

Meeting Minutes
Commission for the Aging
Town of Easton, CT
Monthly Meeting – Monday, November 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM. Present were Linda Dollard, Anne Hughes, Phyllis Machledt, Karen Martin, Melinda O'Brien, Lisa Tasi and Eileen Zimmerman / Municipal Agent for the Aging – Social Services Director.

1. Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the October 1, 2018 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by the members on a motion by Melinda O'Brien and Anne Hughes.

2. Ongoing Business

A. MCS Report

A monthly recap was furnished by Town Finance Director, Christine Calvert.

B. Other

None

3. New Business

A. Municipal Agent's Report

Eileen provided an update on her monthly work. Eileen is working with the ESC to include updates in the ESC monthly newsletter and on various media websites. The JBHS Teen Tech project held last month was quite successful. The students were very helpful in addressing many technological questions. Due to availability and schedule of the students, the next session will instead be run with the Easton Library's media specialist, Shannon Bruchal. Eileen will be participating at a session to be held on Tuesday, November 13th at 2:00 PM. Medicare Open Enrollment session held on October 23 involved six senior and two other seniors also met with Choices Counselor. Another session is scheduled for November 15th. Fuel Assistance and other outreach, such as the Food Pantry, are ongoing. Eileen will be speaking with local religious leaders on outreach and communication. The ECC will be conducting a food collection and gift card drive to benefit the Easton Social Services sector. Upcoming plans involve having the Easton Brownies visiting 10-11 homebound seniors; A Thanksgiving outreach of gift card and canned goods and Poinsettias for homebound seniors from the Easton Garden Club. The Salvation Army 'holiday' Kettle Drive will take place next month. Eileen has completed the Annual Report, and working on evaluation and budget planning.

B. Discussion on Programs

Eileen is correlating information from various forums and events (i.e., Open Enrollment) for contact lists and tracking purposes. This data can be helpful in determining what types of services people seek out or need on a regular basis during the calendar year.

C. SWCCA Report

Phyllis Machledt reported on the latest news. The next meeting will be held next Wednesday, November 14th in Norwalk. Due to schedule conflict, Phyllis will not be able to attend. Possible attendee may be either Eileen or Anne. SCWWA provides a broad range of services and benefits for the area.

"So, whether you are a senior, caregiver or professional in the field of aging, The Southwestern CT Agency on Aging is here to help you meet the challenges of aging!" <http://www.swcaa.org/>

D. Other Additional Items

Phyllis Machledt handed out a flyer in support of the Youth United to raise funds to build a Habitat House in Bridgeport. 20% of pre-tax sales for dinner, beverages and takeout from Taco Loco in Bridgeport on November 8th 4PM to 10PM will be donated to habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County.

E. Other Updates

Eileen will be planning trips to area retirement communities / senior living for seniors.

F. Open Discussion

The CFA spoke about programs in the local Bridgeport area which provide meals, assistance, and direction. Some of the venues are church -based organizations. Other programs can be found through SWCCA and other outreach non-profit organizations: LifeBridge Community Services, Meals on Wheels, Catholic Charities (senior nutrition program), and the Gillespie Center (Community Kitchen). All these resources are available.

The CFA will be revisiting a 2005 project to address the concerns and needs of local seniors. Information will be reviewed at the next CFA meeting.

4. Next Meeting

The Commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, December 3, 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

Phyllis Machledt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Dollard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:10 PM.

Submitted by,
Commission for the Aging
L. Tasi