

COMMISSION ON AGING

Minutes

January 16, 2018

Special Meeting

Present: Denise Weeks, Eva Bowden, Rosemary Hokanson,
Janeen Dolan, Jennifer DiSette, Nancy Goodwin, Daren Hill

Excused:

Absent:

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

Liaisons Excused:

Liaisons Absent:
Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Ethics Training:
The members present viewed the Town of Glastonbury Code of Ethics Video.

Election of Officers:
Janeen Dolan made a motion to nominate Denise Weeks as Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Hokanson. Motion Approved. Voting “yes” were Jennifer DiSette, Eva Bowden, Nancy Goodwin, Daren Hill, Rosemary Hokanson, Janeen Dolan and Denise Weeks.

Denise Weeks made a motion to nominate Eva Bowden as Vice-Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Hokanson.. Motion Approved. Voting “yes” were Jennifer DiSette, Eva Bowden, Nancy Goodwin, Daren Hill, Rosemary Hokanson, Janeen Dolan and Denise Weeks.

MINUTES:
Eva Bowden made a motion to accept the September 11, 2017 minutes as written. Motion seconded by Rosemary Hokanson. Motion Approved. Voting “yes” were

Jennifer DiSette, Eva Bowden, Nancy Goodwin, Daren Hill, Rosemary Hokanson, Janeen Dolan and Denise Weeks.

COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

LIAISON REPORTS:

AARP: Gerrie Bishop reported that the local AARP chapter held their Christmas banquet and a series of successful fundraisers which allows them to support their charitable causes and scholarship funds.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

HUMAN SERVICES:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Accreditation Update:

Patti White informed the members that the staff was putting the final touches on the accreditation binder and planned to mail it by the end of the month.

Age Friendly Community Update:

Denise Weeks provided written materials to the Commission members on the Age Friendly Community Initiative. Rosemary Hokanson provided an overview and stated that the next steps would be to set up a committee of stakeholders that would establish goals and objectives for the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

The group decided to hold a reception prior to the March meeting to thank Ernie Reale and Catherine Lawlor for their years of service on the Commission on Aging.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janeen Dolan, Acting Secretary

Department of Human Services

Commission on Aging Report

January 16, 2018

Senior Center Program Highlights:

The Aging Mastery Program was a very successful program, which included 10 expert speakers who presented on an array of topics related to aging well. Speakers included a pharmacology student, an attorney from a local firm, a clinician, a nutritionist, a physical therapist, the town's public health nurse, a finance expert as well as our Powerful Aging and Tai Chi instructors. Thirteen participants graduated from the program on December 13th. The feedback was very positive and we are planning to do another series in the spring.

As reported in November, we started a Zumba Gold class and a beginners Line Dancing class to increase exercise/dance options for participants.

Our meals evaluation results were also positive. Over 90% of the respondents indicated that they feel they are eating better and are more socially active because they eat lunch at the center.

We completed our annual health and wellness evaluations of our dance and exercise classes. 96% of the respondents reported that they agree most of the time or all of the time that they have benefited from the class that they are taking.

We had many holiday special events in December as well as several holiday related outings. All parties and trips were highly successful with large numbers of attendees and we received very positive feedback.

Upcoming Events/Trips:

Our annual Valentine's Day Special Luncheon with entertainment will be held on Tuesday February 12.

In February we will have the rescheduled physical therapists from Hartford Healthcare do a presentation followed by balance evaluations, including walkers and assistive devices.

Starting on January 16th we are offering another Lifelong Learning 12 week series. The topic this time is Great Tours: Greece and Turkey, from Athens to Istanbul.

Personnel:

Our new volunteer coordinator, Lisa McKeon and Dial-A-Ride Driver, Francis Scata started in early December. HR is still in the process of finalizing the other recruitments of additional drivers and program staff.

Social Services:

As of this time there is no change to the Medicare Savings Program from the State of CT.

Applications will begin to be taken by Social Services for the Elderly/Disabled Homeowners Tax Relief program.

The December Holiday programs were very successful-227 households received Grocery Store Gift Cards to help purchase food for holiday meals. 247 children received gifts from donors and gift cards. A total of 522 Glastonbury residents were assisted during the holiday time.

Senior volunteers provided many hours of help with sorting food, wrapping up donated gifts and sorting gift cards for our Holiday Programs..

The knotting/crocheting group provided knitted hats, mitten and lap blankets which were donated to Glastonbury residents receiving from the Holiday Programs.

Youth and Family Services:

Creative held their spring show auditions and will start rehearsing for Disney's Peter Pan.

Auditions for Creative's 44th summer musical will be held May 7th and 9th at the RCC from 6 to 10pm. All Glastonbury residents over the age of 7 are encouraged to attend. No prior experience is necessary. Performance dates ate Aug. 2, 3 and 4.

