

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

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday June 27, 2023
New Fairfield Senior Center
7:30pm**

Members in Attendance

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to approve Minutes

Approve the April 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes-Anita Brown made a motion to approve the 4/25/23 meeting minutes as written, 2nd by Robeta Ilardo, all in favor. **Approved**

Correspondence/Announcements

None

Old Business

Summit Meeting June 17, 2023-Newtown- Roberta Ilardo attended the Summit. She said it was mainly about the Senior Center and the goals of the Senior Center. Bethel and Danbury also attended. Maureen said the Agenda didn't seem to be the type of Summit it had been in the past. Past Summits were usually more brainstorming type sessions about COA's. Newtown will host another Summit on Sept 30th, this one will be about sharing best practices for helping seniors.

Feedback from Outstanding Senior of the Year Celebration- Peggy Katkocin was honored as Outstanding Senior of the Year at the Senior Center. It was a wonderful celebration. Commission members as well as First Selectman Pat Del Monaco and Selectman Khris Hall attended the celebration.

New Business

Community Forum- Oct. Aging in Place- A Reality Check- The Commission discussed how to attract senior to the forum and how it is difficult to approach the subjects of downsizing, selling their homes, decluttering, and the option of moving into senior housing. Maureen mention that she has AARP's The Next Step and will bring it to the next meeting she attends.

July Meeting -Renewal House Presentation- Peggy Katkocin is on the Board of Renewal House and would like to come to a COA meeting with a rep Renewal House. Maureen said she will get in touch with Peggy.

Education Topics for August-No discussion

Sub-Committee Reports

Housing- Anita Brown said they had a forum in May and had a good turnout. They had 434 survey responses. They are now putting together a draft plan with strategies for addressing what has come out of the survey and as well as the information about housing. They had favorable responses to the survey. Anita commented that people are struggling to live beyond their means. Roberta noted that Ridgefield and Wilton have a lot of affordable housing. Anita mentioned that the Housing Planning Commission is hoping to have a booth at New Fairfield day on Sept. 9th. Anita will also be in the 4th of July Parade, she will be wearing a sandwich board with a QR code on it that will bring people to their website to see what they have been up to.

Senior Center Listening Session- They did not have one this month.

Taxes- No discussion

Transportation- Kathy Hull provided FISH brochures which provides information on their services as well as their email and phone number. They do medical and dental appointments in and around New Fairfield as well as non-medical appointments in New Fairfield only. They don't do deliveries. Kathy also stated that the HART bus extended their hours in the evening by a half hour starting July 1st.

Senior Center Report

Kathy Hull provided Commission members with a copy of the Senior Center report and stated that the daily average attendance for the month was 86. She also mentioned that seniors were able to get Froggy's for lunch- wraps and chips on Tuesday's for \$5. They had a \$1000 budget cut on materials.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Cathy McCarthy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Robert Ilardo, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Received by email on 06/29/2023 @ 8:30 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield