

COMMISSION ON AGING  
MINUTES  
MARCH 20, 2019

Attending: Patricia Burns, Presiding; Francis Burgweger; James Dougherty; Anne Marie Hynes; Steve Katz; Ellen Wolfson.  
Staff: Lori Contadino.  
Guests: David Demilhau; Christine Edwards.

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

Minutes: Minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting were distributed. The following corrections were noted:  
Under Minutes in the third sentence the letter "g" was missing from Burgweger.  
Under Attending Christine Edwards should have been listed as a guest.  
A Motion was made to approve the Minutes as corrected. Seconded and Carried.

Dept. Of Human Services: E. Wolfson reported that DHS met last night. Barbara Nolan is retiring after 9 years as Chair. It was suggested that the COA send a retirement card. DHS has formed a 501 (c)(3) with online donation ability. They mentioned a camp program for those 55 and older and a copy of the program brochure was circulated.

Nathaniel Witherell: E. Wolfson reported that the Witherell board last met on January 28. They noted that the BET is reviewing the financial recommendations of a review panel. NW is now rated a 4 star facility, down from 5 stars. It was suggested that the downgrade was due to an isolated issue that has been addressed and it is hoped that the 5 star rating will be reinstated once the state moratorium on ratings reviews is lifted.

Commission Director's Report: L. Contadino reported that we are in the final stages of setting up credit card processing. Greenwich Community Health Impact Plan (GCHIP) is working on coordinating needs plans with various groups such as Greenwich Hospital and Greenwich Library. The Library improvement plan has incorporated many age friendly features such as ground level access to elevators and an auditorium center aisle for ease of seating.  
The meatball madness competition featuring our chef against representative from various sponsors will take place on April 24.  
Joey and Maria's Italian Wedding will take place on May 17 at the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center.  
Greenwich Lives Well Lived will be held at the Historical Society Barn on May 3.  
Six Greenwich Seniors will tell their stories.  
The Late Life Conference - Paving the Path from Isolation to Engagement - is being planned.  
The final event this year in the sponsor series will take place at the Cole Auditorium on June 13. Two members of the local clergy will speak on "how

will people remember you when you are gone".

A forum on elder abuse will be held in collaboration with the YWCA on April 3. The YWCA is setting up a pro-bono legal team to help victims of domestic violence.

Senior

Tax Relief: Kip Burgweger reported. The RTM Call and meeting schedule was distributed and commission members agreed to represent at the various district meetings. The Selectman voted to add permanently disabled to seniors for relief. The increase to 10 years before ending was not approved. An increase in the income levels was approved. The Tax Collector will send out a notice of the program with tax bills. Steve Katz will prepare an information package for members to use in presenting to the RTM District meetings.

Age Friendly

Greenwich: S. Katz and L. Contadino reported. Bill Armbruster from AARP recently visited for 3 days. The survey and a template for an action plan were reviewed. He recommended that the plan be limited to 3 actions for each domain. The advisory committee met and approved the statistical report. Members were assigned to subcommittees based on domains. The subcommittees will hold 2 meetings - one to present what is already in place or in the works and what is reality. If an item is in the works it will be added to the action plan. At the second meeting a couple of attainable action items will be added and an action plan presented. The goal is to have an action plan in place by September 1 so that the candidates for selectman will be put in a position to state their positions on the plan. We are looking at 2022 as the end date with a big celebration. The survey results will be posted to the Town website. We want to create a separate Age Friendly Greenwich page on the Town website. We are trying to get Columbia to take us on as a case study.

Next

Meeting: The next Commission meeting will be held at 8:30a.m. on Wednesday, April 7, 2019.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous motion

at 10:05 a.m. Respectfully submitted,

Secretary