

Commission on Aging

December 5, 2022

Minutes

Present: Gayle Kataja, Denise Weeks, Susan Pearlman, Jennifer DiSette, Beth Hillson,

Liaisons: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks and Recreation

Patti White, Supervisor of Senior Services

Call to Order- Meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Review Minutes of November 7, 2022 meeting- Motion to accept the minutes by Denise, seconded by Susan, motion passed unanimously.

Communications & Announcements- Patti Reported that the local AARP Chapter 2010 had dissolved. As the oldest chapter in the state all expressed their sadness at the news.

Gayle reported that she was in touch with Alyssa Norwood Director, Connecticut Age Well Collaborative, regarding the work of the collaborative and how Glastonbury could be a resource going forward. Gayle will arrange a meeting date with Alyssa, Lisa and Patti.

Departmental Reports (Attached)

Old Business:

- **Age-Friendly Community Initiative (Year I progress)**

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings:

Lisa reported that discussions were ongoing with the Glastonbury Historical Society regarding the possibility of a Holiday Trolley for 2023.

Transportation:

Patti reported that a driver had been hired for the Dial-A-Ride program and that the goal of starting the pilot high density run is still planned to begin in January.

Patti spoke with Dan Pennington, Town Engineer, regarding criteria for pedestrian safety measures in town. To date Dan stated that no draft criteria have been developed for when the town might consider installation of the flashing beacons at mid-block pedestrian crossings as of yet. He expects discussion on this topic at the Town Council level in the relatively near future.

Members of the Commission discussed writing a letter to the Town Council reiterating the goals of the Age Friendly Plan regarding traffic calming and pedestrian and bike safety improvements, encouraging them to take the plan's recommendations into consideration with future planning efforts such as the expansion of Main Street north of Hebron Avenue. Motion made by Beth and seconded by Jennifer to send the letter. Motion carried unanimously.

Questions regarding the availability of handicapped parking spaces in and near the town center have been included in the Glastonbury Senior Services Survey.

➤ **Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance (letter of support and timeline)**

The members reviewed a draft letter to be sent to the TPZ regarding the commission's support of the proposed changes regarding Inclusionary Zoning. A motion was made by Denise with an amendment to the letter by Susan to specify when an affordable housing requirement takes effect. Motion seconded by Beth. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **Citizen Newspaper Request for Support Update**

In response to a request made by residents at the Commission's October meeting regarding difficulties seniors and other residents with vision impairments have in reading the Citizen newspaper, the Commission decided to send a letter to the Citizen's publisher encouraging them to put the publication online to enable vision impaired seniors and other residents to be able to read the newspaper. Motion made by Denise and seconded by Beth. Motion carried unanimously.

Accreditation Process/Timeline

All agreed to hold meetings after the new year with lunch provided by the Riverfront Café. Patti will send the members the proposed schedule of meeting dates.

➤ **Community Survey Update**

Lisa reported that thus far 14 individuals had completed the survey and a total of 73 had opened it. All agreed to reach out to others to take the survey.

New Business:

Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024:

Members discussed a schedule for the new year and decided to wait until the January 2023 meeting to finalize the dates.

Adjourn: Motion by Denise seconded by Beth to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.