

**COMMISSION ON THE AGING  
4 Brush Hill Road  
New Fairfield, CT 06812**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting**

**January 28, 2014**

A meeting of the Commission on the Aging was held on Tuesday January 28, 2014 at the New Fairfield Senior Center. Maureen Salerno called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Secretary, Laurie Busse, took the minutes.

**Present:** Maureen Salerno, Chair, Cindy LaCour, Vice Chairman, Katy Johannssen, Roberta Ilardo, Kathy Hull, and Julia MacMillan

**Absent:** Janet Loya, Jeannette Sweeney and Stephanie Shaughnessy

**MINUTES:**

Cindy LaCour made a motion to accept the Minutes to the October 22, 2013 meeting as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roberta Ilardo, noting the secretary will listen to the tape regarding Elizabeth Thompson's comments at the October 22 meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Community Forum, Dialogue with the New Fairfield Housing Trust**

The Commission discussed the great turn out for this forum, noting the majority of the people present were not in favor of affordable elderly housing and that they were not able to see the Housing Trust's vision for New Fairfield. The Commission was glad Selectman, Mike Gill was there to help address some procedural concerns. The Minutes were discussed and the secretary will make the corrections.

**2. Spring Community Forum "The Other Talk"**

The Commission discussed possible titles for their spring community forum regarding how to have the end of life discussion with their adult children. Possible titles were "The Other Talk", "40/70", If you are in your 40's and your parents are in their 70's its time to talk, "Do it for the Kids". The members will brain storm and email Maureen Salerno or the secretary with their ideas. Possible speakers were discussed. Maureen Salerno will contact Dr. Nancy Humphreys. The date will be Saturday April 26, 2014 from 10am to 12 noon. The forum will be held down stairs in the Senior Center and we will ask Ray Juskiewicz to video it as well.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. 2014 Meeting Dates:**

The 2014 meeting dates were discussed as outlined. Maureen Salerno made a motion to adopt the 2014 meeting dates as presented, 2nd by Cindy LaCour. Vote 6-0 all in favor.

### **2. 2014/2015 Budget:**

The 2014/2015 Budget was discussed. Maureen Salerno requested a substantial increase in the secretary's salary and requested the supply budget be reduced by \$200.

### **3. May Older American's Month:**

The Commission discussed last year's visit to the Senior Center and would like to do that again this year. Possible dates were discussed and will be decided upon next month. Possible honorees are volunteers at the Senior Center. This will be further discussed next month.

### **4. Senior Center Report:**

Kathy Hull handed out and discussed the Senior Center report. Inclement weather closings are posted on Channel 3, the Town website, and the out going voice mail. Highlights included Hot Dog Bingo and hand massages. At the budget meetings Kathy Hull again requested a full time Program Coordinator. This position has full time responsibility and full time hours. Currently Kathy Hull is the only Director without full time support, which is badly needed. Last year the Senior Center served 24,151 patrons. Every year the number of patrons serviced goes up, and every year she requests full time support, and is turned down. This December there were 1,248 patrons and the Senior Center was only open for 18 days. Kathy Hull also discussed with the BOF & BOS the population growth in senior citizens and emphasized her need for full time support. Kathy Hull asked for more money in the program line and a 2 1/2 % raise for her employees. Jay Waterman has been replaced by Evelyn Abraham, who previously worked for Ridgefield VNA.

### **5. Ridgefield VNA**

Katy Johannssen said she is very excited to announce that Ridgefield VNA will be introducing their Quality Living at Home Program to New Fairfield residents. This program includes a 24/7 Resource Directory, Volunteer Programs and Transportation. This matter will be put on the February Agenda.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Elizabeth Thompson, Rita Drive: Wanted to comment on the Minutes and inquired if the Commission further investigated affordable elderly housing in the building that Prime Time Fitness used to occupy. The Commission explained they were not the ones to look into it, but rather the New Fairfield Housing Trust.

## **ADJOURN:**

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katy Johannssen, vote unanimous.