

COMMISSION ON AGING  
MINUTES  
MARCH 16, 2022

Attending: Steven Katz, Presiding; Kip Burgweger; Carol Burns; James Dougherty; Ann Marie Hynes; Amy Jurkowitz; Ellen Wolfson  
Staff: Lori Contadino.

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. The meeting was held by Zoom.

Minutes: Minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any corrections. With no corrections mentioned, the Chair noted the Minutes as accepted.

Chair's Report: S. Katz reported that COVID guidelines were being revamped based on the latest CDC changes. On April 1 the next tier of classes will resume on site. Meal pick up is switching from outside pickup to inside pickup.

Membership Age The age at which residents are able to join the Senior Center was discussed. It is felt that by reducing the minimum age limit membership could be increased. An increased membership would make the food service more attractive to a new vendor. Most other area senior centers have an age limit between 50 and 55. After discussion a motion was made as follows:

MOTION: To lower the Greenwich Senior Center membership eligibility age to 55. The motion received a Second. The vote was 4 in favor with 3 opposed (In favor - Katz, Dougherty, Hynes, Jurkowitz. Opposed - Wolfson, Burgweger, Burns). The Motion carried.

Non-Resident Membership: The idea of allowing non-residents of Greenwich to become members of the Greenwich Senior Center was discussed. A possible distinction between people who were members and then moved out of town versus people who had never been resident members. Some Commissioners wanted additional information on the actual cost and administrative work involved. The issue was tabled to allow additional information to be obtained and the possible appointment of a sub-committee.

Bylaws: The Town has changed all Town Board and Commission membership terms to end on June 30 with new terms beginning on July 1. Based on this change it has been suggested that we change our annual meeting date to June with the election of Officers at that meeting. Also, the Bylaws call for a committee to submit a proposed slate of Officers at one meeting with a vote on the slate at the next meeting. A Motion will be made at the April meeting to move the annual meeting to June and to have the slate of Officers presented and voted on at the annual meeting.

Dept. Of Human Services: E. Wolfson reported that they did not have a quorum until late and that she had to leave before the meeting started.

Nathaniel  
Witherell: E. Wolfson reported that they have not had a public meeting since our last meeting. It appears that they are moving to continuing as an independent entity without an outside entity taking control.

SWCCA: A.M. Hynes reported that SWCCA will be meeting tomorrow and that they are working on allocations. They are also reviewing proposed State legislation that could affect older adults.

Friends of  
The Senior  
Center: A.M. Hynes reported that a dining area redesign is underway. An additional \$325,000 to \$450,000 needs to be raised to complete the renovation project.

Senior  
Center: L. Helmrich was not at the meeting. The Senior Center Report was combined with the Commission Director's Report

Commission  
Directors  
Report: L. Contadino reported  
Staffing:  
We've been working with Human Resources to fill the reclassified part-time Commission on Aging Staff Assistant position and finalize the new job description for our Customer Service Representative who will be retiring.  
Senior Center Programs:  
On-site programs have resumed at the Senior Center and more will continue to be added as we move forward. Advance registration is still required, and class sizes are limited to allow for additional space between participants. High-intensity classes such as Zumba will remain on Zoom as will all floor exercise programs. Outdoor programs continue as does the water fitness program at the YWCA.  
Drive-thru Meals:  
Drive-thru meals will continue through the end of March and will transition to indoor pick-up beginning April 5th. St. Patrick's Day lunch was enjoyed by over 185 drive-thru participants. A special thank you to Captain Bonney of the Greenwich Police Department for gracing our drive-thru with  
Share-the-Fare:  
A meeting of the Transportation Committee and our current Share-the-Fare vendor is scheduled for Friday, March 25th, 2022. Tickets are still being sold with the understanding that they must be used by June 30 as the new program will begin July 1.  
Senior Center Renovation Update:  
Bid for construction of the kitchen, café and dining room are due back at the end of March. RFP for food services will be circulated when construction commences.  
Age & Dementia Friendly Greenwich:  
2021 Year 2 Action Plan Report will be submitted to AARP/WHO for approval when complete. Our advisor, Bill Armbruster, will be presenting at the American Society on Aging conference in April and will be highlighting Town of Greenwich Age Friendly accomplishments and best practices.

Marketing: A. Jurkowitz reported that the direction of branding is being narrowed down. We are looking for some direction on what can and can't be done with the building.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Commission will be at 8:30 on April 20, 2022. Unless COVID numbers worsen the meeting will be in person at the Senior Center

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Dougherty  
Secretary