

Commission for the Aging
Town of Easton, CT

Monday, November 6, 2023
Held at the Easton Senior Center

Attendees: Nanette DeWester, Anne Hughes, Jessica DiPietro, Lisa Tasi. Paul Lindoerfer and Daniel Simonelli, Municipal Agent for the Aging – Social Services Director were not in attendance.

The meeting started at 5:05 PM.

The Minutes of the October Meeting and the Municipal Agent's Report were tabled to next month's meeting.

Ongoing Business

-November Outreach

Finalization is underway for the November Outreach to Seniors. CFA members who are available will help with packing on the morning of Saturday prior to Thanksgiving week.

- Medicare / Medigap plans

CFA members discussed Medigap – which refers to various private health insurance plans which are sole as a supplement to Medicare beneficiaries. Medigap assists in coverage for many co-payments and some co-insurance related to Medicare-covered charges as it covers the difference, or "gap" between expenses reimbursed to providers by Medicare Part A (Hospitals) and Part B (Physician) services and the total amount allowed to be charged for those services by CMS (US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services).

Part C (Medicare Advantage) is an alternative to Parts A and B that bundles several coverage types (including Parts A, B, and D). It may include Vision, Hearing and Dental insurances. Individuals must sign up for Part A or Part B before enrolling in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

Part D is Prescription Drug Coverage which helps with prescription drug costs. Individuals must sign up for Part A or Part B before enrolling in Part D.

Plan for Medicare | SSA

Recently on November 2nd, Comptroller Sean Scanlon visited the ESC to discuss the State of Connecticut's new Prescription Drug Discount Card Program called ArrayRx

(formerly known as Northwest Prescription Drug Consortium). It launched on October 2nd and is available for free to Connecticut residents.

The discount card, called Array RX, is a free digital card that residents can download on their cellphones from the official website: [ArrayRx Card](#). These discounts will be available at 98% of pharmacies across the state. With this new program, state officials say the average person will see an 80% savings on generic drugs and a 20% savings on brand-name drugs.

CFA members discussed how it is so important to navigate all parameters when signing up for health insurance, coverage, and prescription drug costs.

Other Information:

- Daniel Simonelli, MA / SSD , who could not attend the meeting, will have a formal report at next month's meeting. In the meantime, he advised Lisa that Medicare Open Enrollment was a success and about 5 seniors had stopped by and others were also referred to SWCCA/Choices for follow ups. He is still taking applications for Energy Assistance and those applications that have been processed have been approved. Sacred Heart University Nutrition Students will be coming in on Thursday, November 9th to talk about "Food Linked to Better Brain Power".

The meeting concluded at 5:45 PM.

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 5, 2023, from 5-6 PM at the ESC.

Submitted by,
Commission for the Aging
L. Tasi