

Meeting Minutes
TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
Commission for the Aging
Regular Meeting
Easton Senior Center
Monday, December 1, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM. Present were Linda Dollard, Gail V. Gay, Phyllis Machledt, Joel Peskay, Lisa Tasi, and Alison Witherbee, Municipal Agent/Senior Social Services. Margaret Silvestri was not present.

1. The minutes of the November 3, 2014 meeting were read and unanimously approved on a motion by Phyllis Machledt, seconded by Gail V. Gay.
2. Unfinished Business
 - a. Follow-up Open Enrollment for Medicare via CHOICES and Integrity Capital Management (Ron Berry, contact).
Discussion took place regarding the parameters (compliance) for ICM's presentation at the ESC in regards to the agent/brokerage provided services in respect to the outlined rules by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (www.cms.hhs.gov); what are any concerns or specific complaints about possible inappropriate marketing practices or ethical violations; and how to ameliorate communication to the senior population.
3. New Business
 - a. Update #2 on ITN/Coastal – Additional communication is in progress with Nancy McCormick. CFA will in turn provide further information to the town on the framework of ITN/Coastal in promoting the non-profit's community-based transportation service for seniors and visually impaired adults.
"Changing lives one ride at a time!" <http://itncoastalct.org/>
 - b. Municipal Agent's Report
Alison Witherbee had a busy November with the continuance of the Open Enrollment Medicare Q&A sessions and appointments with seniors for Fuel Assistance. The Senior's Bereavement Group had its first meeting and was successful in reaching out to those needing this form of group meeting. Another one is planned for December. Alison attended the BOS meeting on November 20th to listen to the presentation by the Fairfield, CT Jewish Home ("Jewish Senior

Services", (www.jhe.org) with regard to developing the South Park Avenue property for another senior housing site.

Alison and Pam Healy also gave names of 17 seniors to the Easton Garden Club which will deliver holiday poinsettias and make a visit. Alison was interviewed for the Easton Courier November 26th edition regarding the 'shifting numbers' of the population in Easton and the various aging issues of the population that are coming to the forefront. She also received a donation by the Easton Lion's Club to the Martha Carrie Shurman Fund.

c. SWCAA Report

Phyllis Machledt, the Commission's representative to the Advisory Council of the Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging reported on the Council's latest news. She shared information on the "Good & Cheap" initiative by Leanne Brown which helps those individuals in the SNAP program (the federal government's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) find ways to cook filling, nourishing and flavorful meals. Leanne wrote a cookbook full of recipes for anyone to make on a budget of just \$4 a day. It's an initiative for a wide range of ages and income; and something worthwhile looking at via SWCCA's outreach to seniors.

On December 6th there will be a Caregivers Seminar in Fairfield, CT which is aimed at assisting those directly impacted by responsibilities of being a caregiver. <http://www.swcaa.org>

d. Other items

CFA members discussed various topics on seniors and local area topics and news.

4. Next meeting

The Commission's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, Monday, January 5, 2014.

5. Adjourn:

Phyllis Machledt moved to adjourn, Linda Dollard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved at 6:35 PM.

Submitted by,

Lisa V. Tasi, Secretary, Commission for the Aging