

Commission for the Aging
Town of Easton, CT

Monday, April 1, 2024
Held at the Easton Senior Center

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

The meeting started at 5:03 PM.

Meeting Minutes

The March Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved via a motion by Diana Gomez and seconded by Anne Hughes.

Old Business

- MCS Fund

No report at today's meeting.

New Business

- Municipal Agent's Report / Daniel Simonelli

Daniel will be holding a "State of the Union" type of discussion in May. This session will inform seniors about senior living options and care as well as touch upon the current costs for these services.

The summer program of Grow-A-Row is being planned in collaboration with the Food Rescue organization. [Home | Food Rescue US](#) Shaggy Coos Farm and Silverman's Farm in Easton have been contacted to participate. The start date is July 8th with an end date in late summer/early fall.

Daniel had spoken to Sue Brown, a retired public defender who began The Purple Pantry Boxes, a volunteer organization in Milford where people can drop off shelf stable food for those in need. Although a good idea, the coordination of setting up, managing, and having volunteers to ensure food received is within expiration date are a bit problematic. The local Girl Scouts have a similar idea for their community service and this outreach may be a better fit for the town.

Daniel is following up on an idea for a healthcare fair and has contacted some sources.

-SWCCA Report www.swcca.org

SWCCA will be hosting training for CHOICES counselors and Daniel will be participating during the spring session. The next advisory meeting will be held on April 10th.

- Planning & Discussion

Lisa and Daniel have received the information needed to produce and send out the next mailer from Christine Calvert. CFA members reviewed the template with some additions of organizations / contact information. Pending this next rendition, production will start.

Members discussed promoting the FoodRescue.US / Grow-A-Row program at the upcoming Garden Mart in May.

Paul Lindoerfer gave some information about the Senior Tax Relief Program in Easton. There are two programs for qualifying seniors, Tax Abatement, and the optional Tax Deferral programs, and for which there are requirements. More information will be available via the Town of Easton website.

Daniel had recently visited the Commons in Newtown, a senior living community focusing on memory care and located adjacent to the Newtown Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, a skilled nursing facility. Members discussed how assisted living and skilled nursing settings are confusing to people and how they need to be educated to make informed decisions about care for their loved one. Seniors who require more medical care and supervision may benefit from skilled nursing, while those who require less intensive care and value their independence may prefer assisted living.

The members learned that Val Buckley's husband, Derek, had recently passed. Lisa will be sending a 'thinking of you' basket to her at the Easton Senior Center on behalf of the CFA. The members made a collection.

The meeting concluded at 6:00 PM.

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

Submitted by,
Commission for the Aging
L. Tasi