

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

MINUTES

Meeting

July 22, 2014

A meeting of the Commission on the Aging was held on Tuesday July 22, 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, Janet Loya, Jeannette Sweeney, Kathy Hull, Julia MacMillan, Roberta Ilardo, Stephanie Shaughnessy, and Katy Johannssen

Absent: None

MINUTES:

Cindy LaCour made a motion to accept the Minutes to the June 24, 2014 meeting as amended, 2nd by Cindy LaCour, vote 9-0 unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Cindy LaCour, Katy Johannssen, and Kathy Hull need to be reappointed. They should write a letter to the Selectman, requesting to be reappointed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Fall Community Forum "A Community Forum on Elderly Housing"

The Fall Community Forum will be on Saturday October 25. The objective will be to reduce the fear of affordable elderly housing. Maureen Salerno will invite Evonne Klein, State Housing Commissioner, to speak. Discussion focused on having other neighboring towns with private non-profit housing authorities come to discuss their experiences. The other towns include Ridgefield, Wilton, Roxbury, Bethel, and Brookfield. The Commissioners will contact these towns to find out who the managers are and confirm they are a private non-profit group and ask them how did they raise their money and what was their process to get started. Further discussion focused on having sponsors. The cost would be \$100 per table. Possible sponsors may include a home organizer, Candlewood Drugs, The HART Bus, Quality Living at Home, and Right at Home. Perhaps the New Fairfield Housing Trust would also like to have a table, noting they would not be charged a sponsorship fee. The Commission will check to see if the event can be televised and if they will have speakers sitting at a table or come up to the podium one at a time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Senior Needs Assessment:

A draft Plan of the Conservation & Development 2014 was handed out and discussed. Towns are required to have this Plan updated every 10 years. The plan talks about housing needs and how a large part of the community does not want any form of affordable housing.

A lengthy discussion followed on volunteering is down in many areas. It's always the same people who volunteer and they get burned out. The Commission talked about ways to get new volunteers. Today, people's lives are so busy. People are working to an older age and grandparents who are retired, more often than not are taking care of their grandchildren.

2. Senior Center Report:

Kathy Hull handed out the Senior Center Report. Popular topics are Kayaking on Ball Pond and Discussion Group with Kathy, where hot topics of the day are discussed. July 31 they will be showing the Alfred Hitchcock movie, "The Lady Vanishes" The Senior Center was open more days this year than last year. Mary Carneiro, who has been the Program Director for 10 years is moving and her position is posted. This is a part time position requiring 29 hours a week, good computer skills and activity oriented. As of right now the new 2014/2014 budget is OK.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURN:

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32: p.m., 2nd by Roberta Ilardo, vote 9-0 unanimous.