

COMMISSION ON AGING

January 9, 2017

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

Present: Eva Bowden, Catherine Lawlor,
Rosemary Hokanson, Denise Weeks, Janeen Dolan

Excused: John DiSette, Ernest Reale

Absent:

Liaisons Present: Gerrie Bishop, AARP
Patti White, Senior Center Program Supervisor
Durlene Mikkelson, Director of Human Services

Liaisons Excused: None

Liaisons Absent:

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS:

AARP: Gerrie Bishop reported that Patti White had attended the December 6th AARP board meeting and presented information on the Town of Glastonbury's Age Friendly Community initiative and application process to the National AARP.

HUMAN SERVICES:

Patti White and Durlene Mikkelson updated the group on the activities of the department. (Report attached)

OLD BUSINESS:

Eva reviewed the draft of the Senior & Community Services Department's updated strategic plan, covering the 3 year period of 2017-2019, as provided by the staff of the department.

Eva updated the COA members on the status of the Age Friendly community initiative and elaborated on what needs to be reviewed with the members of the local AARP chapter regarding their involvement and next steps in the process. Plans were discussed to have both Eva and Rosemary attend an AARP local chapter board/general meeting in March or April to provide information to the group.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rosemary Hokanson, Acting Secretary

Department of Human Services

Commission on Aging Report

January 9, 2017

Senior Center Program Highlights:

Approximately 150 seniors attended both the 12/14 Holiday Luncheon and 12/29 New Year's Celebration luncheon, and 100 seniors attended the Holiday Brunch on 12/23. Photos of both events have been posted on Facebook with very positive responses.

The AARP Tax program has started with its training of the tax volunteers and will begin taking appointments for tax aid on 2/1/17.

Glastonbury residents may now register by mail one week after the monthly registration.

The indoor walking group has been expanded to two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays)

Our Lifelong Learning winter program will focus on Practicing Mindfulness: An introduction to Meditation.

We have been invited to participate in a demonstration project - the Aging Mastery Program in Connecticut. The program is a fun, innovative and person-entered education program that empowers participants to develop sustainable behaviors across many dimensions that lead to improved health, stronger economic security and contributing to the community.

The 10 week program combines evidence-informed knowledge delivered by community experts, goal-setting, daily practice and rewards. An introductory training will be held on January 31.

Upcoming Events/Trips:

Our annual Valentine's Day luncheon will be held on Tuesday February 14th.

A trip to see a MET opera at the Kate is scheduled for February 28th.

Personnel:

We made a selection for the position of Friendship Circle Program Coordinator and 2 back-up Activity Coordinators. HR is now in the process of doing their reference checks. We have also begun the recruitment process for a pt. time PSL driver and back-up Food Assistants.

Janine Fiedler, Social Services Coordinator resigned in December to move to South Carolina to be closer to her family.