

**COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES
APRIL 19, 2017**

Attending: P. Burns, Presiding; Francis Burgweger; Carol Burns; James Dougherty; Ann Marie Hynes; Steven. Katz; Ellen Wolfson.
Staff: Lori Contadino; Laurette Helmrich; Chicky Krois.
Guests: Christine Edwards, Nick Edwards

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m.

Minutes: Minutes of the February 15, 2017 meeting were distributed and approved unanimously.

Chairman's Report: P. Burns distributed a letter received from a new senior center member that was highly complimentary of the center. Suggestions were made to ask permission to submit it as a letter to the editor and on social media. Additional suggestions were made to add members of the RTM Health and Human Services Committee to the Senior Providers Network mailing list and to update them on a regular basis on what is happening at the center.

Senior Center Administrator's Report: L. Helmrich reported that the ramp work is mostly finished. It will be opened once the driveway is re-graded. This will begin at the beginning of May and is expected to take about a month to complete. The next work will be on the lower level bathrooms. The exterior gas line needs to be replaced. This along with the driveway work will necessitate closing of certain entrances during the work. Two flyers were distributed one for a Trivia Night to be held at the center and sponsored by the Junior League, the other for a new bike spinning class to be held at the YWCA. In addition, a walking / fitbit program will be started. These programs will get the senior center out into the community. The next session of Super Noggin will start next week at the Greenwich Library. It is a full class. A suggestion was made that we should consider offering Super Noggin and other programs in other languages.

Human Services: C. Burns reported that they are working on a client survey, a strategic plan and on forming and strengthening partnerships with other organizations.

Nathaniel Witherell: S. Katz will be stepping aside as our representative while his business has a proposal before Nathaniel Witherell.

Director's
Report:

L. Contadino reported that the TAG contract negotiations have begun. TAG has proposed a 2.25% increase over the first two years with a 2.5% increase in the option years. Options will continue to be explored as this is a big portion of our budget and serves so few members. Easy Access has become much more restrictive and now requires almost total disability to qualify. A discussion was had on whether transportation funds could be better spent on programming where they would benefit many more members.

A very good meeting was had with the RTM Health and Human Services Committee. The committee was very supportive and voted unanimously to approve our budgets. Members were interested in the Age Friendly initiative. A special meeting of the Commission will be held on April 26 at 1:30 in the Town Hall meeting room to present the Age Friendly initiative to the Board of Selectmen. The Columbia Consulting team will be there to make a presentation. A meeting was held with the Greenwich Chamber of Commerce. The center has been put on its list as a member so we will now receive their notices and we can have notices sent to its members. A program will be presented to a meeting of the Chamber at a future date.

A proposal was submitted to the Junior League on the Age Friendly initiative for it to take on the initiative as a project.

Three flyers were distributed, each bearing the new Commission on Aging logo. The first was for the Murder Mystery Dinner. The second was for the Late Life Annual Conference and the third announcing the Alzheimers Association's new office hours at the Senior Center. It was noted that attendance at the Late Life Conference is limited due to the size of the auditorium at Greenwich Hospital. It was suggested that a larger site be selected for future Conferences and that this year's Conference might be filmed and made available to a larger audience.


A summer intern position was posted with the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health to work on the Age Friendly initiative.

NEXT

MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on May 17, 2017 at 8:30 a.m..

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous motion at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James B. Dougherty
Secretary