

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

**Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday June 23, 2020  
Zoom Meeting 7:30pm**

Meeting via Zoom moderated by Paul Gouveia.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Members in Attendance**

Anita Brown, Kathy Hull, Roberta Ilardo, Cindy LaCour, Janet Loy and Julie MacMillan. Lisa Zustovich took the meeting minutes.

**Motion to approve Minutes**

Julie MacMillan made a motion to approve the 5-26-20 meeting minutes as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cindy LaCour, all in favor. **Approved**

**Correspondence/Announcements**

None

**Old Business**

*Outstanding Senior of the Year-* The Commission members discussed 3 candidates. Lillian McBain, Doris McDermott and Jim Mellett. Kathy and Roberta will gather information on these candidates and present it to the rest of the Commission at the next meeting.

**New Business**

*Community Forum suggestions for October/November-* At this time it is unsure if the Commission would be able to hold a forum in the Fall due to social distancing restrictions. Brief discussion was had on what topic they would want to present at the forum. Taxes and housing were mentioned as options.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

*Housing-*Anita Brown- Anita sent a letter to Khirs Hall as discussed at last month's meeting. Anita said that she also spoke with Khirs Hall after she received the letter. Khirs Hall thought the Commission gave good suggestions. Anita also said that Khirs Hall discussed that the Zoning Board may be willing to have a property near town zoned for 55+ housing. Anita said that the Zoning chairman may be introducing a review of zoning for the October House and that at the August ZBA meeting there would be an opportunity for public comment. Anita encouraged the Commission members to attend the meeting (which will be via Zoom) and to encourage others interested in this to attend as well. Brief discussion was had regarding what each Commission member could discuss with ZBA during the public comment portion of the meeting. The Commission will discuss this further at the COA July meeting.

*Senior Center Listening Session-* Unable to hold listening sessions since the Senior Center has been closed due to the need for social distancing due to the pandemic.

*Taxes*-Janet Loya- Tax bills will be sent out on Thursday. The Town Hall office is closed so taxes will have to be paid by mail or at 2 of the banks in town. Residents can apply for an extension to pay taxes (until Oct 1<sup>st</sup>) if they have lost 20% of their income due to COVID. Information regarding applying for an extension is on the Town's website. Janet also discussed an article she read in the Letter to the Editor section of the Town Tribune. She said it was a letter from a senior in town who said there is not enough help for seniors regarding taxes in New Fairfield. Janet also said that many people don't know there is help available.

*Transportation*- No discussion

**Senior Center Report:** New re-opening schedule and activities. Kathy Hull said they are getting good at providing virtual programs for seniors and may be doing it a lot more in the future. Kathy said they were able to have volunteers provide tax aid for seniors the past 2 weeks and that 24 out of the 50 seniors who signed up were helped. The Senior Center is still doing "Grab and Go" meals and providing masks. The center's website [Newfairfieldseniorcenter.com](http://Newfairfieldseniorcenter.com) was discussed. Kathy said there is a page called Highlights on the website which has links to videos with different activities and programs to view. It was noted that they are averaging 60-100 views per video. Kathy mention that Janet and Deidre at the senior center have been doing Wheel of Fortune via Zoom once a week and that it has been well received. The Senior Center has been able to resume some of their outdoor activities such as Kayaking (have to sign a release waiver) and the walking club. They have also resumed the volunteering they do for the Candlewood Lake Authority, collecting water samples on Tuesday mornings. Cindy informed Kathy that she would still be available to any senior who wanted assistance setting up Facetime with their families. At this time, it is unknown when they will be able to resume any activities in person at the Senior Center.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Adjournment**

Cindy LaCour made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julie MacMillan, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Received by Email on 6/24/2020 @ 3:30 pm  
By: Holly Z. Smith, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield