

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

MINUTES

Meeting

March 22, 2016

A meeting of the Commission on the Aging was held on Tuesday March 22, 2016 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, Kathy Hull, Roberta Ilardo, Stephanie Shaughnessy, Janet Loya, and Katy Johannssen

Absent: Julia MacMillan and Jeannette Sweeney

MINUTES:

Stephanie Shaughnessy made a motion to accept the Minutes to the January 26, 2016 meeting as presented, 2nd by Kathy Hull, Vote 7-0, unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- An invitation from the Brookfield COA asking Maureen Salerno to attend the tri-yearly meeting of area COA chair persons.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Elderly Needs Assessment:

There were very few Needs Assessments returned from the local churches and the Commission discussed why that was, as they were very aggressive in getting the Needs Assessment out to areas where the seniors would be able to complete it. The Congregational Church noted that many of their parishioners filled out the Needs Assessment at the Senior Center. During January the Commission requested that Senior Center patrons complete the Needs Assessment. The overall response from the Needs Assessment was positive. The Commission would like to go to the Board of Selectmen meeting with the feedback from the assessments. Discussion followed they will do the Needs Assessment once a year.

2. Letter to the Editor

Janet Loya wrote a wonderful letter supporting the New Fairfield Housing Trust and affordable elderly housing signed by all of the Commissioners and the secretary which was published in the Citizen News two weeks ago. Maureen Salerno thanked Janet Loya for composing such a well written letter.

NEW BUSINESS

1. May Celebration of Older Americans Month:

May is Older Americans Month. The Commission discussed if there is anyone they would like to nominate and if so what day would be available at the Senior Center for a luncheon.

At 7:50pm Cindy LaCour made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing nominees and nominating an elder as a recipient of this year's Older American Month's recognition 2nd by Maureen Salerno; vote 7-0 unanimous. At 8:00pm Katy Johannssen made a motion to come out of the Executive Session, 2nd by Cindy LaCour. Vote 7-0 unanimous. The recognition will be held on Thursday May 19 at the Senior Center honoring this year's nominee.

2. June Community Forum:

The June Community Forum will be titled "Are you in Your Right Mind?" with guest speaker Joyce Saltman. It will be held on Saturday June 4 from 10am-12noon at the Senior Center. Roberta Ilardo will contact Joyce to get promotional materials for the program and will forward those to the secretary so she can create the flyer. Joyce Saltman requested the COA make a donation to her favorite charity in lieu of a stipend. Discussion focused on possible sponsors. Right at Home will be a sponsor. Katy Johannssen will check with RVNA, and Stephanie Shaughnessy will ask Candlewood Pharmacy and Savings Bank of Danbury. Discussion focused on having the Community Forum taped downstairs and serving light snacks.

3. Senior Center Report:

Kathy Hull reported. Attendance is considerably higher this February compared to last February, noting the Senior Center was open 2 more days than last year. The Average Daily Attendance was 89. Upcoming events include a stress reduction workshop using the "M" touch technique which is a light touch to the hands and feet and is very relaxing. There is also a foot reflexology class. The Mother/Daughter Tea will be this Thursday March 24 and is always a well attended event.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURN:

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm 2nd by Janet Loya. Vote 7-0, unanimous.