

Meeting Minutes
TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
Commission for the Aging
Regular Meeting
Easton Senior Center
Monday, October 7, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM. Present were Gail V. Gay, Phyllis Machledt, Joel Peskay, Margaret Silvestri, Lisa Tasi, and Alison Witherbee, Municipal Agent/Senior Social Services. Linda Dollard was excused from the meeting.

1. The minutes of the September 8, 2014 meeting were read and unanimously approved on a motion by Phyllis Machledt, seconded by Gail V. Gay.
2. Old Business
 - a. Veteran's Administration Presentation
This will be held on Thursday, October 22nd at 10:00 AM at the Easton Senior Center.
 - b. Open Enrollment for Medicare – Two formats: CHOICES & Ron Berry of Integrity Capital Management will be at the Easton Senior Center. CHOICES will provide information on Tuesday, October 28th in half-hour slots with sign up through Municipal Agent Office. ICM will hold presentations on consecutive Friday mornings via the Easton Senior Center. Clarification was provided on each format.
3. New Business
 - a. ITN/Coastal – Nancy McCormick
An "information presentation" was made by the Community-based transportation service for seniors and visually impaired adults ITN/Coastal CT was incorporated in 2009 and is a recognized 501(c) 3 non-profit organization and completed its affiliation with ITN America in 2010. It operates within Easton, Fairfield, Norwalk, Weston, Westport and Wilton, CT and provides any type of ride within the service area with no limitations on ride purpose. Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in private automobiles by trained and vetted drivers. It is a membership based organization with an annual membership fee of \$75 for individuals and \$90 for a family membership. It is available for people 60 years and older, and adults with visual impairments.
"Changing lives one ride at a time!" <http://itncoastalct.org/>

b. Municipal Agent's Report

Alison Witherbee has been busy preparing for the upcoming Open Enrollment season for Medicare for the Q&A Session with 30 minute appointments to be held on Tuesday, October 28th. Also planned is a presentation about Veteran's Affairs Aid and Attendance benefits for Wednesday, October 22nd. Both events have been announced. She is assisting some seniors with applications for Fuel Assistance and has been working closely with Pam Healy with other seniors who require home help. Alison attended the recent 40th Anniversary event of SWCAA, making new contacts, as well as attending the Aging & Driving presentation held at Pequot Library. Jesse Lee Church is holding a pre-Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday evening, November 1st. Alison will be purchasing tickets for seniors who are alone or homebound. They will benefit from this outreach and enjoy an early holiday meal and socialization. Arrangements for transportation are underway. She is also starting a Bereavement Group (two people have already signed up) which will lend support and encourage discussion.

c. 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. The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16th. Also, the C4A (Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on Aging) will hold its 9th Annual conference on Wednesday, October 29th (8AM- 12N) at the CT Legislative Office Building in Hartford, CT. Pre-registration is September 22-October 27, 2014 (Cost is \$50/person). The Keynote Address will be delivered this year by Ms. Dorian Block, Senior Staff at the Columbia University Aging Center. In her remarks she will cover a variety of topics ranging from trends and demographics to public policy initiatives and infrastructure.

http://www.swcaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/C4A_AICP_2014.pdf

Phyllis has been sharing emails on various issues and events with the commission and remarked that the recent presentations have been very informative.

d. Commission name change to "Commission for the Aging"

Following an inquiry from an Easton resident, research was made by the Easton Town Clerk, Christine Halloran, regarding the exact name of the commission. Through research, Christine advised that the Town Ordinance draft referred to the commission as the Commission for the

Aging. So henceforth, the commission shall be known as The Commission for the Aging (CFA).

e. Other Items

CFA members discussed the new recycle bins. Observation was made that the containers are too cumbersome for seniors and perhaps too large to use. There are a lot of seniors living in their own homes and a lot of homes with only one resident.

4. Next meeting

The Commission's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November, 3, 2014.

5. Adjourn:

Phyllis Machledt moved to adjourn, Margaret Silvestri seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Tasi, Secretary, Commission for the Aging