COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2021

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

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

Minutes: Minutes of the February, 2021 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. A discussion was had on the need to vote on minutes where there are no corrections to be made. It was decided that a vote was only needed if corrections were made. The Chair asked if there were any corrections. There being none the Chair noted the Minutes as accepted

Chair’s Report: S. Katz noted that the annual ethics filing period is coming up. SNAC is in the process of naming a new Commission member to replace P. Burns who will stay on until a new Commissioner is seated.

Dept. Of Human Services: E. Wolfson reported that the Department held its meeting last night. The United way made a presentation showing data by neighborhood of residents receiving some form of assistance. It was suggested that the United Way make such a presentation to the Commission. The Department’s budget has been approved by the BET. The Department has approximately $92,000 to re-distribute.

Nathaniel Witherell: E. Wolfson reported that there has been no meeting since our last COA meeting.

Friends of The Senior Center: P. Burns reported the new Friends Board has met twice and is putting together a list of building and room naming opportunities for fund raising purposes. Bids for the kitchen / dining facilities goes out in August. The goal is to have the renovated facilities open in September, 2022.

Senior Center: L. Helmrich reported.
Teddy's Ready Drive Thru
Weekly lunches continue and will do so as long as needed
299 to You
The 3rd packet has been sent out
Next mailing will contain re-opening plans
Re Open
    Tentative re-open schedule has been created

Greenwich Country Day School
    Met with staff regarding future plans for Zoom and in person student interaction

Outdoor Programs
    Tai Chi
    Walk the Distance
    Art Classes

Commission Directors Report:
L. Contadino reported:
Guidelines for Reopening 299 on the Ave have been drafted in accordance with local, State and CDC guidance.

Guidelines will be mailed to all Senior Center members including an Acknowledgement and Liability Waiver which need to be signed and returned to us. All visitors to the Center will have their temperature checked and will answer a short COVID-19 questionnaire.

In light of the recently-signed agreement with Altice, the Commission on Aging will be meeting with Greenwich Country Day School to plan educational sessions for seven residents that comprise our initial technology pilot. Sessions will be held in the Senior Center. Eligibility guidelines will be drafted and circulated heightening awareness of the program.

We are considering the expansion of our lunch program and have partnered with the Greenwich Chamber of Commerce to assist us in doing so. We are seeking to collaborate with a variety of local food service establishments to provide a prepared meal ready for pick-up on a day other than Friday. This will not only help local business owners but also give older adults a true taste of the Town.

Age Friendly Greenwich Task Groups have started to meet and are off to a great start.

Senior Tax Relief: K. Burgweger reported that he had no report.

Transportation:
C. Burns reported that she had no report.

COVID Re-Opening Committee: The committee has been hard at work to get the center ready to re-open when
appropriate. Re-opening will adhere to CDC guidelines. The committee will meet once more before sending out a final plan to members.

SWCAA: A.M. Hynes reported that they met last week. They are doing well with finances in part due to PPP loans. The staff just came back in to work. They are looking to produce a list of resources for all senior centers to use to refer people to needed services. All grant site visits were finished and conducted with Zoom.

Recognition: Members expressed thanks and recognition to Patricia Burns for her service on ad as Chair of the Commission.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Commission will be at 8:30 on May 19, 2021

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Dougherty
Secretary