

Commission on Aging

February 6, 2023

Minutes

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

Liaisons: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks and Recreation

Patti White, Supervisor of Senior Services

Call to Order- Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

Review Minutes of January 9, 2023 meeting- A motion was made to accept the minutes by Denise and seconded by Susan. Motion passed unanimously.

Communications & Announcements- Lisa informed the members of the upcoming Health and Wellness fair to be held at the RCC on March 24th from 2-7pm. Members discussed plans to have an Age-Friendly vendor table.

Departmental Reports (Attached)

Old Business:

Age-Friendly Community Initiative

- **Sub-committee reports**

Housing:

Gayle reported that the Housing committee would meet on February 17th 8:30 am at Center Village. Gayle is going to reach out to Chris Haaf to see if he is able to join.

Transportation:

Patti reported that the department had received two inquiries from prospective Dial-A-Ride drivers. The recent articles in the Citizen seem to be effectively informing the community as one of the driver inquiries came from a person who read about the department's need for drivers.

Patti will arrange a date for a Transportation Sub-committee meeting.

Denise will provide AARP best practice pedestrian safety information to the Town Engineer, Dan Pennington.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings:

Lisa reported that the town was moving forward with the projects funded through the STEAP grant including the pavilion to be built adjacent to the Community Center. Accessibility to benches and other amenities are being planned as well.

Lisa will organize a meeting of the Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Committees in the near future.

- **Meeting with Connecticut Age-Well Collaborative**

Gayle informed the members that Lisa, Patti and she met with the Director of the Connecticut Age-Well Collaborative, Alyssa, Norwood as well as Deb Stein. Gayle reported that it was a very productive meeting and that Alyssa praised Glastonbury for its work on the Age-Friendly Community initiative and encouraged the town to apply for their Wellspring award for a community that fosters aging, dementia and disability inclusivity.

Lisa and Gayle will meet to submit Glastonbury's Age-Friendly Community initiative as a nominee. The Connecticut Age Well Collaborative's first annual Wellspring Awards. Awards will be presented in-person at their event at the State Capitol on April 26. Nominations are due by February 10, 2023.

- **Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance Letter – follow-up**

Gayle reported that Shelley Caltagirone, the new Director of Planning and Land Use Services, attended the January 17, 2023 TPZ meeting and said that the department staff, forwarded the COA's letter to the TPZ, but draft inclusionary zoning regulations have not been put on their agenda at this time for discussion. Staff will update the Commission on Aging when the town moves forward with any public hearings on the issue.

- **Pedestrian Safety Letter to Town Council- follow-up**

The group discussed what to do as a follow-up to the Pedestrian Safety letter which the Commission sent to the Town Council. Lisa will follow up with the Town Manager.

- **Accreditation & Survey Update**

Lisa and Patti reported that the first meeting of the Accreditation Self-Assessment Committee went well and that a good deal of information was obtained from the participants that will be helpful with future strategic planning for the Senior Center.

Phil recommended that the center look into working with various restaurants to offer senior discounts. Lisa will reach out to the Chamber to see what might be possible.

Lisa informed the members that the March 24th meeting would need to move to a different day due the Health and Wellness Fair scheduled for that day at the Community Center. The tentative date is March 31, 2023.

Patti reported that the mailed survey would be going out by the end of the week and the results would also help to inform future program and services planning.

New Business:

Adjourn: Motion by Denise seconded by Beth to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

