

COMMISSION ON AGING

June 14, 2021

Special Joint Meeting with Age-Friendly Core Leaders Ship Team

Minutes

Present: Jennifer DiSette, Gayle Kataja, Denise Weeks, Beth Hillson, Philip Markuszka, Daren Hill, Dr. Chip Beckett, Deb Carroll, Neil Griffin, Barbara Baily, Doug Brown, Dr. Carrie Andreoletti, Jeff Stein.

Liaisons Present: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks and Recreation Department
Patti White, Senior Services Program Supervisor
Thomas Phillips, Consultant

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on May 3, 2021 were accepted as written.

COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

LIAISON REPORTS: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Patti reported that Dial-A-Ride services were resuming five days a week and lunch inside the building twice a week. Patti also stated that most exercise and dance classes are now operating on site. A memorial service for those lost in the past 15 months is being planned.

Lisa Zerio reported that plans to build Pickleball courts on the Community Center grounds were underway and efforts to create a self-select food pantry at the RCC were in progress with grant funding from the Hartford Foundation to the Glastonbury Interfaith clergy group.

Food Bank and Fuel Bank continue to assist Glastonbury residents in need thanks to generous donations to Glastonbury Gives – there were 82 Food Bank requests during May

Application period for Renter Rebate Program runs through October 1

“Eye Openers,” Low Vision Support Group met via Zoom on 5/23 – it was well attended, members are looking forward to meeting in person again soon.

Planning has begun for Social Services’ Back-to-School program. This year Social Services will be collaborating with Parks and Rec, the libraries and Youth and Family to launch a family-friendly annual event for eligible lower-income families.

OLD BUSINESS:

Universal Design

Jennifer reported that a letter had been sent to the town planning department from the Commission in support of the town considering the inclusion of Universal Design elements in all future housing development in town.

Age-Friendly Community Initiative:

- **Update on AFC Action Plan**

Thomas Phillips provided an overall update on the draft documents of the Age-Friendly Action Plan including the Executive Summary and status of the documents in the Table of Contents.

- **Review of Three Domains Action Steps/Implementation table**

Thomas reviewed the action steps, partners and timeline for the recommendations of the Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Domain priority.

The participants commented generally that they like the design and content of the tables.

Specific feedback from participants included:

1. Need to give full name of an organization first, before using its acronym in the plan.
2. Add the word ‘intergenerational’ where appropriate throughout the plan.
3. Ensure proper reference to the “Ageism Training” where appropriate in the plan.
4. Include numbering of both the actions and metrics on the tables.

- **Town Funding for the AFC Initiative/AARP Challenge grant application**

Lisa informed the members that \$20,000 had been approved to fund the AFC initiative for some items identified in the action plan. Lisa reported that the next budget cycle was beginning and funding for the AFC initiative would be requested. Patti reported that the AARP Challenge grant awards would be announced in June and that the town has and will continue to apply for funding when appropriate to support the work of the initiative.

- **Logo Status**

Patti reported that a company had been selected to design the Glastonbury Age-Friendly Community logo based on the draft that had been approved by the COA. Patti stated that once the contract is finalized draft logos would be prepared and available for review by the COA and CLT members

- **Ageism Training**

The members who had taken the training indicated that they had found the curriculum to be of benefit to them, in particular the lesson of not stereotyping older adults and how language can be offensive. Patti stated that the next steps were to offer the training to the CLT members, department staff and volunteers. Patti will send info to the CLT members on the training.

- **Next Steps/Timeline**

The group decided to meet again on June 28th to review the action steps and deliverables on all three priority Domains; Outdoor Spaces, Transportation and Housing and to go before the council in July/August with a final draft of the action plan based on the Town Manager's recommendations.

The goal is to submit the plan to the national AARP by September 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patti White, Acting Secretary