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TOWN CLERK

EASTON CT

Commission for the Aging
Town of Easton, CT

Monday, February 5, 2023
Held at the Easton Senior Center

Attendees: Nanette DeWester, Jessica DiPietro, Diana Gomez, Anne Hughes, Paul Lindoerfer, Lisa Tasi, and Daniel Simonelli, Municipal Agent for the Aging – Social Services Director.

The meeting started at 5:00 PM.

A welcome was extended to new member Diana Gomez.

Meeting Minutes

The December Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved via a motion by Anne Hughes and seconded by Paul Lindoerfer.

Old Business

- MCS Fund – There was no report at this meeting. Lisa will reach out again to Christine Calvert to provide a CY 2023 report.

New Business

- Municipal Agent's Report / Daniel Simonelli

Daniel is busy with Operation Fuel program, which is open until March 1st for those eligible. He is doing outreach work to those homebound seniors.

The Round Table discussion originally planned for January 19th will now be held on March 13th (due to weather issues). Discussion will be on programs and resources that are available to seniors.

Daniel is in contact with the Food Rescue program that was instrumental in the Grow-A-Row project during the summer months. This delivery of extra produce and fresh eggs from local farms was quite successful. Plan is to do this once again this summer.

Daniel will be hosting a lunch on March 6th where the topic of how to reduce clutter in one's home will be discussed. The title is "Downsizing Demystified."

-Budget Process

Daniel is reviewing the budget for the next fiscal year.

-SWCCA Report www.swcca.org

No report at today's meeting. 2024 calendar is underway.

- Planning & Discussion

Ideas were discussed for spring to summer forums and topics that are applicable to seniors.

Some issues that are concerning is the current economic climate with inflation and higher costs, especially for seniors who are on a set budget.

Another topic of interest is assisted living communities. The median cost of assisted living in Connecticut area is approximately \$5,129/month according to the Genworth Study. Unfortunately, Medicare does not cover the cost of living in a senior living community, with the exception of the Skilled Nursing section, if there is one. If a senior on Medicare has a hospital stay and requires outpatient therapy or home health services, these may be covered for residents in a senior living community. Medicaid sometimes covers the cost of assisted living residential stays, but this is State and income dependent.

As there is a growing aging population, more adults are finding that they need to care for their parents as well as their own children. This scenario is called the 'sandwich generation.' More information will be reviewed for possible presentation.

CFA members discussed planning with student outreach and Healthcare workers, from the local university nursing / health departments. Topics of transportation, living wills/POA/MOLST and food insecurity were discussed. Follow-through will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 6:00 PM.

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 4, 2024, from 5-6 PM at the ESC.

Submitted by,
Commission for the Aging
L. Tasi