

## COMMISSION ON AGING

March 2, 2020

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Rosemary Hokanson, Daren Hill, Nancy Goodwin, Jennifer DiSette,  
Philip Markuszka, Gayle Kataja

**Absent:** Janeen Dolan

**Liaisons Present:** Lisa Zerio, Parks & Recreation Director  
Patti White, Senior Services Department Supervisor  
Barbara Evans, AARP

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

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#### **MINUTES:**

Minutes of the Special Meetings held on January 13, 2020 and February 5th, 2020 were accepted as written.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Rosemary informed the group that she had received a communication from 3 individuals who showed interest in and support of the Age-Friendly Community initiative, including a town resident who attended the Community Conversation, a town emergency preparedness official and a consultant working with the Simsbury Age-Friendly Community initiative. Patti stated that the Glastonbury Health Department Director contacted her and indicated an interest in working collaboratively on the initiative as well.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS**

**AARP:** Barbara Evans, AARP Vice-President, reported on AARP's efforts to obtain a grant to be used to enhance membership recruitment. Barbara reported that the group has nominated a slate of officers for the coming year.

#### **SENIOR SERVICES REPORT:**

Patti White and Lisa Zerio updated the members on the recent activities and services provided by the center including but not limited to the following event highlights: 1. The annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon will be held on March 12, 2020. 2. The Glastonbury "Passport to Health" fair will be held on April 8 from 2-4 pm and 5-7 pm, and is open to all ages with numerous presenters and vendors already in place. 3. The Nonagenarian celebration of seniors over 90 is set for May 14<sup>th</sup> and an AARP & AAA Carfit program will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Patti encouraged the members to attend the annual volunteer recognition event scheduled for the afternoon of April 21, 2020.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Age-Friendly Livable Communities Initiative**

Rosemary reported that approximately 60 individuals attended the February 13<sup>th</sup> Age-Friendly Community Conversation. The top three Domain priorities that were identified through the process were: Housing, Transportation and Outdoor Spaces and Buildings. Rosemary also reported that the evaluations done by attendees were overwhelmingly positive and noted that several respondents indicated an interest in the future of the initiative.

Rosemary stated that in the group's efforts to obtain input from a diverse group of Glastonbury residents, focus groups will be scheduled in one of the town's housing developments as well as with a group of young people through either the high school or a youth group in town.

After discussion on other possible focus groups, a vote was taken to select the Chamber of Commerce as the third sector of the community with which to conduct a focus group. Motion was made by Nancy Goodwin and seconded by Jennifer DiSette. Motion approved unanimously.

Tom Phillips informed the group about some of the tasks that the Core Leadership Team would be responsible for, including identifying action steps on the three priority issues and preparing a presentation for the town council on the action plan in June. Tom also informed the group on potential sources of long-range funding for the initiative including the Community Reinvestment Act and the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit program.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Glastonbury Education Foundation Meeting**

Rosemary informed the members that they had been invited to attend the GEF's board meeting to update them on the work of the Age-Friendly Community initiative. Several members expressed interest in attending the meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

### **AARP Challenge Grant**

Lisa informed the group that she and Patti had presented some possible grant ideas to the town manager, including; benches, outdoor exercise equipment, pickle ball courts and support for a Chores program. Lisa and Patti will be submitting the proposed grant application to the Town Manager for his review and recommendations, prior to submission.

Patti stated that the town would be applying for Title III B Older Americans Act grant funds to support a Chores type program for seniors in need of help with light housekeeping and/or yardwork.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gayle Kataja, Acting Secretary

