

Meeting Minutes  
Commission for the Aging  
Town of Easton, CT  
Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, September 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM. Present were Karen Martin, Melinda O'Brien, Lisa Tasi and Eileen Zimmerman / Municipal Agent – Senior Services. Linda Dollard, Anne Hughes and Phyllis Machledt were not in attendance.

1. Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the June 4, 2018 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by the members present on a motion by Karen Martin and Melinda O'Brien.

2. Unfinished Business

A. MCS Fund

A report was furnished via Town Finance Director, Christine Calvert.

B. Other

Eileen will contact Christine Calvert with regards to the Social Services sector and how to make charitable contributions with the stipulation that they be used for a specific purpose. The CFA members would like to verify how to define procedures for the establishment of a specific restricted / designated fund.

3. New Business

A. Municipal Agent's Report – Eileen Zimmerman

The summer months were quite busy for Eileen in her capacity working with seniors and non-seniors on financial assistance and different social dynamics. An event will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM at the Easton Library. It will be targeted for those who are new to Medicare. Individual appointments for the annual enrollment in Medicare will be held with SWCAA Choices Counselors on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 2 PM at the ESC. Eileen is reviewing the Food Pantry and how it can be of assistance to those in need. Redding offers this service and Eileen will obtain information. Winter Fuel Assistance is already underway through coordination with ABCD. The Teen Techs from JBHS will offer a session in October to better understand computers and social media. A trip to the Sturges of Fairfield assisted living complex will be held in October.

B. Discussion of Programs

Eileen will be focusing on how to expand the sharing of information from the M.A. Office. Currently her monthly newsletter is included in the ESC's monthly newsletter. Tapping into some of the local media websites will provide better coverage. Only seniors receive the ESC newsletter, so there are others (adult children or neighbors) who may not know of the services offered. Eileen will contact the local area web/media sources.

Advertising for donating to the food pantry (top 10 items) and making monetary donations are being planned. Organizations such as the Bridgeport Rescue Mission or the Feed America program have the

necessary means of outreach and could lend quicker assistance to those in need in a more broader capacity.

<http://www.watertownfoodpantry.org/suggested-items-to-donate.html>

<http://bridgeportrescuemission.tech/>

<http://www.feedingamerica.org/>

The CFA members suggested the Teen Tech session also focus on current social media apps that can provide seniors outlets for transportation, medical information and health/wellness.

<https://www.keystonetechnologies.com/blog/11-essential-apps-every-senior-should-have>

<https://myageingparent.com/technology/communication/top-ipad-apps-for-the-elderly/>

The CFA members discussed a project for the fall / holiday season. Eileen will be reviewing the list of names with her colleague and Outreach Worker Pam Healy in anticipation of the project. CFA members will follow up on this topic next month.

#### C. SWCCA Report

There was no report at today's meeting.

#### D. Other New Items

None

#### E. Other updates

Eileen's modified work hour schedule – now Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 8 AM to 4:30 PM – is more beneficial to address the needs and concerns of seniors / social services.

#### F. Open Discussion

CFA members discussed the relationship of older parents and adult children along with several types of repercussions - long-distance caring, living under one roof, estranged family members.

#### 4. Next Meeting

The Commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, October 2, 2018 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the ESC. The agenda will be forwarded to the Town Clerk for proper posting.

#### 5. Adjourn

Melinda O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Martin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:02 PM.

Submitted by,  
Commission for the Aging  
L. Tasi