

**Commission on the Aging
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, Ct 06812**

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 23, 2021
Zoom Meeting 7:30pm**

Moderator: Quintin Flower

Members in Attendance:

Anita Brown, Kathy Hull, Robetal Ilardo, Cindy LaCour, Janet Loya, Julia MacMillan and Maureen Salerno. Lisa Zustovich took the meeting minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to approve 1-26-21 Meeting Minutes

Cindy LaCour made a motion to approve the 1-26-21 meeting minutes as amended, 2nd by Anita Brown, all in favor. **Approved**

Correspondence/Announcements

Maureen Salerno stated that she had received an email that she will discuss when the Commission discusses housing.

Old Business

None

New Business

Western Ct AAA Choices Program speaker for March- The Commission discussed having a speaker from the Choices coming to speak at either the March or April meeting.

Maureen Salerno stated that she felt that many people do not understand the Medicare benefits for hospice. The Commission discussed also having a representative from Hospice come to speak at a meeting.

Kathy Hull said she would reach out to the Choices Program and see if they could have a representative come and discuss Medicare and Medicare Advantage at the April meeting. Maureen Salerno said she would reach out to a representative at Hospice to see if someone could come to the March COA meeting to speak.

Sub-Committee Reports

Housing- The Commission discussed an article in the New Milford paper regarding small housing units in Sherman that were being proposed either behind The American Pie Co. or the Senior Center. They also discussed the Head of the Sherman Housing Commission stepping down. Anita Brown discussed pushback on legislation that dealt with changing residential zoning on housing in Connecticut. Maureen Salerno received an email regarding freezing taxes in Ridgefield.

Senior Center Listening Session-Due to the restrictions from the pandemic they are attempting to have these sessions as call in sessions. There has currently been no interest in listening sessions.

Janet Loya suggested presenting a topic for the sessions; maybe this will generate more interest. The next call in session is scheduled for March 11th from 10am-12pm. The Commission discussed making taxes the topic of the March session.

Taxes-Janet Loya said there was an article in the last issue of the newspaper reminding residents that there is tax relief for the elderly and disabled. It is available at the assessor's office. Applicants must apply between February 1st and May 15th. Requirements are on the Town's website and were also listed in the paper. There is also a deferral program. Town Hall is still closed to the public. Call for more information.

Transportation- no discussion.

Senior Center Report

Kathy Hull- The Senior Center is currently set up as a covid vaccine clinic. The Senior Center has helped 350 seniors set up vaccine appointments. They are also monitoring approximately 140 emails for senior to help them with their appointments.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Janet Loya made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Anita Brown, all in favor. **Adjourned**