

**Commission on the Aging**

**4 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, Ct. 06812**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, August 22, 2023**

**New Fairfield Senior Center, 7:30pm**

**Members in Attendance:**

Anita Brown, Kathy Hull, Cindy LaCour, Janet Loya (remote), Cathy McCarthy, Julia MacMillan, Maureen Salerno.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Motion to Approve Minutes:**

Janet Loya corrected the minutes to read "residents have until the end of August to pay their taxes."

Approve the July 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes-Julie MacMillan made a motion to approve as corrected, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cindy LaCour. All in favor. Approved.

**Correspondence**

None

**Old Business:**

Community Forum scheduled for October was moved to March, 2024; no date selected yet. Topic will include themes associated with "aging in place". Discussion followed re ways to engage the adult children of the elders.

**New Business:**

Maureen Salerno asking the members if we should replace the October Forum with a political meeting. Maureen proposed inviting the candidates to discuss elder issues with us and our audience. Discussion followed re whether this type of meeting is within our mandate as a Commission. Maureen Salerno will consult with the Town Clerk. Half of our members attending were not in agreement with entering the political arena at this time.

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

Anita Brown reported that the Housing Opportunities Committee will have a booth at New Fairfield Day, September 9<sup>th</sup> (rain date, 10<sup>th</sup>). It will feature housing exhibits in addition to fun projects related to housing.

The Housing Opportunities Committee is ready to present its plan; plan needs to be approved by the Board of Selectmen.

**Senior Center Listening Session**

None this month

**Taxes:**

Janet Loya contacted the Town Assessor who related that 250 elders have applied for the Town Tax Benefit compared to 291 last year.

**Transportation:**

Kathy Hull reported on the shortage of bus drivers and its effect on hours of services for the SweetHart Bus at the Center. People are having to leave the Center earlier now.

Kathy also related that FISH had a successful fund raiser with its recent walk at the High School. FISH . also generating revenue by assisting at St. Nicholas Bingo.

**Senior Center Report:**

Kathy reported that she had no issues with her budget.

Senior Center attendance was up compared to last year. They had 29 new members this month. Members congratulated Kathy "on her wonderful job as usual."

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjourn**

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julie MacMillan. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Maureen Salerno took the meeting minutes.

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at 2 h 23 m PM and recorded by  
Holly Z. Smith ATC  
Holly Z. Smith, Town Clerk, New Fairfield, CT