

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

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 26, 2024
7:30pm
Zoom Meeting

Members in Attendance

Anita Brown, Kathy Hull, Roberta Ilardo, Cindy LaCour, Janet Loya, Julia MacMillan & Maureen Salerno. Lisa Zustovich took the meeting minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to approve Minutes

Approve the December 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes-Cindy LaCour made a motion to approve the 12-15-23 meeting minutes as written, 2nd by Julia MacMillan, all in favor except Janet Loya & Kathy Hull who abstained. **Approved**

Approve the February 27, 2024 Meeting Minutes-Anita Brown made a motion to approve the 2-27-24 meeting minutes as amended, 2nd by Julia MacMillan, all in favor except Cindy LaCour and Maureen Salerno who abstained. **Approved**

Correspondence/Announcements

None

Old Business

Community Forum-April 13th- 10am-12pm

Speakers-Melissa from Luks Realty, Evan White-Zoning Officer, Anita Brown-HOC, Kathy Hull-Senior Center Director.

The Commission discussed having one breakout session instead of two. Having two speakers, a breakout session then the second two speakers and then time for questions. There was a conversation on questions the Commission may want to have available for attendees. One question discussed that the Commission was in favor of was “How close/far are they from making a change?” Other questions discussed – What are the pro & cons of subletting a room in my house? & How would improving the housing in New Fairfield benefit me? Commission members will think about questions and Maureen will email everyone so they can get a list together before the forum. Posters advertising the forum have been put up around town. It was discussed that the forum would get the attendees thinking, “plant a seed” even if they didn’t have any questions at the time.

New Business

Budget 2024/2025-There was a discussion regarding the Selectman taking a portion of the COA budget to help fund a new position she is creating in Town. She is taking \$500 from the COA budget to help fund an Outreach position.

Sub-Committee Reports

Housing-Anita Brown- On 3-14-24 they presented the Draft Housing Affordability Plan to the BOS who wants to get more familiar with it before making any decisions. Zoning is looking at the goals & strategies. Anita said they are hoping to have it included in the Plan of Conservation & Development.

Senior Center Listening Session-Roberta Ilardo said she shared the flyer and information regarding the upcoming forum.

Taxes-Janet Loya- There was a resolution in February 2015 where the amounts and income limits were set. The town benefits are adjusted annually and increased every year. Income limits are adjusted each year based on social security cost of living adjustment. The Town is no longer reimbursed by the State for the state benefit, it's a non-funded mandate. Janet has copies of the application for the elderly tax credit program. It is to be submitted with the applicant's current tax return and needs to be submitted by May 15th. Benefits are not set by the town they are set by the state. Janet will have copies of the form available at the forum.

Transportation- No discussion

Senior Center Report

Kathy Hull discussed the BOF bringing up the idea of a Community Center and they questioned how many people use the Senior Center. Kathy said she provided them with their annual report. The Commission discussed the many of activities the Senior Center is used for such as Girl Scout, Boy Scouts, Lions Club, Immunization Clinics, as well as a place to go to stay warm/cool when residents lose power. Kathy shared the Senior Centers daily average attendance for 2023 was 82 which was up from the year before (discussed coming back from Covid).

Upcoming Events: Emergency Steps to Safety by the Fire Marshal-4/14

Investment Club, Estate Planning-4/9

Emergency Financial Aid (open to the Town) by the Emergency Management Officer

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Julia MacMillan, all in favor. Adjourned @ 8:36pm.

Received by email on 03/28/2024 @ 8:30 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield