

Meeting Minutes
TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
Commission for the Aging
Special Meeting
Easton Senior Center
Monday, March 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 PM. Present were Linda Dollard, Gail V. Gay, Karen Martin, Mary Pajonas, Joel Peskay, Lisa Tasi, and Alison Witherbee / Municipal Agent-Senior Social Services. Phyllis Machledt was not present.

The minutes of the February 6th meeting was reviewed and approved on a motion by Joel Peskay and seconded by Karen Martin.

1. Unfinished Business

a. MCS Fund

Alison will contact Finance at Town Hall with regard to latest Fund activity and to receive a financial report.

2. New Business

a. Discussion on request for MCS Fund for senior.

Alison was approached by Pam Healy, Senior Outreach Worker, regarding an Easton Senior having some financial constraints and coordinating purchase of orthotics. The CFA discussed this situation and the parameters for orthotics with respect to insurance, medical necessity and MD reference for podiatrist and written prescription for creation of personal orthotics. Medicare and State of CT (Medicaid) provide a list of covered services as do other insurance plans.

b. St. Patrick's Day lunch/movie on March 17th, 2017.

The ESC will host a St. Patrick's Day lunch / movie to seniors, who have signed up to attend. Volunteers are needed prior to the movie to assist with lunch. "Many hands make light work".

c. Caregiver Presentation with Congregational Church – Date TBD

Alison recently was contacted by Reverend Amanda Ostrove on an idea for a presentation on "transitions to becoming a caregiver" and other related topics. The CFA members commented on information that is already available via SWCCA and Bridges facility in Trumbull, CT. Bringing these timely topics to form a panel discussion would benefit both the Easton Seniors and community outreach.

d. Municipal Agent's Report

Alison reported that the reasonably mild winter weather did not create too many problems with Easton Seniors. Planning is underway for additional "Teen Tech" events for seniors as the January and February events were nicely attended. Alison attended the Municipal Agents' Forum held at the SWCCA offices. It was a good opportunity to share knowledge, advice and support. She also learned about grants

and the application process. There are many layers in the grant application process in order to present a solid proposal that can be adapted to meet specific grant opportunities and review criteria for specific funders. Alison will be attending to upcoming events hosted at the Westport Senior Center with a topic on "Community Based Supports, Services and Title 19" and "Coping Strategies for the Caregiver" which will be presented at Bridges by Epoch. These presentations and ideas can be then shared outward and be basis for new senior events.

e. SWCCA Report

There was no report at this meeting. Phyllis Machledt is the SWCCA representative. SWCCA meets the second Wednesday of the month. (Southwestern CT Agency on Aging - <http://www.swcaa.org>).

f. Other items

CFA Member Joel Peskay spoke about Senior and Cyber Security. This topic would benefit the senior population especially since the "Teen Tech" event has been so well received. Joel's son, Joshua Peskay, has been involved with numerous non-profit organizations to assist them with strategic technical decisions and cyber security. The CFA members discussed the need for seniors to be intelligent in their actions, especially where it concerns security and scams. Planning a presentation on this topic, along with other local 'enforcement' assisting would be beneficial. www.roundtabletechnology.com

CFA members discussed the types of community outreach and various needs of local seniors, specifically transportation services.

3. Next meeting

The Commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, April 3rd, 2017.

4. Adjourn:

Gail V. Gay moved to adjourn the meeting, Joel Peskay seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved and agreed upon at 6:10 PM.

Submitted by,
Lisa V. Tasi, Secretary, Commission for the Aging