

## Meeting Minutes

### Commission for the Aging Town of Easton, CT

#### Monthly Meeting – Monday, November 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM. Present were Linda Dollard, Anne Hughes, Phyllis Machledt, Melinda O'Brien, Lisa Tasi and Alison Witherbee / Municipal Agent for the Aging and Social Services Director. Karen Martin was not present.

#### 1. Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the October 7, 2019 monthly meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by the members present on a motion by Anne Hughes and Phyllis Machledt.

#### 2. Ongoing Business

##### A. MCS Report

No update at this meeting.

##### B. Project 2019

Correlation of data from survey is in progress. Median response rate is pending at 26.45%.

#### 3. New Business

##### A. Municipal Agent Update

Medicare Open Enrollment took place during the busy month of October 2019. Alison worked with CHOICES counselors who were on hand to assist in the review of seniors' insurances. There will be another session on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The presentation on Medication (safety and proper disposal of unused prescriptions) took place on October 25<sup>th</sup> with a small group. Alison is planning to have other informative sessions in collaboration with the Easton EMS to discuss other "Safety" topics. Outreach was made to some 9 homebound seniors from Jesse Lee's Turkey Dinner held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Another Thanksgiving Dinner delivery will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup> with help from the Easton Village Store and the National Charity League. Alison has targeted some 25 seniors in Easton who have home circumstances for extra outreach. The Easton Garden Club will delivery poinsettias next month for senior outreach.

The Salvation Army will conduct its annual Kettle Bell Campaign, a tradition since 1891. This will take place at the Stop & Shop Westport and Fairfield (Kings Highway Cutoff) on November 30<sup>th</sup> and on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Ringing the bell provides much needed assistance for food, housing, heating fuel and other necessities. Sign-up will be made available from Alison.

##### B. SWCCA Report

Alison is now the Easton member on the Advisory Board of SWCCA. (<https://www.swcaa.org>) SWCCA is a private, not-for-profit agency, established in 1974. SWCAA receives funds through the Older Americans Act and works with dedicated volunteers to award grant funds to community organizations serving older adults. Grants support services such as home delivered meals, in-home care, legal, health, adult day care, transportation, senior centers, outreach and social support.

D. Other Updates

No updates.

E. Open Discussion

CFA spoke about the Southwestern Regional Dispatch Communication Center (SWRCC) which provides telecommunication services to municipal fire, police and EMS services as well as hospitals in southwestern Connecticut and its local interaction. In an April 2019 article in the Fairfield Citizen, emergency communications for the towns of Fairfield and Westport were planning to combine to run a joint dispatch center in the former GE Corporate Headquarters, now part of Sacred Heart University. Of note "while there may be potential for other municipalities to join forces with Westport and Fairfield, it would be limited to these two for the time being", as "towns with a population larger than 40,000 receive subsidies from the State toward dispatch centers."

As of October 1, 2019, the State of Connecticut Department of Rehabilitation Services was named as the Department of Aging and Disability Services to better reflect the core services available.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/AgingandDisability>

4. Next Meeting

The Commission's next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, December 2, 2019 at the ESC from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Agenda will be forwarded to the Town Clerk for proper posting.

5. Adjourn

Melinda O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Dollard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:05 PM.

Submitted by,  
Commission for the Aging  
L. Tasi