

Meeting Minutes
Commission on Aging
Regular Meeting
Easton Senior Center
Monday, September 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:12 PM. Present were Gail V. Gay, Phyllis Machledt, Joel Peskay, Lisa Tasi, and Alison Witherbee, Municipal Agent/Senior Social Services. Linda Dollard and Margaret Silvestri were absent.

1. The minutes of the June 2, 2014 meeting were read and unanimously approved on a motion by Gail V. Gay, seconded by Phyllis Machledt.
2. Old Business
No old business was discussed.
3. New Business
 - a. Municipal Agent's Report
Alison Witherbee had a busy summer advising senior citizens on various Medicare issues, plans and programs geared towards seniors. She attended a free seminar on Mental Health Training through the Southwest Regional Mental Health Board and learned about outlets which focus specific care in the local area. Another tour was taken at the Watermark with a group of interested seniors. Plans are underway for Fall 2014 informational seminars and programs. Alison has met with Easton Town Clerk Christine Halloran to update the Municipal Agent page on the new website. She also has met with another predecessor, Pat Finick, to discuss the role of the Municipal Agent. Other responsibilities have been working on continuing cases and some losses in the community of seniors.
 - b. SWCAA Report
Phyllis Machledt, the Commission's representative to the Advisory Council of the Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging reported on the Council's latest news. There is the 40th Anniversary Celebration of SWCAA on Thursday, September 18th at the Norwalk Inn. <http://www.swcaa.org/upcoming-events/>. There are also two upcoming special seminars, "Aging and Driving: A complex combination", via ITNCoastalCT and AT&T. The seminars will discuss how to help someone stop driving for safety and health issues and provide transportation alternatives. (Tuesday, September 16th, 2-4 PM at Westport Center for Senior Activities and Thursday, September 18th, 7-8:30 PM at the Pequot Library in Southport).

c. Other Items

COA members discussed ongoing senior issues, population and demographic trends and local/regional organizations that provide homecare and assisted living.

Municipal Agent Alison Witherbee has set the following calendar dates for upcoming events: 1/Medicare & Open Enrollment – Tuesday, October 28th from 10 AM to 2 PM. CHOICES counselors will assist seniors for changing Medicare health or prescription drug coverage). 2/Veteran's Benefits – Wednesday, October 22nd (Time will be announced). A presentation will be made on the Aid and Attendance Pension from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Both events will take place at the Easton Senior Center and are listed in the Municipal Agent's Senior Newsletter.

d. Next meeting

The Commission's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 6, 2014.

4. Adjourn:

Gail V. Gay moved to adjourn, Phyllis Machledt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Tasi, Secretary, Commission on Aging