

**COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019**

Attending: Steve Katz, Presiding; Kip Burgweger; Carol Burns; James Dougherty; Anne Marie Hynes; Ellen Wolfson.
Staff: Lori Contadino; Laurette Helmrich
Guests: Frank Roda, GREATS; Brad Perkins and Rich Rosen of Perkins Eastman, architects; Amba Sharma of Ambassador of Scarsdale.; Rob Astorino, former Westchester County Executive.

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

Minutes: Minutes of the July 17 Meeting were distributed.
A Motion was made to approve the Minutes. Seconded and Carried.

Dept. Of
Human
Services: E. Wolfson reported that they have not met since our last meeting

Nathaniel
Witherell: E. Wolfson reported that they have not met since our last meeting.

Friends of the
Senior Center: P. Burns was absent with excuse so no report

Senior Center
Administrator: L. Helmrich reported that the 10-week Aging Mastery Program with the Y starts today. Chinese brush painting course, a joint program with the Bruce Museum starts soon. The rib cookoff on the 24th is sold out as is the upcoming casino trip.

Commission
Directors
Report: L. Contadino reported that the sponsorship campaign is ongoing. To date 48 Sponsors have signed on for an approximate total of \$45,000. There are some new sponsors. We are about \$5,000 short of last year's total. The Medicare Part D counseling will start on October 15 and run through December 7. The new tech lounge is scheduled to be furnished this Wednesday. The Town requires submission of our Operating Plan by October 3. Lori will prepare it and email it to Commission members for a vote. The Health Expo will take place at the Eastern Civic Center on October 3. The next lecture in the Distinguished Speaker Series will take place on November 19 with Dr. Julie Higgins who will discuss how thinking is affected by age. In October a talk on Aging With Purpose will be held at the Bruce Museum. Due to the dismissal of the Town internal auditor, the development of use of prepaid cards and credit cards for Share the Fare, meals and programming is on hold. Greenwich Taxi has purchased a new 9 passenger van. We will use it for a shopping trip on a trial basis to see if it meets our needs for future use.

Senior Tax
Relief: No report.

Age Friendly

Greenwich: S. Katz reported that the Action Plan Report is just about finished. Hopefully it will be submitted to the Board of Selectman next week for approval. It will then be sent to AARP for approval.

Transportation:

No report

Guest

Presentation: Brad Perkins of Perkins Eastman Architects and Amba Sharma of Ambassador of Scarsdale presented their plan to build an assisted living facility at the end of Old Track Road. Most of the facility will be for assisted living with a portion for memory care residents. An overview of the plan was presented and Commission questions answered.

Housing

Authority: S. Katz reported that the Housing Authority presented its plan to develop a tract of land it owns on Booth Place to the Board of Selectman. The plan received some push back from the Selectman.

Meeting: The next Commission meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

Sense of the

Meeting: Discussion was had on the role of the Commission in supporting senior housing needs in general as well as supporting specific projects. It was agreed that the role of the Commission should not be to support specific projects but only to support the need for senior housing at various levels.

MOTION:

WHEREAS the Commission on Aging has conducted a survey in the Spring of 2018 as part of the Age and Dementia-Friendly Greenwich Initiative to assess the needs of older adults in the Town of Greenwich.

WHEREAS the need for age and dementia friendly housing for all demographics and income levels, to allow Greenwich residents to age in town, was one of the most significant areas of concern that came out of the survey and subsequent findings of the Age and Dementia-Friendly Initiative and is one of the domains of the Age and Dementia-Friendly Greenwich Action Plan for the next three calendar years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the sense of the meeting of the Commission on Aging of the Town of Greenwich that it supports the development of age and dementia-friendly housing for older adult residents of all demographics and income levels so they are able to successfully age in our community.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous motion at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Dougherty
Secretary