

GLASTONBURY COMMISSON ON AGING

SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

5:00 P.M.

In-Person-RCC

Gayle Kataja, Chair
Jennifer DiSette, Vice Chair
Chris Haaf
Beth Hillson
Phil Markuszka
Susan Pearlman
Denise Weeks

1. **ROLL CALL:** Beth Hillson absent. Lisa Zerio, Director Parks & Recreation, Ronda Guberman, Senior Center Supervisor in attendance. Gwenn Winkler attended as a guest.
2. **MINUTES** of the February 5, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Susan Pearlman made a motion to accept and Denise Weeks seconded. Unanimously approved.
3. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** were submitted in the packets for February 2024.
4. **SENIOR CENTER SUPERVISOR REPORT:**
 - a. NISC Accreditation Review: Ronda reported that the reaccreditation virtual review went very well and that the Glastonbury Senior Center received full accreditation by the National Council on Aging/National Institute of Senior Centers. An official letter was distributed. The Peer Reviewer, Sandi Johnson, was very impressed by our facility, programming, COA, volunteers and staff. Prior to the review, Lisa Zerio, Christine Avery and Geordie Emanuel worked tirelessly to collect policies, procedures, develop and facilitate self-surveys, assessments, etc. to submit to the review board in June 2023. Their work paved the way for the virtual review which took place in February and the full accreditation for the next five years. Lisa has asked Kathryn Paquette to assist with press releases. A celebration will be scheduled in May during Older Americans Month.
 - b. NCAAA Grant Proposal: Ronda is working on submitting a grant proposal to the North Central Area Agency on Aging for foot care scholarships, fitness center and fitness class scholarships for low-income individuals. The Social Workers will screen residents for eligibility.
5. **Old Business**
 - o **Age Friendly Community Initiative Sub-Committee Reports**
Housing Subcommittee:
 - a. Review and approval of a letter of support from the Housing Sub-Committee: Gayle drafted a letter to submit to the Town Council. The letter was distributed and discussed. Based on recommendations of

COA members, she will edit the letter and email to all COA for review and final approval before presenting to the Town Council at their Town Council meeting on March 12. All names of the COA members will be added to the letter. Lisa noted that the proposal aligns with all of the Town's objectives for sustainability, economic development and livable communities. Denise Weeks made a motion to redraft the letter and submit. Susan Pearlman seconded. All in favor.

b. Gayle spoke with Neil Griffin about adding two members to the Housing Subcommittee: Corey Turner and Carl Stenman.

c. The subcommittee will meet quarterly beginning in April and their focus will be on support and advocacy.

d. A draft of an Affordable Housing Brochure was distributed. We plan to have copies available at the COA table at the Passport to Health Fair.

Transportation Subcommittee: Beth Hillson sent minutes of the transportation subcommittee meeting to all COA members.

Outdoor Spaces and Building: No report.

- **Passport to Health Fair**: March 8th, 2:00 – 6:00. The COA will welcome people to the Fair and give out flashlight lanyards. Everyone is encouraged to spread the word to friends, neighbors, and family members to attend the event.
- **New Business**
 - a. LGBTQ+ Training Video: the first in a series of three videos was shown at the conclusion of the meeting. The other videos will be shown at the April and May meetings.

6. Adjournment: Motion made by Denise Weeks and seconded by Susan Pearlman to adjourn at 5:57 p.m.

7. Next Scheduled Meeting: Monday, April 1, 2024, 5:00 p.m. (The COA Meeting will begin at 5:00, immediately followed by the LGBTQ+ training.)