

GLASTONBURY COMMISSON ON AGING

MEETING

Minutes

MONDAY, June 3, 2024

5:30 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:** Attended: Gayle Kataja, Jennifer DiSette, Chris Haaf, Beth Hillson, Susan Pearlman, Denise Weeks. Phil Markuszka, absent. Lisa Zerio, Director, Parks & Recreation, Ronda Guberman, Senior Center Supervisor in attendance.
2. **MINUTES** of the May 6, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Chris Haaf made a motion to accept and Jennifer DiSette seconded. Unanimously approved.
3. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:** were submitted in the packets for May 2024.
4. **SENIOR CENTER SUPERVISOR REPORT:**
 - a. Friendship Circle: MMSE (Mini Mental Status Exams) were conducted on all participants to gauge their level of appropriateness for continued participation in the program. Several of the members are requiring hands-on additional support and may be “graduating” from the program. The Friendship Circle is intended for persons who have mild cognitive impairment. Family members/caregivers are provided a list of alternatives for care.
 - b. Raised Garden Beds: Partners in Planting provided vegetable and herb plants for the raised garden beds. Friendship Circle participants will assist with watering. Produce will be used by our kitchen.
 - c. ARPA Grant Update: Although the Town received approval for the ARPA grant in the amount of \$91,967, the State legislature has reduced funding for the entire grant program for all Senior Centers. We are waiting to hear how much our project will be cut. The Fitness Center will remain the top priority for funding from this grant and improvements to the lobby will be put on hold and possibly included in our CIP budget next year.
 - d. LGBTQ Moveable Senior Center: We have 14 registered for the Slipaway Cruise on June 11th. Information about our Moveable Senior Center programs will be distributed at the Pride Day Community event from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Hubbard Park. sponsored by TALK on Sunday, June 9th. Gayle and Beth will staff the COA table.

- e. Summer Picnic: The annual summer picnic, co-sponsored with Parks & Recreation is scheduled for August 14.

5. **Old Business**

- o **Age Friendly Community Initiative Sub-Committee Reports**

Housing Subcommittee: No meeting since May.

Transportation Subcommittee: No meeting since May. Beth Hillson reported that she is in the process of drafting a letter to Dan Pennington supporting the recommendations from the bike/walk committee. She will share the draft for approval prior to sending. The committee is going to form an ad-hoc group of volunteers who will walk/bike the town to report areas of concern that need to be addressed. The Putnam Bridge bike path is open.

Outdoor Spaces and Building: Jennifer reported that the group will meet soon and will continue plans for a Farm Day Bingo event where people visit local farms and get a sticker.

6. **New Business:**

Suggestion made to change the date of the September meeting from Monday, September 9th to Tuesday, September 10th, to avoid a conflict with the Library Board meeting.

7. **Adjournment:** Motion made by Denise Weeks and seconded by Chris Haaf to adjourn at 6:18 p.m.

7. **Next Scheduled SPECIAL Meeting:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 5:30 p.m.