whether or not we will exercise our option for the year beginning July 1, 2018. The committee will review all options and advise the Commission. SWCAA has convened a transportation forum that we will participate in. An option is to approach Uber and Lyft as a region for better negotiating power.

Friends of the  
Senior Center: The group is meeting regularly and looking at funding options and

potential naming / donation opportunities.

Administrator's

Report: L. Helmrich reported that the digital sign is up and running. Big changes are being made with the Town website that will allow the Senior Center section to operate more independently. We will now be able to post changes directly to the site. We will be able to discontinue Constant Contact (a cost savings) as the new website will allow us a similar feature. It was suggested that the next step would be to develop an App.  
The Total Brain Health program will replace Super Noggin. Instructors will be trained over the next few weeks. The program will start on April 9 at Greenwich Library.  
Work continues on the lower level bathrooms and we are still waiting to receive the C.O. on the ramp.

Director's

Report: L. Contadino reported on the clean up and branding of the front of the building. There will be banners on the two lampposts - one for the Arts Council and its subs, the other for the Senior Center and Commission. Signs of any kind are no longer allowed on the lawn and any future art work must first be approved by us. Work continues on the logo and branding effort. The front door sign - "299 on the Ave" in brass lettering was approved. The logo needs additional work.  
There will be additional certification requirements for counselors. For now it appears that this may not apply to all the Medicare D counselors. The new certification will require a full background check and 4 days of training over a one month period followed by a grade of 86 or above on an exam.  
Lori was the only Connecticut representative at the AARP Age Friendly event in Texas. Participants represented communities at various stages in the process. Lori met with some of the AARP senior staff people. We appear to be right on track in our initiative. Lori picked up a lot of useful information.  
It was suggested that we check with other age friendly communities on what they have named their senior centers.

POCD: A POCD meeting for Town Departments and Commissions will be held this afternoon. A public forum will be held tonight. A Greenwich Avenue session will be held on Thursday and a Post Road corridor session on Friday.

Next

Meeting: The next Commission meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous motion at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Dougherty  
Secretary