

## COMMISSION ON AGING

November 1, 2021

### Minutes

**Present:** Jennifer DiSette, Gayle Kataja, Denise Weeks, Philip Markuszka, Daren Hill.

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

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

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### **MINUTES:**

Minutes of the meeting held on October 4, 2021 were accepted as written.

### **COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Patti White informed the members that Deb Morgan, the Director of the Glastonbury Education Foundation had reached out to request a copy of the Age-Friendly action Plan and the receipts for payment of the consultant's time.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Lisa Zerio reported that there were 105 Food Bank requests processed during October by the Social Services Department and energy applications are currently being taken. The Renter's Rebate program ended on October 1, with approximately 300 applications processed.

Lisa also stated that food gift cards were still being distributed at this time with the plans to create a self-select food pantry still a goal of the department.

The walking ring behind the RCC had been done over with stone dust by the town with grant funds obtained by the health department. The ring may possibly be classified as ADA compliant.

Lisa is reviewing possible locations for more benches along the trail systems throughout town. The portable toilet that is located at Hubbard Green, will stay throughout the winter to allow those that walk year-round to be utilized.

Patti reported that the Chores program held two successful Saturday outdoor yardwork events at seniors' homes with others scheduled for the near term. Patti also reported that holiday plans were underway to include special lunches for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Patti informed the members that the Senior Services Department is collaborating with the Connecticut Historical Society to provide transportation and sell tickets for a Holiday House Tour

in South Glastonbury scheduled for December 4 with a snow date of December 5.

Patti stated that the town was awarded a \$5,000 grant through the AARP Livable Communities grant process to install benches with arbors and flower gardens at two of the Town's Housing Developments.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Age-Friendly Community Initiative:**

#### **AFC Action Plan**

Patti and Tom informed the members that the plan was in the final formatting stages and should be available to them the following week.

Tom reminded the group of the importance of having a communications plan as well as a resource development plan and the value of building partnerships throughout the implementation of the plan.

Jennifer asked the members to weigh in on ideas they may have for initial no-cost/low-cost items in the plan that the COA could begin to work on.

Denise Weeks suggested that the members could begin to advocate for increased trips to orchards and farms for residents, and do a walkability audit to assess locations for benches to be placed.

The group decided to hold a joint meeting with the COA/CLT on the first Monday of February to strategize priorities to begin working on in the coming year.

#### **Logo Status**

Patti and Lisa reported that the logo was final and that plans were in the works to begin using the logo on letterhead and various other marketing mediums.

#### **New Business:**

The group agreed to keep the same schedule for the coming year with the first Monday of each month (September on second Monday) at 5:30 pm. The group will not meet in July and August.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patti White, Acting Secretary

