

Meeting Minutes
Commission for the Aging
Town of Easton, CT

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Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, September 7, 2021 – 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Held at the Easton Senior Center

Attendees: Melinda O'Brien, Diane Parker, Lisa Tasi, Nanette DeWester and Alison Witherbee / Municipal Agent for the Aging – Social Services Director. Linda Dollard did not attend.

The meeting started at 5:10 PM.

Welcome

Lisa Tasi welcomed newly appointed member Diane Parker. Cheryl Constand recently resigned from the Commission as she will be focusing on other charitable involvements. Linda Dollard communicated she recently had surgery and would not be attending the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

The June meeting minutes were reviewed by members present and approved.

Ongoing Business

- Senior Sacks / Grocery Bags

The outreach program continued through the month of July. Patti Popp and Sport Hill Farm were benevolent with produce items.

- MSC Fund

There was no new reported data.

- Grant Applications

Although no applications were submitted due to strict deadlines and end of fiscal year, there are additional ideas via the CT AARP website to assist with future grant applications.

New Business

-Municipal Agent's Report

Alison was busy during the summer months. Outreach to senior population was important due to the spike with the COVID-19 pandemic and weather related incidents. She has been in contact with the Health District, which Easton is now a member of along with Westport and Weston. The June 16th meeting on Storm Preparedness was well attended and information was gleaned. A September 3rd event to review the latest variants on the COVID-19 pandemic was cancelled. More information will be forthcoming.

She is providing updates on her services and responsibilities to the community to online media platforms – Easton Courier – In order to share information and educate the seniors.

Calls regarding home maintenance and home care have been increased due to additional inquiry or need by seniors.

Ideas for presentations / events have been formulated and are now being targeted for dates.

Alison recently visited another centenary resident of Easton, actually 105 years young, to celebrate her birthday.

- SWCCA <https://www.swcaa.org/>

SWCCA has been on summer hiatus. The new board will convene with new members in October. Monthly Advisory board will convene after that.

Open Discussion

The upcoming Easton Day on September 18th will provide a venue where local groups can share outward what they do. Nanette suggested that Alison have some flyers or brochures available that day to give a snapshot on her Municipal Agent / Social Services outreach.

Members discussed the theme of "Aging in America" and related topics, such as Social Security, Multi generational caregiving and community amenities. Several movies/presentations which were previously presented at other senior agencies or town senior centers are beneficial to replicate here as well. Utilizing first responders (EMS, Fire, Police) to discuss safety concerns will also assist in forum or presentation.

The meeting concluded at 6:10 PM. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October, 4, 2021 from 5 to 6 PM at the ESC. (Zoom. Us may be used, TBD). Agenda will be forwarded for posting.

Submitted by,

Commission for the Aging
L. Tasi