

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

Minutes

**Tuesday, October 23, 2018
7:30pm**

Call to Order

Chairman Maureen Salerno called the meeting of the Commission on the Aging to order at 7:30pm.

Members in Attendance

Maureen Salerno, Kathy Hull, Anita Brown, Roberta Ilardo and Janet Loya. Lisa Zustovich took the meeting minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to accept Minutes

Janet Loya made a motion to approve the 9-25-18 meeting minutes, 2nd by Kathy Hull, all in favor. **Approved**

There was discussion that the August minutes had not yet been approved, not all members have a copy. Kathy will follow up with the secretary who took those minutes.

Correspondence/Announcements

None

Old Business

Community Forum-Resources for Caregivers-Evaluations & Feedback-

Commission members reviewed the evaluations. Twenty-five people attended the forum. Kathy felt there was a lot of good information that was well presented and easy to understand. Janet felt it was well done. The Commission members felt like they learned a lot and that the attendees benefited from the forum but wished for a little better turn out.

New Business

Brainstorming the new Senior Needs Assessment

Anita spoke with someone at Brooks Quarry while doing research for the Needs Assessment Survey. Maureen shared the 2004 survey which was based on the age 50 and older population. The survey they are planning to develop will concentrate on people ages 65 and up. The Commission discussed what information they need to know about the seniors in New Fairfield. The Commission brainstormed the following listed that they may include in the survey:

- Income
- Age range
- Male or Female
- Married or Single
- Live on my own or Live with family/other
- Retired or Employed, if employed- full time or part time
- Transportation
 - I drive
 - I use the SweetHART bus
 - Other
- Taxes- Are you currently receiving tax relief: yes or no
- Housing- Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
 - Staying in current home
 - Downsizing
 - Living with family
 - Moving out of state
 - Senior Housing
 - Assisted Living

Discussed senior population in New Fairfield. There are 2,123 seniors over the age of 65 in New Fairfield. This is 15% of the population. The Commission also discussed/brainstormed questions regarding housing, such as how seniors plan to maintain their home/property. Maureen asked the Commission to think about housing maintenance questions as well as of areas they have not yet addressed/discussed.

Sub-Committee Reports

Housing-Anita Brown- previously discussed as part of Senior Needs Assessment survey planning.

Taxes-Janet Loya-Janet touched base with tax assessors from area towns- she hasn't heard back from Danbury and needs an update on New Fairfield.

Transportation- chair vacant- No discussion

Senior Center Report

- The Senior Center is now offering foot care services at the center every other month. They have a doctor that comes to see patients in the Senior Center Conference Room. They will come again in November.
- For \$40/month they have a new activity service at the Senior Center. They had a live stream tour of Heart Castle with seniors at the Center and a tour guide at the Castle wears a camera as she gives a tour. They also did a live stream dive.
- A group from the Senior Center went to Wildwood for a Fab 50's weekend which included a car show, street fair and dance night. They also went to Cape May. On the way home, the bus broke down and they had to stay overnight at a hotel.
- Western Ct Area on the Aging-coming 10/24 to discuss the Choices Program to help seniors choose a Medicare/Medicaid plans
- In January they will start a 10-week Evidence Based Program from the National Council on Aging.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Roberta made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Maureen, all in favor. Meeting adjourned @ 9:00pm.