

**COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES
MAY 18, 2016**

- Attending: Patricia. Burns, Presiding; Wendy Blumenthal; Catherine Brennan; Francis Burgweger; Carol Burns; James Dougherty; Steve Katz.
Staff: Lori Contadino; Laurette Helmrich; Chicky Krois.
Guests: C. Pica, GREATS
- Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
- Minutes: Minutes of the April 20, 2016 meeting were distributed. With a correction to a typo the second line of the Senior Center Director's report to change "te" to "the", the Minutes were approved by Motion duly made, seconded and carried.
- Video: A video prepared by AARP on perception on aging was shown to the commission
- Senior Center Director's Report: L. Helmrich reported that the current session of Super Noggin is nearing its end. The lower level of the building has been gutted and we are waiting for the server room work to be scheduled. DPW has hired a designer to work on the project. An initial, very positive meeting was held with the designer, with a follow up meeting scheduled next week. An overall design will be developed that will be carried through to the main floor to create one look.
- Social Services: No report.
- Nathaniel Witherell: S. Katz reported that Nathaniel Witherell is off budget. They are adding a marketing person to help increase the number of rehab patients and to get the facility back on budget. The Columbia report them to market regionally not just locally. One problem has been low staffing levels in the late afternoon and early evening that may be limiting rehab admissions during that time period.
- GREATS: C. Pica announced that at her last meeting as head of GREATS she proposed that GREATS make a \$20,000.00 donation to the Friends of the Greenwich Senior Center. The Motion failed to get a second and was tabled to the next meeting.
- Director's Report: L. Contadino reported that the annual Older Americans Month celebration was held. It was a great program but attendance was disappointing. The event is being re-thought to increase attendance. The RTM vote on the Town Budget cut the Commission budget by \$866 and the Center budget by \$2,822. The cuts were made in the salary lines. As these lines

are based on contractual obligations it will create a deficit. WE will need to transfer funds from operating to this line to eliminate the deficit but this will mean cuts will need to be made.

The cost of the Morrison food contract was raised and it was suggested that there are alternate providers that could result in a lower cost.

We are still waiting written conformation from TAG regarding our decision to renew the contract for a year. We will look into the possibility of renewing for a shorter period of time to allow our riders to qualify for easy access and get them paid for under the program without having to wait a year for this to happen.

The Senior Provider Network will meet at Riverhouse on June 1.

It has been determined that we do not need "safety" paper for the Share the Fare tickets. This will result in a big savings on printing. Lori printed a sample in house and will send it to printers for quotes. The new tickets will have to be presented to and discussed with Greenwich Taxi.

The United Way late life conference will be held on May 26 at Greenwich Hospital. Going forward the conference will no longer be presented by United Way but by the Commission on aging. The United Way Late Life Issues Committee has a bank account of about \$25,000.00. This has become an audit issue with United Way. The funds will be transferred to the Friends of the Senior Center. Some of the funds will be reserved for future conferences with the balance used for renovations.

On Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m., Dr. John Rowe will speak on "The Challenges and Opportunities of an Aging Society" a part of the Inaugural Signature Lecture Series On Aging.

The Greenwich Chamber of Commerce honored Wendy Blumenthal and Lori Jackson for their work on the United Ways Needs Assessment.

NEXT

MEETING: The next meeting of the Commission will be held on June 15, 2016.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous motion at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James B. Dougherty
Secretary

COA

JUNE 15, 2016

	NAME	ORGANAZATION	
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			